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Register NOW for our November Event!

Safe Use and Handling of Diisocyanates/Polyisocyanates
Speaker: Lucinette Alvarado, Industrial Hygienist - Product Safety and Regulatory Affairs - Covestro LLC in Pittsburgh, PA.

Topics to be discussed:
- Chemical and physical properties,
- Occupational exposure limits,
- Industrial hygiene monitoring,
- Potential health effects,
- Recommendations (i.e. handling, PPE, spills),
- OSHA NEP updates and other useful information.

Event Details:
Date: Wed. November 18, 2015
Time: 11:30 - 2:30 PM (lunch followed by presentation)
Location: Bella Sera (Canonsburg, PA)
Cost: $30 Member/Non-Member
      $15 Students
Lunch: Hot Buffet Lunch - Bistro At Bella Sera

Visit Click HERE to register online before November 16, 2015
Payments accepted at the event include cash, check (payable to AIHA Pittsburgh), or by credit card through PayPal.

Member News
Welcome to the following new members:

Renee Cowell, CSP who is an adjunct instructor at Westmoreland County Community College teaching HSE classes for Oil and Gas workers under the ShaleNet program. She is a graduate of Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a dedicated health and safety professional of 25 years with working the last 4 years in the oil and gas industry in the Marcellus and Utica Shale plays. Previous to that she worked for Del Monte Foods and Alcoa, Inc. in Pittsburgh as a Regional Environmental Manager and EHS Manager respectively.

Andrew Wright, CIH who currently works at Blue Mountain Environmental Management Corporation. Andrew is also a member of the National AIHA.

Rob Rinto of FedEx and Sharon Fanchalsky of US Micro-Solutions both joined as Corporate Sponsor members.

Congratulations to the following Pittsburgh AIHA Members:

Pam Walaski, CIH, CHMM who recently accepted a position as Director of Health & Safety with GAI Consultants, Inc. in Pittsburgh.

Irwin Dobrushin, CIH who is President of IJD Environmental Health And Safety, LLC. Irwin has been a long-time member of the Pittsburgh AIHA.

Carol C. Delfino, CIH, CSP of SE Technologies, LLC who recently acquired her certification as a Safety Professional. Carol is a Senior Safety Consultant with SE Technologies, and previously worked at AM Health and Safety, Inc. as Manager of Industrial Hygiene Services. She has been a member of the Pittsburgh AIHA since 1986.
2015-2016 Corporate Sponsorship Drive

Our Local Section Sponsorship Drive is underway! A BIG thank you to our sponsors from 2014-2015 who were very generous, and the growing list of sponsors that have already renewed for 2015-2016. The list at the bottom right shows both Corporate Sponsors and Newsletter Advertisers from the last year.

During the July 2015 business meeting, the Executive Committee decided to raise the Corporate Sponsor contribution to $200 per year, up from $150 per year, which has been the rate for the last 15+ years! Sponsors are listed on our "Corporate Sponsors" webpage with a link to their corporate website. Added benefits of being a Corporate Sponsor include: two individual local section memberships and a one-year listing on our Consultants List webpage (if applicable). Visit our website "Corporate Sponsors" page for more information and to complete the online application form.

Advertisers can choose to place an ad in one or more issues of the Pgh. AIHA bi-monthly newsletter. The advertising rates will remain the same again for 2015-2016.

- Full-page ad - $140 each newsletter - $840 per year
- Half page ad - $75 each newsletter - $450 per year
- Quarter page ad - $40 each newsletter - $240 per year
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For more information on corporate sponsorship or advertising, please contact Christy at kirsch211@comcast.net.

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Premier Safety & Service, Inc.
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From The Synergist: What’s New in Z88.2
Submitted by Frank Pokrywka, Pgh. AIHA Secretary

The new American National Standard Practices for Respiratory Protection, Z88.2-2015, which was approved by ANSI on March 4, 2015, overcame significant challenges during the past two decades. The updates to the 1992 revision of Z88.2 were substantially delayed while professional disagreements over appropriate assigned protection factors (APFs) for air-purifying half-mask respirators were addressed through a lengthy appeals process. In December 2010, the ANSI Board of Standards Review Panel denied the final appeal and recommended that a new subcommittee start the review process.

RELATED GUIDANCE AND REGULATIONS
Subsequent to the ANSI approval of the 1992 version of Z88.2, NIOSH promulgated its final rule on Respiratory Protective Devices. That regulation updated performance standards for air-purifying particulate respirators, and NIOSH published several guidance documents addressing their selection, use, and limitations.

OSHA revised its Respiratory Protection Standard in 1998. Later, the agency added definitions and requirements for APFs and Maximum Use Concentrations (MUCs). OSHA APFs were established after thorough evaluation of available peer-reviewed literature, including workplace protection factor studies, comments submitted to the public record, and testimony from hearings. Proper respirator selection is an important component of an effective respiratory protection program, and the OSHA APFs provide employers with necessary information for selecting respirators for employees exposed to airborne contaminants. OSHA also revised its fit-testing procedures in 2004. The agency published various guides in support of these updated regulations, including a guide on APFs.

