

KENNETH STUART OBENSKI, P.E. (Ret)



Chairman Kona Traffic Safety Committee
Chairman, Hawaii Traffic Safety Council
Director Kona Paradise Property Owners Assoc.
Board Certified Diplomate of Forensic Engineering
Fellow of National Academy of Forensic Engineers
Licensed Mechanical Engineer, California #M19769
License Professional Engineer, Ohio #40769

Court Qualified Expert: Superior, Federal

SPECIALIZATION:

FORENSIC ENGINEERING RECONSTRUCTION OF ACCIDENTS

ACCIDENT RECONSTRUCTION

(Traffic; All Vehicles; notably Motorcycles; Industrial; Consumer)

FAILURE ANALYSIS

(Design; Manufacturing; Condition)

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering
(Human Factors, Machine Design, Materials, Physics, Automation,
Tool Engineering, Manufacturing)
Pennsylvania State University 1971

LECTURES PRESENTED

Failure Analysis, AIPE Western Conference, Anaheim 1982
Motorcycle Characteristics, Calsurance Truck Accident Seminar 1982
Automotive Defect Evaluation, ATLA, San Diego 1986
Four-wheel Drive Rollovers, SAE: FCA, San Diego 1987
Expert/Attorney Seminars, various San Diego venues 1992-00
Motorcycle Accident Reconstruction NAFE, S. Dakota 1997
Motorcycle Rider/Machine Interface, L&J Publ., Tucson, AZ 1998
Motorcycle Accident Reconstruction, ILEE, PA 2004

COURSES TAUGHT

Statics and Strength of Materials (Babcock & Wilcox) 1973-74
Mechanical Maintenance (Babcock & Wilcox) 1976-77
Product Liability (San Diego Unified School District) 1987

BOOKS

Motorcycle Accident Reconstruction and Litigation, 4th Ed., 2002, 360 pages (large format) + CD-ROM 725 pages, with Paul F. Hill, Jack C. Debes PhD and Eric Shapiro, Lawyers & Judges Publishing Co., Tucson, AZ.

Motorcycle Accident Reconstruction and Litigation, 3rd Ed., 2002, 601 pages + CD-ROM 725 pages, with Paul F. Hill, Lawyers & Judges Publishing Co., Tucson, AZ.

Motorcycle Accident Reconstruction and Litigation, 2nd Ed., 1997, 1122 pages, with Paul F. Hill, Lawyers & Judges Publishing Co., Tucson, AZ.

Motorcycle Accident Reconstruction – Understanding Motorcycles, 1st Ed., 1994, 295 pages, Lawyers & Judges Publishing Co., Tucson, AZ.

Forensic Engineering Reconstruction of Accidents, 2nd Ed., 2002, with John Fiske Brown, P.E. and Thomas R. Osborn, Ph.D., Charles C Thomas Pub., Ltd., Springfield, IL

Forensic Engineering Reconstruction of Accidents, 1st Ed., 1989, with John Fiske Brown, P.E., 254 pages, Charles C Thomas Publisher, Ltd., Springfield, IL.

ARTICLES

“A Restitution Constant,” J. Debes, W. Walsh, K. Obenski, *Accident Investigation Quarterly*, Fall 2001, pp. 22-24.

“Motorcycle Accident Reconstruction Methodology,” *Journal of National Academy of Forensic Engineers*, December 1996.

“Solving Vehicle Fires,” *California Claims Journal*, summer 1995.

“Brake Performance and the Motorcycle,” *California Claims Journal*, spring 1994.

“Softening the Blow,” *Southern California Claims Journal*, spring 1994.

“Wobbles and Weaves,” *Southern California Claims Journal*, summer 1994.

“Efficient Use of Experts Deters Fraudulent Claims,” *Southern California Claims Journal*, fall 1994.

Chapter entitled, “Motorcycle Accident Reconstruction,” for *Automotive Engineering and Litigation* (with John Fiske Brown, P.E.), Garland Publishing, Inc., NYC, 1988.

