

George Carlson

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SKILLS SUMMARY

Systems Engineer, Inventor & Business Entrepreneur with extensive experience implementing wildfire structure protection solutions for properties within the wildland-urban interface. Excellent background in advanced technology research and systems integration. Experienced in developing and implementing innovative solutions to protect property from wildfires.

PROFESSIONAL

Wildfire Sprinkler, Inc. dba Wildfire Protection Systems® 2001-Present
Grand Marais, MN

- Designed original Wildfire Sprinkler's *Wildfire Tested Tough* protection system that saved more structures than any other wildfire protection system to date. United States Senator Amy Klobuchar (Minnesota) credited our systems with saving over \$42 million in property value.
- Invented and deployed the first fully-automated, self-contained Wildfire Protection System in the United States in 2007.
- Developed from initial concept with personal funds business providing effective solutions to protect properties from wildfire. Business has grown from part time, seasonal regional business to nationwide, full time business serving customers in the USA and Canada in both the private and public sectors.
- Individually authored and provided design specifications for first wildfire structure protection system Hazard Mitigation Grant Program through Department of Home Security's FEMA. A Full Mitigation Best Practice Story was conducted by FEMA's Region 5 after the success of Wildfire Sprinkler systems during the 2007 Ham Lake Fire <http://www.fema.gov/mitigationbp/brief.do?mitsId=4646>. Provided design standards and component selection criteria for four (4) subsequent FEMA sponsored wildfire hazard mitigation programs including properties with little or no water resources.
- Invented alternative fueled high performance centrifugal pumps.
- Successfully integrated components, assemblies and technology from diverse industries to provide permanently installed structure protection solutions including fully automated and self-contained systems.

Fire Department Official 1992-2006
Grand Marais, MN

- After a devastating fire destroyed a local business with seven lives being lost, led effort to organize, create and grow the Gunflint Trail Volunteer Fire Department, serving as President and founding Fire Chief. The Fire Dept. has become the largest, best trained and equipped full-service fire departments in Cook County, MN.
 - Authored original Gunflint Trail Fire District Emergency Response and Evacuation Plan to wildfire emergencies, which through the present, has
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been successfully implemented several times. Implemented Firewise® mitigation efforts for both private and commercial properties. Served as EMT. Retired in 2006 as Deputy Fire Chief.

- Successfully secured more than \$945,000 to fund fire protection and emergency medical services, equipment and infrastructure within Fire District, with only 16% coming from local funds.

George Carlson, CPC Inc. (Motorola, Inc.)

1971-2007

Grand Marais, MN & Chicago, IL

- Retained and contingency consultant within advanced technology industry including wireless communications, semiconductors, advanced manufacturing technology, MEMS, fuel cells, etc.
- From 1993 through 1998 I was retained on a full-time basis supporting Motorola's iDEN TDMA sector tasked with cost reduction, reducing cycle time and improving the quality of hires of advanced technologists and technical management professionals. I introduced quality metrics into the hiring process within Motorola and helped them craft their World Wide Staffing Strategy.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Nominee for 17th Annual Joel Labovitz Entrepreneurial Success Award, University of Minnesota

Recipient in 2007 of "George Carlson Award" by Gunflint Trail VFD

US Forest Service Smokey Bear Bronze Award

Cook County Emergency Services Provider of the Year Award

Certified Personnel Consultant (CPC)

EDUCATION Tulane University of Louisiana and Elmhurst College

Emergency Medical Technician (National and Minnesota Certification)

Interagency Fire Program Management Qualification (Red Card) Technical Specialist- US Forest Service

Fire Fighter I Structural Certification, Lake Superior College, Duluth, MN

100s of hours of continuing education in Structural Fire Fighting, Wildland/Urban Wildland Fire Fighting and structure protection, Emergency Medical Services, HAZMAT, Search & Rescue, Communications

MILITARY US Marine Corps veteran