A recent update to the Department of Transportation’s specifications for shipping containers also informed the work of the Z88.2 subcommittee. Other national consensus standards considered in the preparation of Z88.2-2015 are listed in the “Resources” sidebar below.

The subcommittee considered a substantial body of research that was published after the 1992 revision of Z88.2. This information related to the proper use and performance of respiratory protection in general, including workplace and laboratory evaluations of NIOSH-approved particulate respirators and the effectiveness of fit-testing.

Click HERE for the entire article…
Job Opportunity at SE Technologies, LLC

SE Technologies, LLC (SET) located in Bridgeville, PA is looking for a HSE Field Inspector for Natural Gas Operations. This position requires qualified field Health, Safety & Environmental (HSE) personnel to monitor E&P and Midstream operations. Individuals in this position will report to the SE Technologies Client Program Manager. The Primary Objective is to ensure that field operations are performed safely and our locations remain in compliance with all relevant Environmental Health & Safety related regulations and company procedures.

Routine Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. Conduct daily safety and environmental compliance inspections; participate in pre-work and tail-gate safety meetings; review and document JSA’s.

2. Generate daily inspection spreadsheet and input data into environmental management database. Track and aid Operations to manage and document corrective actions required.

3. Perform various periodic inspections (e.g., SPCC/PPC Inspections of containments and storage tanks on weekly and monthly basis). Coordinate with Operations and Contractors to ensure corrective actions are implemented expeditiously.

4. Aid in coordination of waste shipments and serve as resource to Operations personnel regarding waste handling issues. Ensure all Waste shipping and disposal records are properly maintained.

5. Coordinate spill, injury, and incident response actions and provide field supervision of Response Contractors.

6. Conduct spill, accident, incident and near miss reporting and Root Cause Analysis.

7. Aid Operations to develop a culture in which HSE risks are understood.

8. Provide HSE Training to Operations personnel and Contractors.

9. Manage and monitor safety equipment (e.g., four gas meters) maintained on-site for Operations.

10. Assist in emergency response actions in accordance with the ERP (Emergency Response Plan).


12. Interpret and develop guidance on HSE regulations.

13. Position is a field assignment to service natural gas industry. Work experience is the Marcellus or Barnett Shale or Unconventional Drilling for Natural Gas industry, especially drilling and hydro-fracturing operations, is highly desired.

This position offers an excellent opportunity for an individual who prefers field work rather than an office routine and enjoys working in direct interaction with all phases of natural gas operations. Work involves extensive outdoor activity, including during inclement weather and the ability to traverse rough terrain.

Position does require, however, knowledge of MS Office computer skills, especially MS Excel and Outlook.

This position typically requires overtime. Position is routinely 50+ hours / week and on-call 24/7 for incident response during off hours.

Knowledge of OSHA Construction Standards and EH&S regulations relevant to the Oil & Gas industry, including Pennsylvania or Texas specific regulation, is a plus. Knowledge of State and Federal regulatory requirements (e.g., SWPPP, SPPC, PPC, Air Emissions Inventory), as well Emergency Response Incident Command System (ICS/NIMS) is preferable.

PEC Safeland or OSHA #5810 Certified Required. 40 Hr. HAZWOPER training desirable but not required. Drug and Alcohol testing may be performed randomly at discretion of company. Valid driver’s license required. Vehicle, lodging, travel expenses and per diem provided.

TO APPLY

Please submit a cover letter and resume, transcripts, letters of recommendation, and/or any other certificates or information you believe demonstrates your qualifications.

Please submit your resume and brief cover letter to:
SE Technologies, LLC
98 Vanadium Road, Bldg. D
Bridgeville, PA 15017

Or by email to Tim Ratvasky at: tratvasky@se-env.com.

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OSHA’s 10 Most Cited Violations for 2015—Announced at NSC Event

OSHA has released the preliminary top 10 most frequently cited violations for Fiscal 2015, which were announced at the recently held National Safety Council Congress and Expo.

The list isn’t much different from those of previous years. Comparing it with last year’s for instance, 2015’s preliminary top 10 still has Fall protection(1926.501) as its number one most cited violation. This is actually the fifth time that this violation is topping the list. The other commonly cited violations still held their usual positions except a few changes in Ladders and Electrical & Wiring Methods. So do we always expect the same list year in year out? Moreover, does this suggest that despite being provided with a fairly specific list of things to focus on every year, we’re still somehow missing the mark?

As part of the Department of Labor, OSHA has indeed impacted positively on workplace safety and health conditions through its education, training, outreach and assistance but does the repetition we’re seeing suggest that perhaps OSHA is too lenient in its approach to enforcement?

