49th International Pyrotechnics Society Seminar

First Call for Papers (Abstracts)

Hosted by
IPSUSA Seminars, Inc.

A Major International Forum for Pyrotechnics and Energetic Materials!

July 12-16, 2026

The 49th International Pyrotechnics Society Seminar will be held at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado, USA on July 12-16, 2026

DoubleTree by Hilton
Colorado Springs, Colorado

https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/cosp-dt-doubletree-colorado-springs/

Seminar Topics

Pyrotechnics, in the international context, includes all energetic materials. Subjects of interest for this Seminar include explosives, propellants, pyrotechnics, and devices that utilize these materials, processes used to make them, and the physical and chemical principles and processes involved in their design, characterization, reaction, testing, operation, and aging.

- All aspects of pyrotechnics
- Fuel/oxidizer formulations
- Insensitive energetic materials
- Sensitivity, hazards and safety
- Solid rocket propellants
- Environmental considerations
- Nano-particles in energetic materials
- Testing methods and devices
- Manufacturing processes; twin-screw extruders, coacervation, co-precipitation, etc.
- Computational methods applied to energetics
- Detonation science
- Improvised explosive devices (IEDs)
- Initiators and initiation
- Pyrotechnic generated/dispersed biocides
- Regulations and standards applicable to energetics; STANAGs, etc.
- Sustainability of products, processes and disposal under regulations
- Synthesis of explosive, propellant, and pyrotechnic ingredients
- Formulation of explosive, propellant, pyrotechnic, and gas generating compositions
- Unusual applications of energetic materials
- Conventional/non-conventional explosives
- Commercial fireworks (R&D, processing, safety, materials, etc.)
- Commercial explosives and pyrotechnics for blasting, excavation, drilling, and mining

Abstracts

Abstracts should be no more than 500 words in length. You may indicate your preference for presentation in the Oral or Poster Session. Full manuscripts from both types of presentations, without distinction, will be included in the Proceedings. Full manuscripts are not required for Posters. A detailed Summary/Abstract (two to four pages) is acceptable for Posters to be published in the Proceedings.

Commercial vendors must register and are encouraged to present posters or display exhibits.

Submission of Abstracts

To be considered, Abstracts may be submitted for inclusion in the Seminar at any time up to January 14, 2026. Receipt of your Abstract will be acknowledged by email. Guidelines on how to prepare the manuscript for publication will be available on the IPSUSA Seminar website. Selection of the papers to be given at the Seminar will be made in February 2026, and **a list of papers for Oral and Poster presentation will also be published and posted on the website in March 2026.** The Proceedings of the Seminar will be published as a CD or USB thumb-drive and will be distributed at the beginning of the Seminar.

It is expected that an author will present each oral paper. ***It is our intent not to publish manuscripts of papers from authors who do not participate in the Seminar.*** This standard is set to encourage attendance and participation in the Seminar and to encourage the open exchange of ideas. All papers will be presented and written in the English language. Furthermore, all submitted manuscripts must allow IPSUSA Seminars, Inc. to copyright their submissions in accordance with standard practice for the publication of all technical and scientific publications.

Authors are personally and solely responsible for obtaining organizational clearance for their paper (abstract and manuscript) before submitting it to the Seminar for presentation and publication. In granting the clearance approval, it should be understood that the abstract and manuscript will be published in the Seminar Proceedings on a USB thumb-drive. These will be made available to the public at large.

Passport and Visa Advisory and Warning

In the process of obtaining your Visa for travel to the USA, you may be asked to appear for a personal interview. This will lengthen the time it takes to obtain a Visa.

We strongly recommend starting the Visa application process as early as possible.

Schedule of Events

First Week of August 2025
- Second Call for Papers with Reminder for Abstracts
- Registration for the Seminar continues

First Week of November 2025
- Third Call for Papers with Reminder for Abstracts
- Registration for the Seminar continues

January 14, 2026
- Abstracts due to Seminar Coordinator (see email address on second page)
- Final full text manuscripts are due for the Young Scientist Award and the Bursary Award considerations
- Registration for the Seminar continues

February 15, 2026
- Authors notified of paper acceptance
- Young Scientist Award and Bursary Award Notifications
- Registration for the Seminar continues

March 15, 2026
- List of papers for Oral and Poster Presentations posted on the website
- Registration for the Seminar continues

April 26, 2026
- Full Manuscripts due to Seminar Coordinator for Proceedings
- Registration for the Seminar continues

June 14, 2026
- Final date for receiving discounted registration **

June 22, 2026
- Cutoff date for Hotel reservations

July 12-16, 2026
- **49th International Pyrotechnics Society Seminar**

** ***We strongly encourage completing the Seminar Registration form and making your Hotel reservation early. While payment is not required prior to arrival at the Seminar, early payment is encouraged.***

Registration forms received by June 14, 2026, will be accepted at the lower advance registration fee for payment at the Seminar. "Walk-in" registrants will pay a higher fee.

Your Credit card will not be billed until the date of the Seminar.

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Colorado Springs, at an elevation of 6,035 ft., is a city in Colorado at the eastern foot of the Rocky Mountains. It lies near glacier-carved Pikes Peak, a landmark in Pike National Forest with hiking trails and a paved road leading to its 14,114-ft. summit. The city's Garden of the Gods park features iconic red-sandstone formations and mountain views.

