

03-OCT-2015

Dear Members of the International Pyrotechnics Society,

I am pleased to announce the formal launch of the new IPS website! The new website is located at www.intpyrosoc.org. The Society's old website, www.intpyro.org will soon re-direct to the new domain.

The new website, as it appears today, would not be possible without the help of a number of contributors. I would like to thank our new webmaster, Dr. Jay Poret, for the countless hours of volunteer work he has provided. Jay has been instrumental in handling the technical aspects of designing and creating the site and I am very grateful for his efforts in this regard. Dr. David Dillehay (IPSUSA) and Dr. Greg Knowlton (our Treasurer) are thanked for helping me to assemble an accurate and detailed history of our Society and its Seminars, which now appears on the new site. Dr. Shingo Date (our Secretary) is thanked for providing digital copies of past newsletters for inclusion in the digital archive. I would also like to thank our Vice Presidents Dr. Joost van Lingen and Dr. Jesse Sabatini for their helpful suggestions and support. Dr. Ernst-Christian Koch (our President) is thanked for numerous suggestions including maintaining the fonts, colors, and styles that have become associated with our Society. Rutger Webb (our past Archivist) is thanked for his continuous support and encouragement throughout this transition.

The main goal of the website re-design project was to provide an improved platform for the exchange of information between IPS members. Several features of the new site help to accomplish this.

- We now have a modern and streamlined setup for disseminating important news.
- The main page now features high resolution, rotating images, which enables us to keep this content dynamic. Members are invited to submit high-resolution imagery of their own work (preferably images of energetic materials in action) for consideration – selected images could then be featured on the main page on a rotating basis. Importantly, images submitted for consideration must be 1170 x 500 pixels in size with a resolution of 300 dpi.
- Our “members only area” is now functional! Within, members will be able to access past newsletters, archive content, and can post messages in the new forum. In particular, I hope that the forum facilitates communication, and can help members find answers to technical or other questions.

Our new website, like any website, is a work in progress. Several challenges remain, especially the question of how to build the digital archive while at the same time respecting international copyright laws. Nonetheless, my efforts to improve the content and usefulness of the website for the benefit of the membership will continue.

Dr. Anthony P. Shaw

Archivist of the International Pyrotechnics Society, term 2014-2016