



Session 2B:

The Long, Strange Trip of Fire and Life Safety in Cannabis Facilities

While medical marijuana has been legal in a number of states for over a decade, recreational marijuana is creating markets that were not expected. The demand has resulted in non-traditional agricultural approaches, home-built hazardous materials operations, security issues and a range of other conditions that surprised most fire and life safety practitioners. This presentation is intended to explore some of the common concerns and approaches being employed in those states where recreational cannabis is being legalized, as well as potential future considerations for the industry.



David Tomecek, P. E. FSFPE
Senior Fire Protection Engineer
Jensen Hughes

David Tomecek, PE FSFPE is a 30-year veteran of the Fire Protection industry and has spent most of his career working with high-risk facilities, unique processes and unusual hazards. Those unique perspectives quickly became advantageous to the new world of cannabis and its impact on fire protection and life safety. He has also been at the forefront of several small-scale, entrepreneurial movements that track well with cannabis facilities, such as micro-distilleries, biodiesel refineries, additive manufacturing (3-D printing) and “maker spaces”.

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