The Gold Coast Safety Times
The Newsletter of the American Society of Safety Engineers
Gold Coast Chapter

October - December 2017

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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS and MEETINGS

Our next Gold Coast Chapter meeting will be held on October 26th at 9 am.
Topic: Radiation Safety
Visit our website for details.
We hope to see you there!
www.goldcoast.asse.org

ASSE Live Webinar
Crystalline Silica Update:
New Requirements,
Enforcement Issues and
Proactive Strategies
(click above link for more info.)
Includes a Live Event on 10/3/17 at 12:00 (EDT)

Join us on Facebook for updates and other safety related news
ASSE Gold Coast Chapter
Check us out on the web at:
www.goldcoast.asse.org

The Gold Coast Safety Times is published periodically to members of the ASSE Gold Coast Chapter. To make a contribution to the newsletter or for questions, comments or additional information, contact Kathleen Clair at: katieclair@yahoo.com
President’s Message

Dear Gold Coast Members –

Looking back at the announcement of Hurricane Irma growing larger and moving toward South Florida there was a frenzy for food, water, generators and fuel. Hurricane season starts in June and extends through November. Preparation for hurricane season starts at the end of the previous season. This is when supplies are normally readily available and quantities are plentiful. It is also a good time to rotate fresh stock and review the current hurricane plan.

Preparation is critical to reduce life-threatening situations and stress caused by many inconveniences a disaster can bring. A contingency plan is also something that should be in place and the plan should be reviewed. The contingency plan may include location of a public shelter, elderly care, and pet shelters. Many found shutters missing or broken or plywood unobtainable, so it is important review these possible needs before a hurricane bears down on the region.

I hope we can learn from the previous situations we have endured so we are better prepared to deal with circumstances in the future. Please take the hurricane season preparation seriously.

The Gold Coast Chapter October meeting will be held on October 26th, 2017 with a guest speaker from Emergency Management Team, Michael Geier who will present “Radiation Safety”. Please preregister on line@ http://goldcoast.asse.org/. We hope to see you there.

Respectfully yours,

Robert Hutchison, CSP
President, Gold Coast Chapter
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JHutchison@pbcgov.org

BCSP | Board of Certified Safety Professionals

Are you looking for a new job or have an EHS position to fill?

Check out the BCSP website!

https://jobs.bcsp.org/
By wide margin, members approve switch to American Society of Safety Professionals

08/16/2017

PARK RIDGE, Illinois — The world’s oldest professional safety society, founded more than 100 years ago, will adopt a new name following a historic membership vote that was overwhelmingly in favor of the change. The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) will become the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) next year when it unveils a redesigned website in conjunction with Safety 2018 in San Antonio. The switch was approved by 74 percent of voting members.

Over a 45-day period that ended August 13, ASSE members around the world cast electronic votes on the new name. The final tally was 3,651 in favor and 1,267 opposed, easily reaching a majority decision. It also was no problem obtaining the minimum voting requirement of 1 percent of ASSE’s eligible members as 14 percent cast ballots. The new name had been unanimously recommended by the ASSE Board of Directors in January and was supported by its House of Delegates in June at Safety 2017 in Denver.

“Our members have clearly voiced that the American Society of Safety Professionals better reflects our diverse membership,” said ASSE President Jim Smith, M.S., CSP. “Engineers made up our entire membership when we were formed, but today the occupational safety and health profession encompasses many disciplines.”

The organization was founded as the United Association of Casualty Inspectors in 1911 as a result of a tragic factory fire that killed 146 garment workers in lower Manhattan. It was the deadliest industrial disaster in New York City history, and led to reforms that improved workplace safety. The Society’s name shifted in 1914 to the American Society of Safety Engineers.

Research conducted in 2016 with ASSE members, customers and stakeholders across the globe indicated that an updated brand with a clearer vision would better reflect the organization’s current membership and position it for growth. The study also found that a new name would help eliminate confusion about who could join the Society.

“Our members have always decided who we are and what we’re all about,” Smith said. “This latest vote was part of an objective process that has made us a strong organization for more than 100 years.”

ASSE’s logo will undergo small adjustments that correspond with its name change. The green shield will continue to display the organization’s acronym in gold letters within the four angles of a gold cross, but the “E” will be changed to “P.”

The organization will continue to be called the American Society of Safety Engineers until early June when it debuts a new website and makes the conversion to its new name in alignment with the Safety 2018 Professional Development Conference and Exposition. ASSE advances its members and the safety profession through education, advocacy, standards development and a vibrant professional community. Its members work in every industry, developing and implementing occupational safety and health programs that protect people and property while improving business outcomes.

“Workplace safety is constantly evolving, so our society must adjust as well to remain strong and relevant while growing our profession,” Smith said. “Our profession includes more occupations and industries than ever before. Our members are knowledgeable about everything from risk assessment and hazard control to workers’ compensation and organizational management, not to mention the more traditional aspects of safety management and engineering.”
Preventing Eye Injuries

Experts say more than 90 percent of eye injuries can be prevented by simply taking a few precautions and wearing safety glasses. If you use a lawn mower, leaf-blower, drill or similar power tools, you need protective eyewear. These glasses should have a snug, wrap-style frame to decrease the likelihood of small, airborne particles getting behind the lenses. If you wear corrective lenses, hardware stores sell inexpensive goggles that will usually fit over your glasses. But a better and more comfortable option is to purchase a pair of customized safety eyewear with polycarbonate lenses from an eye care practitioner.

