



**DAVID WECHSLER**  
**Principal Consultant**  
**BAKER ENGINEERING AND RISK CONSULTANTS, INC.**

**Education:** **B.S in Electrical Engineering, University of Vermont**

**Areas of Practice:** David Wechsler is part of the BakerRisk Process Safety Group working in the BakerRisk Houston office. He is a seasoned, experienced process safety consultant, having more than 40 years of experience in the chemical and insurance industries. He is a recognized subject matter expert dealing with Hazardous Area Classification, and has hands-on global experience with the U.S., European (ATEX) and IEC-, NFPA- and UL/ISA- related codes and standards.

- Experience:**
- Has established global Hazardous/Electrical (HazLoc) Classification programs addressing classification of locations, equipment installations, and self-certification equipment reviews. Such programs have included training, auditing for compliance, development of criteria for testing laboratory product evaluations, and determination of proper equipment usage.
  - Continues to participate in the authoring process on selected NFPA, ISA and IEC codes and standards. He is the Chair of the American Chemistry Council's Electrical Codes and Standards Task Group. He also is the Chair of NFPA 505 Industrial Lift Vehicles.
  - Experience in Process Hazard Analyses (HAZOP), both as a facilitator, team member (during hazard identification process), and as a resolution owner. He is also experienced in Quantitative Risk Analyses, Firewater System Surveys / Testing, SIS/SIL Studies for Electrical Equipment, Insurance Risk Engineering, and NFPA 704 Emergency Response Health-Flammability- Stability (HFS) ratings assessments.
  - He has participated in several fire loss investigations and appeared as an expert witness.
  - Performed a number of quantitative risk assessments (QRAs) using state-of-the-art tools for both new and existing operating facilities, as well as for two pipeline systems. Findings were presented in detailed reports and, in one particular case, were presented to a high government official for acceptance and defended against another contractor's analysis.
  - Directly involved in the design, installation, and testing of fire protection and emergency loss control systems for both grassroots and existing chemical facilities.
  - Some code and standards work performed by Mr. Wechsler has led to the development of NEC Article 727, dealing with the permitted use for Instrument Tray Cables, for the introduction of the Zone Hazardous Area Classification system into the NEC, and the development of an ISA Standard addressing the use of consumer body worn/body carried electronic devices in hazardous classified locations.

**Professional Chronology:** Factory Mutual System Regional Engineer, (1971-1975); Union Carbide Corporation – Fire and Safety Issues Manager (1975-2000); Dow Chemical Company – Global Process Safety Leader/Subject Matter Expert Consultant (2000-2012); BakerRisk, Principal Consultant 2013-present

- Professional Registrations/Certifications:**
- Six Sigma – Black Belt Certification
  - World Safety Organization CSSP Certified Safety and Security Consultant Status, Category II, United Nations
- Professional Memberships:**
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) – Life Member
  - Instrument Society of Automation (ISA) Life - Senior Member
  - International Electrical Committee (IEC)
  - Institute for Electrical Electronic Engineers (IEEE) Life - Senior Member
- Committee Memberships:**
- National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) – Electrical and Industrial Sections Quarter Century Member
    - NFPA 505 Chair, NFPA 70 Electrical Code Panel 14, NFPA 30 Flammable Liquids Code, NFPA 496, NFPA 497, NFPA 499, NFPA 704, and former member of NFPA 72 Fire Alarm Code
  - Instrument Society of Automation (ISA) – Senior Member
    - ISA SP12 Committee
  - International Electrical Committee (IEC) TC31, SC31 – ANSI/ISA US Expert
  - American Chemistry Council – Electrical Section Codes and Standards Chair