

Mr. Hopkins is an electrical engineer with experience in electrical and electronic systems design and analysis, electrical accident reconstruction, and electrical equipment failure analysis. He has conducted complex, multidisciplinary failure investigations pertaining to industrial and consumer products, medical devices, and utility distribution equipment. He has provided testimony in matters pending before both state and federal courts.

Mr. Hopkins has been involved in the investigation of electrical accidents, fires, and explosions for over 19 years. In addition, he has over 10 years of experience in compliance testing for national and international products. This includes standard testing for industrial products, medical devices, information technology equipment, HVAC equipment, and motor-operated appliances. His experience includes design consulting, laboratory and field testing. His experience includes solar panel systems electrical failure analysis, solar panel systems fire causation and loss damage assessment.

Licenses & Certifications

- State of Alabama PE License No. 25592
- State of Georgia PE License No. 24548
- State of South Carolina PE License No. 22603
- State of Florida PE License No. 59861
- National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES) Record
- National Association of Fire Investigators (NAFI) - Certified Fire and Explosion Investigator (CFEI)

Positions Held

Engineering Systems Inc., Peachtree Corners, Georgia

- Senior Managing Consultant, January 2022 – present
- Director, Electrical, January 2021 – present
- Senior Consultant, June 2017 – December 2021

Hopkins Forensics Group, LLC

- Forensic Electrical Engineer, October 2014 – May 2017

Forensic & Scientific Testing, Inc.

- Forensic Electrical Engineer, April 2006 – October 2014

Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc.

- Electrical Engineer, January 2003 – April 2006

Perry A. Hopkins

Senior Managing Consultant,
Director - Electrical

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ESi GA – Peachtree Corners

430 Technology Pkwy NW,
Peachtree Corners, GA 30092

Education

B.S., Electrical Engineering,
Concentration in Power Systems.
Clemson University, 1993

Areas of Specialization

Electrical Codes & Standards

Electrical Devices

Fire/Explosion Investigation

Product Fires

Residential Fires

Shock & Electrocution Hazard



Positions Held continued

Conklin Corporation

- Senior Compliance Engineer, February 2001 – January 2003

Intertek Testing Services

- Engineering Team Leader, December 1998 – February 2001
- Project Engineer, May 1994 – December 1998

Duke Power Company

- Cooperative Education Program, 1991 – 1993

Presentations

PLRB: Solar Panel Losses: Not a Matter of If, But When

Presentation at the Product & Liability Resource Bureau, November 16 and 17, 2023, 2 Hours

Solar Panel Investigations & Safety

Presented at the GFIA Spring Conference, March 13, 2023, 4 hours

Lightning Strikes; Meteorology, Science, Investigation and Damaging Effects

Presented at the GFIA Spring Conference, March 16, 2022, 3 hours

NRTLs in the Forensic World

Technical Presentation at the ESi Electrical Practice Group meeting, Charlotte, NC, April 3, 2019, 1 hour
Electrical Fire Causations and Analyses, Liberty Mutual In-house Investigations Unit, Allentown, PA, 4 Hour
presentation on October 18, 2018

Product Liability – Investigations, Analyses, Tools and Case Study

Presented to the CPCU Society – Dallas Chapter, Dallas, TX, on August 28, 2018, 1 hour

Arc Mapping Tools and Techniques

Presented at the Northeast Chapter of the Georgia Fire Investigators Association, Hall County, GA, November 15, 2016, 2 hours

Electric Heating Appliances

Presented at the GFIA Spring Seminar, McDonough, GA, March 23, 2016, 8 hours

Electrical Aspects of Fire Investigations

Presented at the Tennessee IAAI Annual Seminar, Pigeon Forge, TN, August 6, 2015, 4 hours

Thermal Devices and Thermal Cut-outs

Presented at the GFIA Spring Seminar, McDonough, GA, March 27, 2014, 4 hours



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Presentations continued

The Electrical Aspect of Fire Investigations

Presented to the Southwest Chapter of the Georgia Fire Investigators Association, Albany, GA, December 4, 2013, 4 hours

Basic Electrical Investigations

Presented to the Georgia Fire Investigator Association and the Columbus Department of Fire/EMS Investigations Division, Columbus, GA, December 15, 2011, 2 hours

Investigation of Fire Involving Hybrid and Electric Vehicles

Presented at the South Carolina International Association of Arson Investigators Quarterly Training Session, Lexington, SC, August 30, 2011, 6 hours

Look, Listen and Learn, Tips in Performing an Efficient Investigation from the Aspect of an Electrical Engineer

Presented at the GFIA Spring Seminar, March 22, 2006, 2 hours

Electric Circuit Breakers

Presented to the Metro Fire Investigators Association, March 15, 2006, 1 hour

Lightning and Losses

Presented to the Tri-State Fire & Fraud Investigators Association, December 6, 2005, 1 hour

Lightning and Losses

Presented to the Metro Fire Investigators Association, October 19, 2005, 1 hour

Lightning and Losses

Presented to the Middle Georgia Claims Association, April 22, 2004, 1 hour

Product Safety: What makes a product safe?

Present to the Southern Loss Association, September 11, 2003, 1 hour

Product Safety: What makes a product safe?

