

NASA-LaRC SAFETY NEWSLETTER

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SYSTEMS OPERATIONS COMMITTEE FUNCTIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Langley Safety Program requires that new and/or modified facilities, equipment or research apparatus be subjected to a safety review. Generally speaking, there are three categories of items requiring such a review:

1. Major projects
2. Minor facility and/or equipment modifications
3. Building mechanical and safety equipment

Major projects are subjected to a series of reviews in accord with LMI 7000.2. An example of such a project is the modifications to the 8 Foot High Temperature Tunnel.

The Systems Operations Committee (SOC) provides an operations safety review for minor facility modifications and equipment not scheduled for review by the project review system. This committee provides guidance on integrated facility operations and advice regarding facility and equipment interfaces. The SOC is also responsible for the approval of pressure vessels/systems for experimental systems of limited lifetime (approximately 2 years or less) that may depend on protective barriers or enclosures and remote operation to provide an acceptable degree of safety in lieu of complying with LaRC pressure systems regulations.

If you have a system and/or equipment that should be reviewed by the SOC, please contact the Committee Chairman, Jim Osborn at 46958 or the Committee Secretary, Alan Phillips at 43358 if you have any questions about the operations of the SOC.

GARAGE DOORS THE LARGEST MOVING OBJECT IN YOUR HOME CAN BE DEADLY TO CHILDREN

Since 1982, 48 children between the ages of 2 and 14 have died after being trapped under doors with automatic garage door openers. This prompted Congress to require that openers manufactured for sale in the U.S. on or after January 1, 1991, must have entrapment protection. Congress also required industry to consult with the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSP) and begin a campaign to warn the public of this hazard.

The CPSP and the Industry Coalition for Automatic Garage Door Opener Safety have started such a program to prevent children from being killed by garage doors.

The Coalition is sending a free brochure to consumers, including a self-adhesive label to be put next to the door-control button. The brochure describes how to teach children about the dangers of garage doors and tells how to test the opener.

The label is intended to be a constant reminder that children can be killed or seriously hurt if they are pinned under a garage door. It also contains information about what to do in an emergency and how to test the reversal system of the opener.

To receive a free brochure and safety label, telephone 800-727-2338.