“Failure Analysis for Plant Maintenance,” *Plant Engineering*, January 6, 1985.

JFBA Newsletter, *The Expert*, 1992-1998.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professional Engineer, John Fiske Brown Associates, Inc. (January 1982 to 2008).
Principal Engineer, President. Engineering analysis and research to determine the causes of accidents, including: traffic accident reconstruction for all types of vehicles; product defect analysis of vehicles, machinery, tools, appliances, furniture, etc.

Professional Engineer, Kenneth S. Obenski, P.E. (January 1982 to 1987). Consulting engineer.

Owner, Ingenuity Engineering, (1985 to 1989). New products, custom inventing.

Senior Industrial Engineer, General Dynamics, San Diego, CA (1979-1981).
Specialized investigative studies (quality control, manufacturing and systems failure analysis). Acting Engineering Supervisor.

Pierce and Draw Engineer, Babcock & Wilcox, Barberton, OH (1977-1979). Chief Engineer for 20,000 annual ton forging plant. Combined former responsibilities as Maintenance Engineer and Assistant Plant Engineer with tooling, quality control, and production engineering, design review, and pilot plant start-up. Direct factory supervision.

Maintenance Engineer, Babcock & Wilcox (1975-1977). Responsible for long-term maintenance of heavy mill machinery (used to fabricate pressure vessel components). Mechanical, electrical and hydraulic failure analysis. Correction of safety hazards.

Assistant Plant Engineer, Babcock & Wilcox (1971-1974). Project Engineer for in-plant safety, construction and modernization programs (machine shop, foundry, forging plant, pressure vessel fabrication).

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Commissioner, Hawaii County Transportation (2000-2016)

President, Kona Crime prevention Committee (2017-2018)

OWNER, ALL-ETT® BILLFOLDS (1998 to 2006 sold). Invent, design, manufacture and market world's truly thinnest wallet.

Topographic Surveyor, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (1965-1967). Planning and execution of third order picture point recovery for satellite mapping. Determined accessibility for two and four-wheel drive vehicles. Squad Leader.

Instrument Operator, Boucher & James, Inc. (1961-1964). Assisted licensed surveyor in land, construction, and topographic surveys, and in field engineering of buildings, pipelines, roadways, etc. Operated all instruments and worked all calculations.

Technician, John Obenski Design Service (1960-1961). Detail drafting and fabrication of automatic assembly machinery.

PROFESSIONAL AND HONORARY ASSOCIATIONS (not current)

National Academy of Forensic Engineers (NAFE), Fellow
National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE),
 President, San Diego Chapter, 1995-1997
American Motorcyclists Association (AMA)
Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)
Forensic Consultants Association (FCA), San Diego County, President 1986-87-88
Forensic Expert Witness Association (FEWA)
National Association of Professional Accident Reconstruction Specialists (NAPARS)
Southwestern Association of Technical Accident Investigators (SATAI)
American Society of Civil Engineers
MENSA

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

Topographic Surveyor, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Ft. Belvoir, VA	1965
ADM, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Camp Page, Korea	1966
Consumer Law and Product Liability, Akron U.	1973
Caring for Bearings, Bearings, Inc., Akron, OH	1974
Finance & Control Seminar, Southern Consultants Group, Barberton, OH	1976
Plate Forming, Babcock & Wilcox, Barberton, OH	1977
Strategies for Effective Leadership, Roth Associates, Akron, OH	1978
Leadership Workshop, Leadership Development Associates, N.Y.	1978
Time Management, Babcock & Wilcox, Barberton, OH	1978
Value Engineering, General Dynamics, San Diego, CA	1978
Truck Accident Investigation Seminar, Calsurance, Torrance, CA	1980
Accident Reconstruction Seminar, NAFE, Los Angeles, CA	1988
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, San Diego, CA	1990
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, New Orleans, LA	1991
Crash Test Seminar, GH2VK Engineering, San Bernardino, CA	1992
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, Kona, HI	1993
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, Tucson, AZ	1994
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, Kansas City, MO	1994
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, Houston, TX	1995
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, Charlotte, N.C.	1997
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, Rapid City, S.D.	1997
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, Sparks, NV	1998
Accident Reconstruction Seminar, Lawyers & Judges Pub. Co., Tucson, AZ	1998
Expert Witness Techniques Seminar, FCA, San Diego, CA	2000