DoubleTree by Hilton

The Doubletree Hotel Colorado Springs by the World Arena, just off I-25, offers scenic Colorado Rocky Mountain views of Pikes Peak and Cheyenne Mountain. The Doubletree Hotel is just ten minutes from Colorado Springs Airport with transportation available by the Colorado Springs Shuttle.

Enjoy their hotel amenities for your business or leisure travel. The Best Choice of Colorado Springs Hotels with a friendly and courteous staff, warm ambiance, high-speed Internet access and convenient location. Enjoy a casual breakfast, lunch or dinner in the hotel restaurant, Atrium Café. Nearby, the World Arena is just three blocks away, and they are located within walking distance of restaurants, shops and a 20-screen theater.

Their spacious lobby, business center, two lounges, heated indoor pool, inviting exterior courtyard, fitness center and well-appointed (interior corridor) guest rooms complete the perfect setting for your Rocky Mountain getaway. Visit Pikes Peak Cog Railway, the Cave of the Winds, ancient Native American cliff dwellings at Manitou Springs, the U.S. Olympic Training Center or the "Garden of the Gods". Enjoy hiking, fishing, horseback riding and the great outdoors.

After golfing, sightseeing, jogging or hot air ballooning, revive by their patio fountain, savor American cuisine in a relaxed setting at the Atrium Café, or dance the night away at Maxi's Lounge. Your comfort is guaranteed. And be sure to check out their very special warm chocolate chip cookie at check-in!

Hotel Reservations

To make Reservations before August 2025, you may call the Hotel's direct number at 1-719-576-8900 and ask for Reservations. Make sure you reference "IPSUSA". NOTE: As soon as we get the direct IPSUSA Reservation links, they will be posted on the IPSUSA website and emailed to you. There will be a limited number of Per Diem rooms (for U.S. Government Employees only – with a valid Government ID), so it is advised that you register early if you qualify for these. Regular room rates will be $175 per night. Once you make your reservation, you will receive a confirmation number from the hotel.

Seminar Registration

See attached Registration Form for Registration fees. Note discounts for early registration and for IPS members. Early registrants using credit cards (VISA, MasterCard, and AMEX only) will not be charged until the Seminar. Also, please specify Seminar activities for companions and note participation in all events for both registrants and companions on the Registration Form. Please complete all sections of the form.

Activities for Registrants & Companions included in the Registration fee:

There is an informal reception Sunday evening with ample food, a casual get-together Mixer/ Picnic on Monday night, and a special outing and dinner on Thursday evening (for Registrants only*), which are included in the Registration fee.
* **Companion fee is extra.**

2026 Dr. Bernard E. Douda – Young Scientist Award

One special award, the **2026 Dr. Bernard E. Douda – Young Scientist Award** for Pyrotechnics Investigators is anticipated from the fund established through the International Pyrotechnics Society. The award will pay for the 49th IPSUSA Seminar Registration fee and a 2-year paid IPS membership. To be eligible for the award, the Applicant must be under 40 years of age at the time of the submission deadline (January 14, 2026), must not be an officer or past officer of the IPS or IPSUSA, must submit a full paper with cover letter explaining the importance of the presented work along with a curriculum vitae, and must attend and present the paper at the 49th IPS Seminar. Applicants will be notified by February 15, 2026. The point of contact for this award is Dr. Kenneth Smit at ken.smit@defence.gov.au.

Frank Carver Bursary Award

One special award, the **Frank Carver Bursary** for a Pyrotechnics Investigator is anticipated from the Bursary Fund established though the International Pyrotechnics Society. The Frank Carver Bursary Fund is a UK Charity which promotes advancement in the scientific understanding of energetic materials by assisting young pyrotechnicians to attend and present their work at international seminars being sponsored/ sanctioned by the International Pyrotechnics Society.

The award will be £1200 Sterling equivalent (or more as needed to cover the Registration Fee and two years membership for the IPS). The amount is usually sufficient to cover travel expenses or Seminar fees. To be eligible for the award, the recipient must be less than 40 years of age, from outside of North America, and must orally present the paper at the Seminar. Persons who wish to be considered for the award should notify their intention to Dr. Kenneth Smit at ken.smit@defence.gov.au (President of the International Pyrotechnics Society), and submit their written paper at least six months before the date of the Seminar.

The winner will be selected from among the group of applicants for the award. See www.intpyrosoc.org/frank-carver-bursary/ for details of the rules. Applicants for the award must submit a completed application, manuscript, and any other required materials to lcrouseipsusaseminars@gmail.com by January 14, 2026. Applicants will be notified of the decision on the award by February 15, 2026.

Seminar Steering Committee IPSUSA Seminars, Inc. Officers

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sson@purdue.edu

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doorenbos1@llnl.gov

Further Information

As information about the Seminar becomes available, it will be posted on the website at http://www.ipsusa-seminars.org.

Copies of proceedings from previous Seminars held in the US are available in book and CD form for sale at http://www.ipsusa-seminars.org/publications/.

Registration

Registration and Abstracts will be handled through the Seminar Coordinator:

Linda Crouse
IPSUSA 2026 Seminar Coordinator
Phone: 303.601.8550 ♦ Fax: 303.904.3965
E-mail: lcrouseipsusaseminars@gmail.com

Questions about details for Registration and other arrangements directed to her.