What’s Inside:

**FORENSIC FIRE DYNAMICS**
**ANALYSIS & FIRE MODELING**

A Systems Approach to Fire Investigation

**ELECTRICALLY CAUSED FIRE AND THE EXPERT**

The Most Common Causes of Electrical Fires
The forensic analysis of a fire involves the credible evaluation of information about the environment, the building and its contents, and all elements of human interaction, with a focus on how they connect as a system, shape, and influence the development of a fire over time and determine its outcome. As an observer and participant in this system, the investigator plays a crucial role in understanding what happened. Data is often incomplete or inconsistent, and the human interaction that leads to the fire’s influence changes in the environment are frequently ambiguous or contradictory.

The systems approach is not a new concept and is based on the premise that bringing a complex concept into simple easy to understand units helps in better understanding its complexity. The approach concentrates on the holistic entity of the system without neglecting its components and attempts to understand the role of each component while simultaneously understanding the activity of the whole system. The figure below visually describes the systems approach and its application to fire investigation.

Forensic Fire Dynamics Analysis & Fire Modeling

By: Joseph M. Ellington, IAAI-CFR

The forensic analysis of a fire involves the credible evaluation of information about the environment, the building and its contents, and all elements of human interaction, that together as a system, shape, and influence the development of a fire over time and determine its outcome. As an observer and participant in this system, the investigator plays a crucial role in understanding what happened. Data is often incomplete or inconsistent, and the human interaction that leads to the fire’s influence changes in the environment are frequently ambiguous or contradictory.

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Electrical Fires Caused by the Expert

By Stephen Tubbs, M.Sc.

The Role of the Expert when there is "No Physical Evidence"

Facts common to the investigation of many alleged electrically caused fires are given with examples. Usual electrical causes of fires are listed. Common sense suggestions are given that would apply to many fire investigations, electrical and non-electrical.

The northern exposure

Randy Watson (GA)

James D. Heil (NY)

Nominations are due 16 January 2020

Boogie Boards are no longer limited to the beach. You can use them for evidence markers, as well. Okay, not THOSE boogie boards, but a product I was introduced to and found in the children’s section of a bookstore.

The Boogie Boards I am referring to is a portable, sensitive LCD writing surface that creates lines of different thicknesses based on how hard you push — just like paper and pen. Using it I would be able to update my fire reports toward those of qualified individuals in Second View.

By Robert K. Toth, IAAI-CFI

The Boogie Board tablet is 1/8-Inch thin and is easy to take with you in a pocket, tool pouch, backpack, briefcase, or toolbox. The case and LCD are made from durable plastic materials. Safe for use around the fire scene.

WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE REASON THAT BOOGIE BOARD IS A CRUCIAL INVESTIGATION TO YOUR FIRE INVESTIGATION?

WHAT'S YOUR APPROACH TO CAPTURING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND ELECTRONIC IMAGES AT THE SCENE?

WHAT ARE YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS FOR Electropaper?

As a bonus to my readers, all three of you, I will send you my Boogie Board tablet, for a total of 1/8-Inch thin and is easy to take with you in a pocket, tool pouch, backpack, briefcase, or toolbox. The case and LCD are made from durable plastic materials. Safe for use around the fire scene.

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