Injuries, Anatomy, Biomechanics & Federal Regulation, SAE, Costa Mesa, CA	2000
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, El Segundo, CA	2001
Accident Reconstruction Seminar, SATAI, San Diego, CA	2001, 2002, 2004
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, San Francisco, CA	2003
Resource Realizations, San Diego, CA	2003
National Law Enforcement Conference, ILEE, PA	2004
Forensic Engineering Seminar, NAFE, Honolulu, HI	2004

TECHNICAL ACHIEVEMENTS

ALL-ETT®, the world's thinnest wallet, U.S. Patent 6050311.
 "Lytebuster," a motorcycle accessory.
 Inventor of improved pencil sharpener, patent No. Des. 284,391.
 Improved standards for lifting eyes for work in progress.
 Co-inventor of machine to remove scale from hot hollow forgings.
 Manufacturing cost reductions, totaling over \$6,000,000 (1980 dollars).
 Eliminated costly surge overflows in a major hydraulic system.
 Devised and executed long-term shortage identification program.
 Developed cruise missile manufacturing model.
 Development layout for Convair's 400,000 sq. ft. machine shop.
 Reduced failure of deep hole grinders from weekly to biannually.
 Developed and instituted scrap cause and correction system.
 Designed upender-downender for 15-ton forgings.
 Completed start-up of pilot plant to chromize steel pipe.
 Revised maintenance; reduced breakdown frequency up to 75%.
 Designed hydraulic descaler for 16-ton ingots.

HANDS-ON ENGINEERING EXPERIENCE IN INDUSTRY

Abrasives; Aerial Work Platforms; Air: systems, tools; **Airframe Fabrication:** machining, heat treating, fastening, inspection; **Bearings:** ball, roller, plain, hydrostatic; **Boring Mills; Brakes:** hoist, disk, drum, hydraulic, electric; **Cars, Industrial;** **Concrete:** foundations, refractory; **Conveyors; Cranes; Chucks:** machine, hose; **Doors:** manual, power, automatic, up to 40 tons; **Drills; Exhaust Systems, Industrial;** **Electric:** motors, tools, controls; **Fastening:** adhesive, bolts, nuts, screws, rivets, welding; **Foundry Machines; Forging:** processes and machinery; **Forklifts; Furnaces, Industrial; Grinders; Gears; Hydraulics:** oil, glycol, water/oil emulsion; **Heat Treatment:** ferrous, aluminum; **HVAC; Industrial Ventilation; Inspection:** dimensional, ultrasonic, X-ray, gauging, dye penetrant; **Instrumentation:** temperature, pressure, process control; **Lighting:** industrial, commercial; **Lathes:** engine, boring, turret, vertical; **Lubrication:** oil, grease, solid phase, high temperature; **Machine Shop;** **Medical Equipment:** hemostats, anesthetic dispensers; **Milling Machines:** tooling, foundations; **Packaging Machinery:** custom designed; **Presses; Pressure Vessel:** design, manufacturing, inspection; **Pumps; Quality Control; Steel Fabrication;** **Tanks:** acid, caustic, heated, accumulator; **Valves; Welding.**

A FEW NOTEWORTHY CASES

Twöhig vs. Williams (2)

Kulick vs. Hawthorne

USA vs. Charles Smith

State of California vs. Gloria Taylor

Patterson vs. Shelves & Cabinets Unlimited

Edes vs. Astro Pneumatic Tool

Murphy vs. Honda

Heaviland vs. Defender

Johanson vs. Boaz

Scott vs. McFadden

Rodriguez vs. Barona Casino

Rohrer vs. United States