Workplace Eye Safety Programs

In U.S. workplaces that involve any kind of airborne particles or noxious chemicals, employers must adhere to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) guidelines for protective eyewear and emergency eye care. If you or your employer is unsure of which guidelines apply to your workplace, visit the OSHA website for information on these topics:

- Eye and face protection
- General industry standards
- State plans
- State plan publications and training materials

Most protective eyewear standards require employers to provide prescription safety lenses to employees who need corrective eyewear. An alternative is to provide a shield that will cover and protect the employee's own eyeglasses. Some types of work require safety glasses, others require safety shields and still others require safety shields worn over safety glasses. Be sure that you fully understand the risks for eye injuries at your workplace and the most appropriate type of safety eyewear you should use. Employers also should consult with an eye doctor who is familiar with safety eyewear programs for additional insight beyond the information available from OSHA.

Also consider these eye injury risk factors at workplaces:

- Being distracted
- Using tools
- Tool malfunction
- Performing an unfamiliar task
- Being rushed
- Working overtime
- Feeling fatigued

These are all important contributors to on-the-job eye injuries, according to a study of patients treated in the emergency department at an Alabama eye hospital.

By Gary Heiting, OD
OSHA Alliance Partners Commit to Improving Worker Safety and Health

The OSHA Alliance Program fosters collaborative relationships with groups committed to worker safety and health. Alliance partners help OSHA reach targeted audiences, such as employers and workers in high-hazard industries, and give them better access to workplace safety and health tools and information.

- The American Chemical Council signed a two-year agreement to promote a culture of safety and health by providing its members, occupational physicians, and stakeholders in the polyurethanes industry with training resources to protect workers from exposure to hazardous diisocyanates. For more information, see the news release.
- The National Grain and Feed Association signed a two-year agreement to protect the safety and health of workers in the grain handling industry. The alliance will focus on preventing exposure to hazards associated with grain bin entry, machine guarding, respiratory protection, falls, heat, combustible dust, struck-by equipment, and lockout/tagout. For more information, see the news release.

Trade Release

OSHA, American Chemistry Council Sign Alliance to Protect Workers from Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals

WASHINGTON, DC – The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the American Chemistry Council (ACC) established a two-year alliance today to raise awareness of how workers are exposed to diisocyanates, and promote safe practices for their use in the polyurethane industry.
Isocyanates are raw materials used to make polyurethane products, such as insulation, car seats, foam mattresses, shoes, and adhesives. Exposure to isocyanates can cause irritation of the skin and mucous membranes, chest tightness, and difficulty breathing. More serious health effects include asthma and other lung problems.

The alliance calls for the creation of a web-based training program on the safe use of chemicals and the potential routes of exposure to users. It will also develop guidance on medical surveillance and clinical evaluation techniques for employers and workers using the chemicals. The agreement also calls for best practices seminars on health and safety procedures for OSHA, On-Site Consultation, and State Plan staff.

“OSHA’s new alliance with ACC will help ensure that employers and employees who work with the identified chemicals better understand the health hazards associated with these potentially hazardous chemicals, and the methods to control employee exposures,” said Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Loren Sweatt.

The ACC comprises the Center for the Polyurethanes Industry (CPI), and the Diisocyanates and Aliphatic Diisocyanates panels. Members of these groups include manufacturers and distributors of chemicals and equipment used to make polyurethane. CPI serves as the voice of the polyurethanes industry, covering more than 220,000 workers nationwide.

Through its Alliance Program, OSHA works with unions, consulats, trade and professional organizations, faith- and community-based organizations, businesses and educational institutions to prevent workplace fatalities, injuries, and illnesses. The purpose of each alliance is to develop compliance assistance tools and resources and to educate workers and employers about their rights and responsibilities.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA’s role is to ensure these conditions for America’s working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.
Lunch, Learn, Network

Meet members & friends of the Safety Council for an OSHA Update

October 11, 2017

Join Vergie Bain, OSHA Compliance Assist. Specialist, for an OSHA review of 2017 and what’s coming up in 2018.

All programs are 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

$25.00 in advance or $30.00 at the door.
Call Candice Gius at 561-845-8233 to register today!

Did you know? OSHA issues the QuickTakes online newsletter twice a month. The online newsletter is as awesome tool for learning about new OSHA initiatives, enforcement activities, workers’ rights and educational resources.

Help OSHA to reach their goal of 100,000 subscribers! You can help by subscribing to QuickTakes today. It’s easy to join and of course, it’s free to use!

Anyone can sign up by visiting OSHA’s website at www.osha.gov and clicking on the QuickTakes button at the top of the page.

CHAPTER NEWS

The Chapter is always looking for volunteers. If you would like to help out contact Bob Hutchinson at JHutchison@pbcgov.org

Welcome New Members

Eric Haugg
Lloyd Herry