

**James D. Wright P.E**  
**CURRICULUM VITAE**



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**EDUCATION**

- B.S. Mechanical Engineering; Fresno State University
- M.S. Engineering - Energy & Kinetics; UCLA

**EXPERIENCE**

- Principal; Wright Engineering Associates – Since 1997 as principal of a consulting and design engineering service specializing in industrial refrigeration systems. Service has been to end-user grocery chain stores, food processing plants, design-build refrigeration contractors and specialty service to other consulting engineering and contracting firms; forensic expert witness.
- Refrigeration and Planning Specialist; Vice President Refrigeration; Food Plant Engineering – 8 years with a full-service design engineering and architectural firm, specializing in design and construction of food plants and distribution centers nationwide. Primary professional design responsibility for industrial ammonia refrigeration systems in food processing plants, refrigerated warehouses and distribution centers; ground-up “greenfield” projects and plant upgrades, renovations and expansions. Orientation to food processors and major grocery store chains. Process Safety Management evaluation and implementation.
- Senior Mechanical Engineer; Kohlenberger Associates Consulting Engineers, Inc. – 12 years with consulting engineering firm, specializing in industrial refrigeration.

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Design included industrial refrigeration systems for food processing facilities, blast freezing and cooling, heat transfer systems, integrated cogeneration-heat reclaim ammonia absorption refrigeration systems, ice rink design specifications and troubleshooting consultant, air conditioning for AM/PM Mini Markets. Design primarily for end users, with designs and specifications for competitive bidding among refrigeration contractors. Specialized field investigation and trouble shooting for refrigeration equipment manufacturers and end users.

- Refrigeration Engineer/Project Manager; Beverly Pacific Corporation – 2 years industrial refrigeration contracting, both proprietary design-build systems and competitive bid to engineered specifications. Was the responsible design professional for both factory-packaged and field-installed industrial refrigeration systems for applications including produce pre-cooling and storage, ice cream blast freezing and low temperature storage and other food processing facilities, pharmaceutical processing and storage, manufacturing plants, ice rinks in shopping malls and for portable traveling shows . Responsibilities included system design, competitive bidding, permitting process, field construction oversight, client coordination and documentation.
- Thermal Design and Environmental Test Engineer; Hughes Aircraft Ground Systems Group, Fullerton – 7 years conceptual design through prototype and manufacturing production of cooling systems for undersea, ground support, airborne and space application electronics. Position included responsibility for thermal environmental testing to military specifications for extreme high-low temperature-humidity performance.
- Journeyman refrigeration service technician; Central Valley Refrigeration, Arn's Appliance; Don Wright Refrigeration – 6 years employed in family domestic refrigeration service business; worked through undergraduate school employed as refrigeration and air conditioning service technician for factory-authorized service companies and independent service contractors serving domestic and commercial refrigeration and air conditioning accounts.

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**CLIENTELE**

Current and former projects include: Kroger Company; Ralphs; StarKist; Baskin-Robbins; WalMart Distribution; Nestle - Ice Cream, Chocolate, Evaporated Milk, Pasta & Cheese and Pet Foods divisions; Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream; Nabisco; Chef America; Safeway; Fluor; Del Monte Foods; Sunkist; Pepsi; Thrifty Ice Cream; Mission Foods; Tyson; Dynamic Foods; Beckman.

**HONORS AND AWARDS:**

- ASHRAE Energy Award – Existing Industrial Facility or Process – Dreyer's Grand Ice Cream
- Patent Disclosure Award; Hughes Aircraft
- Hughes Aircraft Master's Fellowship Program
- Sigma Tau – National Engineering Honor Society; chapter President
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) national Student Paper Conference
- Valley Foundry Scholarship – division of AMETEK

**TECHNICAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

- IIAR – International Institute of Ammonia Refrigeration; Board of Directors
- ASHRAE – American Society of Refrigerating, Heating and Air Conditioning Engineers
- RETA – Refrigeration Engineers and Technicians Association
- CSI – Construction Specifications Institute
- FEWA – Forensic Expert Witness Association

**PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER REGISTRATION:**

- Arkansas, Arizona, California, Iowa, Nevada, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington

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## **TECHNICAL PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS**

### **IIAR – International Institute of Ammonia Refrigeration**

- Industrial Refrigeration Great Debates; plan & moderate (2006, 2007, 2008 annual meetings)
- Problem-Solution: New Freezer With Liquid Floodback, But Not Cooling (2005)
- Problem-Solution: Flash Gas Elimination; Where Did The Liquid Go? (2004)
- Machinery Room Design – Code Requirements; What Must Be In & Out (2003)
- Machinery Room Design – UMC Code Ventilation requirements (2002)
- Problem-Solution: Hot Gas Defrost with Waffle Pan and Liquid Drainer (1997)
- Development of Gas Pressure Recirculation Systems – An American Phenomena (1991)
- Gas Powered Liquid Recirculation Compared to Mechanical Pumps (1990)

