Michael Burns is a senior Aerospace Engineering Technician with the Federal Aviation Administration supporting research and development in Fire and Cabin Safety. Michael received his airframe and powerplant certification in 1988 and graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Aviation Science and Technology from Thomas Edison State College in 1995. His aviation career began in 1986 serving in the United States Navy. He transferred to the New Jersey Air National Guard in 1990 and his work later shifted to civil aviation research. In recent years, Michael has supported various projects including: unleaded alternative fuel research, fuel tank safety, ground-based nitrogen inerting, and small scale material fire testing. In addition to authoring a variety of technical reports, his primary responsibilities include project planning, equipment design, build-up and installation, designing and conducting experiments, data analysis, and quality control.