OSHA’s Top 10 Most Cited Violations in Fiscal 2015

1. Fall Protection (1926.501)
2. Hazard Communication (1910.1200)
3. Scaffolding (1926.451)
4. Respiratory Protection (1910.134)
5. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147)
6. Industrial Powered Trucks (1910.178)
7. Ladders (1926.1053)
8. Electrical Wiring Methods (1910.305)
10. Electrical General Requirements (1910.303)

Considering the top10 lists of previous years, it’s likely that the final list to be published in December will be no different than the recently released preliminary list. It’s important for employers to assess their workplaces and determine the best approach in handling the frequent violations that have remained on the list if applicable to their operation.

AIHA Submits Comments for OSHA’s RFI Regarding PELs

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (October 14, 2015) — On October 9, 2015, the American Industrial Hygiene Association® filed comments for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s Request for Information (RFI) on Chemical Management and Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs). Published in the Federal Register on October 10, 2014, Volume 79, number 197, page 61383, the RFI outlines potential revisions to OSHA’s current risk and feasibility assessment approaches and requests additional information regarding chemical management for the workplace that may be more efficient, while still protecting worker health and safety.

AIHA’s submission to OSHA includes a copy of the AIHA white paper “Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs)” and comments compiled from AIHA Volunteer Groups. The white paper includes the following recommendations:

OSHA should develop a peer-reviewed guideline for the derivation of PELs. AIHA believes that PELs must be based on the best scientific information available and must include a well-documented, critical evaluation of the supporting information.

AIHA also believes that appropriate uncertainty factors must be applied to compensate for the inherent uncertainties in the existing data and extrapolation to human populations.

OSHA should seek whatever resources or legislative changes are needed to allow the updating of all existing PELs to current science and to set such new PELs as are necessary to protect worker health. In the meantime, OSHA should select chemicals for PELs based on scientific principles and specific criteria developed with all stakeholders.

PELs should be consistent across occupational populations and should be accepted by other federal agencies when the goal is protecting occupational health.

“Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs)” was originally adopted by AIHA in 1998, updated in 2002 and 2009, and has been redefined and readopted this year. Click here to read the full white paper and list of submitted comments.
REGISTRATION FORM

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ThirdAnnualWesternPAand-nw-pa-

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Safety Sciences Department
1010 Oakland Ave. Room 117
Indiana, PA 15705

No registrations after November 3rd.

Cancellations are non-refundable after November 3rd.

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Tuesday, November 10, 2015

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Daryl Hill, PhD, CSP, Vice President for Global Health and Safety, Johnson Controls and former ASSE President

Mike Murray, Operations and Risk Control, Executive, CHA Insurance and ASSE Foundation Chair Board of Trustees

Joel Haight, PhD, PE, CSP, CHI, Associate Professor of Industrial Engineering, University of Pittsburgh

Harry Klucher, Esquire, Counsel-Workers Compensation Certified Specialist, Synergy Comp Insurance Company

Josh Lederman, Industrial Designer and Entrepreneur

Mike Mancone, CHST, Sr. Safety Representative, Bruce Mansfield Plant

Debbie Dietrich, CH, Vice President and Corporate Industrial Hygienist, SCC, Inc.

Melissa A. Heike, M.S., Safety and Health Associate, RJR Safety

Wayne Vanderhoof, CSP, President, RJR Safety, Inc.

Dave Francis, National Safety Director, 1-800-505-1687

Frank Polisky, CH, Manager, Industrial Hygiene, University of Pittsburgh

Joe Kopita, CSP, Senior Vice President - Risk Services, Hub International, The HDR Group

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

7:00-8:00 Keynote Speaker: Daryl Hill “Training the profession and how to maximize your potential”

8:00-9:00

9:30-10:30 Track 1

Harry Klucher “Workers Compensation Case Law Developments 2014—2015”

track 2

Joel Haight “Human factors engineering research at the Univ. of Pittsburgh: the current state of the literature”

Track 3

Mike Mancino “Emerging issues in construction”

10:45-11:45 Track 1

Debbie Dietrich “Sampling of high profile particulates: Silica, manganese, and nanoparticles”

Track 2

Wayne Vanderhoof & Melissa Herline “Tank gauging hazards & safe work practices”

Track 3

Josh Lederman “The future of safety wearables”

12:00-1:10 Lunch and Vendor Expo

1:15-2:15 Track 1

Frank Polisky “Controlling indoor air quality: What safety and health professionals need to know”

Track 2

Joe Kopita “Prevention through leadership: Accountability for the safety professionals”

Track 3

Dave Francis “Ladder safety & innovation”

2:30-3:30 Closing Speaker: Mike Murray “Strength through giving. Using the Foundation to engage, energize, and expand our ASSE Community”

SCHEDULE (CONT.)

3:30 Closing remarks & door prizes

CONFERENCE NOTES

Location: Doubletree Hotel Monroeville
Address: 101 Mall Blvd., Monroeville, PA 15146

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