Presented to the Metro Fire Investigators Association, July 16, 2003, 1 hour

UL 63 Motor Operated Appliances Training

Presented to Intertek Testing Services located in Taipei, Taiwan, week of November 13, 2000, 24 hours

Continuing Education

- **NABCEP Course: Energy Storage Intensive** - American Solar Energy Society Boulder, CO, August 2023, 2 Hours
- **NABCEP Course: PV & the NEC** - American Solar Energy Society Boulder, CO, August 2023, 4 Hours

Continuing Education continued

- **Electrical & Computer Exam Development Workshop for Professional Engineering (PE) Examination** - NCEES, Greenville, SC, June 2023, 14 hours
- **Southeastern Annual Training Seminar** - Georgia Fire Investigator's Association, Savannah, Georgia, July 2022, 28 Hours
- **Southeastern Annual Training Seminar** - Georgia Fire Investigator's Association, Savannah, Georgia, July 2021, 28 Hours
- **Fire Investigation Training Program** - National Association of Fire Investigators, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, March 2020, 30 Hours
- **Electrical & Computer Exam Development Workshop for Professional Engineering (PE) Examination** - NCEES, Clemson, SC, May 2019, 14 hours
- **Electrical & Computer Exam Development Workshop for Professional Engineering (PE) Examination** - NCEES, Clemson, SC, November 2018, 14 hours
- **Electrical & Computer Exam Development Workshop for Professional Engineering (PE) Examination** - NCEES, Clemson, SC, May 2017, 14 hours
- **68th IAAI International Training Conference** - International Association of Arson Investigators, Las Vegas, NV, April 10-16, 2017, 28 hours
- **Southeastern Annual Training Seminar** - Georgia Fire Investigator's Association, Savannah, Georgia, July 2016, 28 Hours
- **Electrical & Computer Exam Development Workshop for Professional Engineering (PE) Examination** - NCEES, Clemson, SC, June 2016, 14 hours
- **67th IAAI International Training Conference** - International Association of Arson Investigators, Orlando, FL, April 25-28, 2016, 12 Hours
- **Ethics and the Fire Investigator** - International Association of Arson Investigators, CFITrainer.Net, February 11, 2016, 3 Hours
- **Southeastern Annual Training Seminar** - Georgia Fire Investigator's Association, Savannah, Georgia, July 2015, 28 Hours
- **NFPA 1033 and Your Career** - International Association of Arson Investigators, CFITrainer.Net, July 25, 2015, 2 Hours
- **Electrical & Computer Exam Development Workshop for Professional Engineering (PE) Examination** - NCEES, Clemson, SC, May 2015, 14 Hours
- **Southeastern Annual Training Seminar** - Georgia Fire Investigator's Association, St. Simons Island, Georgia, August 2014, 24 Hours
- **17th Annual Fire Investigative Approaches** - NC/SC IAAI, Myrtle Beach, SC, October 2013, 36 Hours
- **Southeastern Annual Training Seminar** - Georgia Fire Investigator's Association, St. Simons Island, Georgia, August 2013, 24 Hours
- **Southeastern Arson Seminar** - Savannah, Georgia, August 2010, 24 Hours
- **Southeastern Arson Seminar** - Savannah, Georgia, August 2009, 24 Hours
- **Southeastern Arson Seminar** - Savannah, Georgia, August 2008, 28 Hours
- **International Association of Arson Investigators**, Investigations of Electrical & Appliance
- **Related Fires** - Davenport, Iowa, March 2008, 24 Hours, Tested

Continuing Education continued

- **Southeastern Arson Seminar** - Savannah, Georgia, August 2007, 28 Hours
- **Southeastern Arson Seminar** - Savannah, Georgia, August 2006, 28 Hours, Tested
- **Southeastern Arson Seminar** - Savannah, Georgia, August 2005, 28 Hours, Tested
- **Fire Investigation Training Seminar** - Georgia Fire Investigator's Association, Macon, Georgia, March 2005, 20 Hours, Tested
- **Online study course Ethical Consideration for Expert Testimony** - Center for Collaboration & Education in Design, February 2005, 4 Hours, Tested
- **Southeastern Arson Seminar** - Savannah, Georgia, August 2004, 23 Hours, Tested
- **Fire Investigation Training Seminar** - Georgia Fire Investigator's Association, Dalton, Georgia, March 2004, 19 Hours, Tested
- **Ethics Training and Mock Trial** - Southern Loss Association, Atlanta, Georgia, August 2003, 8 Hours
- **Investigations for Insurance Professionals** - Unified Investigations & Sciences, Inc., Columbus, Ohio, April 2003, 40 Hours
- **Fire Findings, Investigation of Gas and Electric Appliance Fires** - St Joseph, Michigan, May 2003, 16 Hours – Tested
- **Lightning 101 Seminar** - VAISALA Inc., Atlanta, Georgia, May 2003, 2 hours
- **Network Equipment Building System (NEBS) Training to Standards GR-1089/GR-63** - Intertek Testing Services, Boxborough, Massachusetts, April 2001, 16 Hours
- **Basic Product Safety Evaluation** - Intertek Testing Services, Dallas, Texas, March 1999, 40 Hours
- **Advanced Product Safety Evaluation** - Intertek Testing Services, Boxborough, Massachusetts, June 2000, 40 Hours

Professional Affiliations/Honors

Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE)

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

International Association of Arson Investigators (IAAI)

Georgia Fire Investigators Association

- President – 2016-2017
- 2nd Vice President – 2016-2017

Metro Fire Investigators Association

- President – 2006
- Vice President – 2005