### **RETA – Refrigeration Engineers and Technicians Association**

- California Codes – Ammonia Safety Seminar (2008)
- Balanced Refrigeration System Design (1995)
- Safety Considerations in Ammonia Refrigeration System Design (1990)
- Design and Application of Liquid Transfer Systems (1989)
- Ammonia Code Update or, “Where Should We Dump the Ammonia?” (1989)

### **California Unified Program Annual Training Conference**

- Ammonia Refrigeration and California’s Changing Codes (2008)

### **ASHRAE – American Society Heating Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers**

- Energy Award; Existing Industrial Facilities – Dreyer’s Grand Ice Cream (1989)
- Designing a New Ice Cream Refrigeration System - ASHRAE Journal (1988)
- Designing a New Ice Cream Refrigeration System – Technical paper presentation at ASHRAE Annual Meeting (1989)

### **NAWGA – National Association of Wholesale Grocers**

- Process Safety Management Systems for Ammonia Refrigeration Systems (1996)

### **ISIA – Ice Skating Institute of America**

- Ice Rink Operations and Energy Conservation (1981)

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**FORENSIC ASSIGNMENTS**

I have been retained as an expert witness in twenty-two cases; participated in seven depositions; testified in court five times.

Firm: Abbott, Davis, Rothwell, Mullen & Earle, P.C., Portland, OR  
Suit: Blue Ribbon Food Service, Inc. v. Scott Polar Refrigeration Corp., et al  
Representing: Defendant  
Contact: William G. Earle 503.222.4422  
Status: Settled out of court, 1999

Firm: Ropers, Majeski, Kohn & Bentley, Redwood City, CA  
Suit: Rutledge Distributing v. Northbrook  
Representing: Defendant  
Status: Settled out of court, 1999

Firm: Meagher & Geer, P.L.L.P., Minneapolis, MN  
Suit: Wells Dairy, Inc. v. American Industrial Refrigeration Inc.  
Representing: Defendant  
Contact: Michael Hutchens 612.347.9121  
Status: Discovery, Report, Deposition; trial continued 2009

Firm: Friedenthal, Cox & Herskovitz, LLP, South Pasadena, CA  
Suit: CS Integrated v. Vilter Manufacturing, Inc.  
Representing: Defendant  
Contact: Janette Bodenstein 626.628.2800  
Status: Settled out of court after report and Deposition, 2000

Firm: Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld, LLP, Los Angeles, CA  
Suit: Gruma Project Services, Inc. v. Gary Lyons & Associates, et al  
Representing: Plaintiff  
Contact: Dawn Collins 310-229-1013  
Status: Settled out of court during Discovery, 2000.

Firm: Mariscal, Weeks, McIntyre & Friedlander, P.A., Phoenix, AZ  
Suit: Industrial Refrigeration and Boiler, Inc. v. Del Monte Foods  
Representing: Defendant  
Contact: Richard Friedlander; Larry Pringle 602.285.5016  
Description: Terminated Contractor suit against Owner claiming violation of trade secrets in the installation of an industrial ammonia refrigeration system.  
Status: Settled after report and Deposition, during appeal, 2003.

Firm: Hermes Sargent Bates, L.L.P., Dallas, TX  
Suit: Southwest Refrigerated Services v. Frick/York  
Representing: Defendant  
Contact: Dwayne Hermes 214.658.6522  
Description: Owner claiming faulty design and equipment installation  
Status: Dismissed; want of prosecution.

Firm: Stein, Ray and Harris, Chicago, IL  
Suit: Glacier Ventures LLC v. McShane Construction  
Representing: Defendant  
Contact: Joel Rhiner 312.641.3700  
Description: Owner withholding payment; counterclaim faulty construction of ice rink  
Status: Settled out of court after report, on day of deposition, 2003

