

**Topic of the Speech:**

Development on Thermal Insulation Evaluation Technique on Firefighter Clothing with 3D Fabric Structure

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**Dr. Kaoru Wakatsuki** is currently an associate professor at Shinshu University, Ueda, Japan. He was previously a research scientist at National Research Institute of Fire and Disaster and his expertise is fire research, investigation and its application to firefighter safety. He graduated Master of Science at fire protection engineering and Doctor of Philosophy at mechanical engineering at University of Maryland, College Park MD, USA. During his PhD study, he was also a guest research scientist in Building Fire Research Laboratory at National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), Gaithersburg MD, USA.

He is now serving to several ISO committees (TC61, TC92 and TC94) as an expert in Japan National Mirror Committee. His current research interest is heat and moisture transport within firefighter clothing (banker gear and underwear) with low heat flux exposure and evaluation on skin burn injury at interface between firefighter personal protective equipments, often called compatibility. Prof. Wakatsuki also offers a class for Japanese firefighters on principle of fire behavior and safety during the operation.