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| Firm:        | Katskee, Henatsch & Suing                                            |
| Suit:        | AEC v IRC                                                            |
| Representing | Defendant                                                            |
| Contact:     | Jerry Katskee 402.391.1697                                           |
| Description: | Loss claim; roof leak into cold storage                              |
| Status:      | Discovery, opinions, settled out of court 2002                       |
|              |                                                                      |
| Firm:        | Carnahan & Perry, PLC                                                |
| Suit:        | Davis v. ChilCon                                                     |
| Representing | Defendant                                                            |
| Contact:     | Michael Carnahan 602.266.0394                                        |
| Description: | Leak in ice rink heat exchanger                                      |
| Status:      | Discovery, opinions, settled out of court 2004                       |
|              |                                                                      |
| Firm:        | Lord Bissell Brook, LLP                                              |
| Suit:        | Costa v. Vilter                                                      |
| Representing | Defendant                                                            |
| Contact:     | Gerald Fisher 213.687.6786                                           |
| Description: | Broken refrigerant valve damages                                     |
| Status:      | Settled out of court after report, before deposition, 2004           |
|              |                                                                      |
| Firm:        | Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP                                  |
| Suit:        | Terzoli v. C&L Refrigeration Co.                                     |
| Representing | Defendant                                                            |
| Contact:     | Thomas Hall 714.668.5566                                             |
| Description: | Personal injury from refrigerant leak                                |
| Status:      | Report, settled out of court, 2004                                   |
|              |                                                                      |
| Firm:        | Carnahan, Perry, Hudson PLC, Phoenix, AZ                             |
| Suit:        | Weber IGA v. Pearsall-Poole Refrigeration, Inc.                      |
| Representing | Defendant                                                            |
| Contact:     | Gary Hudson 602.200.0374                                             |
| Description: | Massive Water ingestion into refrigeration system; business loss     |
| Status:      | Jury trial – full award to Defendant's counterclaim, 2005            |
|              |                                                                      |
| Firm:        | Yamamura & Shimazu, Honolulu, HI                                     |
| Suit:        | C&S Wholesale Grocers v. Gartner Refrigeration & Manufacturing, Inc. |
| Representing | Defendant, Federated Insurance                                       |
| Contact:     | Paul Yamamura 808.523.6969                                           |
| Description: | Refrigerant leak and product damage in cold storage cooler           |
| Status:      | Discovery, preliminary opinions; formal report 2008                  |
|              |                                                                      |
| Firm:        | Booth Mitchel & Strange LLP                                          |
| Suit:        | Brawley Beef, LLC v. Preston Refrigeration Company Inc.              |
| Representing | Defendant                                                            |
| Contact:     | David Kipper 619.238.7620                                            |
| Description: | Inadequate refrigeration design of meat processing plant             |
| Status:      | Settled out of court after report, 2005                              |
|              |                                                                      |
| Firm:        | Sagaser, Jones & Hahey                                               |
| Suit:        | Initiative Foods, Inc. v. J.R. Wood, Inc.                            |
| Representing | Defendant                                                            |
| Contact:     | Scott Laird 559.233.4800                                             |
| Description: | Breach of contract, fruit processing plant                           |
| Status:      | Discovery, continued 2005                                            |

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| Firm:        | Selman Breitman LLP                                                   |
| Suit:        | Golden Eagle Insurance v. LRC Coil Company                            |
| Representing | Defendant                                                             |
| Contact:     | Melanie M. Smith 619.595.4851                                         |
| Description: | Fire damage, product loss                                             |
| Status:      | Discovery, preliminary report, settled 2006                           |
| Firm:        | Christa & Jackson Attorneys                                           |
| Suit:        | Lessee v. Owner                                                       |
| Representing | Defendant                                                             |
| Contact:     | Laurence Jackson 310.282.8040                                         |
| Description: | Business loss damages from rejecting proposed building modifications. |
| Status:      | Judge's decision, 2006                                                |
| Firm:        | Law Office of John H Anderson                                         |
| Suit:        | Gene Wheeler Farms Inc. v. Wallace and Smith Contractors              |
| Representing | Co-Defendant Galvamet US                                              |
| Contact:     | John H Anderson; 949.492.9944                                         |
| Description: | Product loss claim construction defects                               |
| Status:      | Jury Trial; 0% Defendant 2009                                         |
| Firm:        | Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP                                   |
| Suit:        | Terminal Freezers v. HMM Construction Co.                             |
| Representing | Defendant                                                             |
| Contact:     | Vicki Greco 213.680.5022                                              |
| Description: | Damages from ice buildup in cold storage construction                 |
| Status:      | Discovery, 2007                                                       |
| Firm:        | Smith Currie & Hancock, LLP                                           |
| Suit:        | National Machine Conveyor, Inc v. CAG 46 Inc., et al                  |
| Representing | Defendant American Refrigeration                                      |
| Contact:     | Charles Surasky 404.582.8022                                          |
| Description: | Refrigeration subcontract claims; plant expansion                     |
| Status:      | Discovery, Settlement conference scheduled 2008                       |
| Firm:        | Law Office of Don Russo, P.A.                                         |
| Suit:        | Asher v. UNARCO                                                       |
| Representing | Plaintiff                                                             |
| Contact:     | Don Russo 305.665.7171                                                |
| Description: | Liability CO Poisoning                                                |
| Status:      | Daubert Challenge; Settled in Trial, 2008                             |

**FEE**

- Preparatory Work 300/h – Discovery, site visits, document review, research, report
- Deposition or Trial 400/h – testifying, awaiting testimony or assisting in testimony of others; minimum 8 hours, paid in advance
- Expenses Cost +10% - media services, exhibits, travel, etc.
- Billing Monthly, 30 days net; 1.5% monthly service charges beyond 30 days. Account must be current prior to report or testimony.
- Retainer 1,200 (4h) to accompany initial set of documents to review
- Payment Wright Engineering Associates; EIN# 37-1455982