



ASSE Low Country Chapter

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 7

JULY 2006

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- A note from the President — Page 5
- Pop Quiz — Page 7

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Go Hawaii 2
- Conference Call 2
- Safety 2007 3
- Training 4
- Fact of the Month 6

ASSE Urges Members to Volunteer for NIOSH's NORA Research Councils

ASSE again wants to encourage its members to volunteer for NIOSH's NORA research councils. We've had a few members volunteer, and their names have been sent on to NIOSH. But this is a key way that safety and health professionals can help ensure that the age-old concern that NIOSH research does not adequately reflect safety gets changed. These research councils will help set the agenda for safety and health research for at least the next ten years. Safety needs to be included. Below are individuals in each sector that you should contact if you are interested. Or you can let Dave Heidorn know at dheidorn@asse.org and your name can be sent on by ASSE.

The following is from NIOSH –

Volunteers needed for the NORA Sector Research Councils.

Now is the time to volunteer to participate on a National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) Sector Research Council. Eight councils are being formed to create and maintain a sector-specific research strategy for the nation -- and to maximize the impact of this agenda through partnerships. Each council will be led by a Manager, who is typically a NIOSH Division or Laboratory Director, and by a Coordinator, who provides day-to-day Program leadership. If you are interested in contributing to a Sector Research Council, you may contact either the Coordinator of any sector that interests you or Sid Soderholm, NORA Coordinator, at NORACoordinator@cdc.gov. After nomination by the NORA Sector Program leaders, NORA Research Council members will be asked to serve by the NIOSH Director. Each NORA Sector Research Council is expected to meet before the end of the summer. Please consider participating!

NORA Sector Program Leaders in NIOSH

NORA Sector Program	Manager	Coordinator
Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing	George Conway GConway@cdc.gov	Sid Soderholm SSoderholm@cdc.gov
Construction	Jeff Kohler JKohler@cdc.gov	Matt Gillen MGillen@cdc.gov
Healthcare & Social Assistance	David Weissman DWeissman@cdc.gov	Teri Palermo TPalermo@cdc.gov
Manufacturing	Mary Lynn Wuebkenberg MWuebkenberg@cdc.gov	Mike Gressel MGressel@cdc.gov
Mining	Jeff Kohler JKohler@cdc.gov	Jeff Welsh JWelsh@cdc.gov
Services	Terri Schnorr TSchnorr@cdc.gov	David Utterback DUtterback@cdc.gov
Transportation, Warehousing & Utilities	Nancy Stout NStout@cdc.gov	Stephanie Pratt SPratt@cdc.gov
Wholesale and Retail Trade	Paul Schulte PSchulte@cdc.gov	Vern Anderson VAnderson@cdc.gov

"Only mediocrity can be trusted to be always at its best." — Sir Max Beerbohm

go Hawaii

Spill the beans and get your coffee mug ready... you could WIN!

Sponsor as many new, full ASSE members as you can before March 31, 2007 and you could win a trip for two to Hawaii valued at \$5,000!

Each time you sponsor a new, full member you'll be entered into a drawing to WIN! Plus, the three members with the most recruits wins too! \$1,000, \$500, or \$250 in CASH!*

So get ready to *Spill The Beans* about the benefits of ASSE membership! Here's how:

Call ASSE Customer Service at 847-699-2929 for a supply of applications

Download applications from the ASSE website: www.asse.org/gohawaii

Email your friends and colleagues with the "refer a friend" tool on the upper right and corner of our home page. Go to www.asse.org/gohawaii for more information ash prizes are awarded in the form of American Express Gift Cheques. The above amounts are in US dollars only. In the event of a tie a drawing will be held. No double winners as the winner of the trip will not qualify for the \$1,000 prize.

Addressing the Issue of Confined Space Entry

Technical Audio Conference Call

Wednesday, July 26, 2006 11:00 am - 12:30 pm CST



American National
Standard ANSI
Z117.1-2003

In 2003, ASSE hosted a technical conference call on the ANSI/ASSE Z117.1 Confined Spaces Standard. The call was a huge success. We received plenty of positive feedback and we also received some "constructive criticism" asking that there be more time for questions. We had a follow-up call on July 27, 2005 with hundreds of participants. One of the results of this call was we received literally hundreds of requests for a call about the general issue of confined space entry.

This upcoming call will be focused on the general issue of confined space entry and demolition operations, what it means to you from the practical perspective, and ways to control such exposures and hazards on your own sites. The call will include

some discussion on ANSI/ASSE Z117.1 it will also address the fall arrest/protection issue from the overall perspective as well.

Craig Schroll, CSP, Founder and President of FIRECON, East Earl, Pennsylvania.

Craig Schroll provides a wide range of experience in improving the effectiveness of clients' loss prevention and control results. He has been actively involved in loss prevention and control since 1972. Craig is the primary provider of all FIRECON services.

To learn more about Craig visit his website at:

http://www.firecon.com/FIRECON_home.htm

In his presentation, Craig will discuss—The overall issue of confined space entry—Ways to address confined space entry

hazards and exposures- Strategies for SH&E professionals to use to for confined space entry- Permit versus non-permit confined spaces—Hot work – why is this so important? - Impact of Z117.1 on SH&E professionals. This program is only \$75 for members and includes the following:

1. A PowerPoint Presentation.
2. A Copy of the current Z117.1 Standard.
3. A Copies of past versions of the Z117.1 Standard (for historical purposes).
4. A website of technical materials.
5. The ability to submit your questions via e-mail to the speakers and moderator.
6. Following the call you will receive a CD recording of the call.



"Whatever you may be sure of, be sure of this: That you are dreadfully like other people." — James Russell Lowell

SAFETY 2007 Call for Presenters:
ASSE invites those interested in presenting at its 2007 Professional Development Conference to submit a proposal to speak for review by the Conference Planning Committee. SAFETY 2007 will be in Orlando, FL, June 24-27.
[2007 Speaker Application Form \(MS Word\)](#)
[2007 Speaker Application Form \(PDF\)](#)



ASSE Foundation Mission Statement
The American Society of Safety Engineers Foundation, established by and in partnership with the American Society of Safety Engineers, generates funding and provides resources for scholarship, applied research, academic accreditation, and related academic initiatives in order to advance the safety, health, and environmental profession.

- The Foundation currently supports these initiatives:**
- Fostering Future Safety and Health Professionals**
Award scholarships, internships and fellowships to students and faculty pursuing safety and health studies in accredited college and university degree programs.
 - Conducting Applied Safety Research**
Support safety and health research initiatives and publish findings that advance accident and illness prevention.
 - Expanding Accreditation of Safety and Health Curriculums**
Provide funding and direction to colleges and universities with safety degree programs seeking ASSE/ABET accreditation.

(Click Here!!)



Training Classes

The North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health Education and Research Center at UNC-CH

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH NURSING CERTIFICATION REVIEW Marco Island, Florida, August 7-9, 2006 Click for info or to register. http://www.sph.unc.edu/osherc/ce/courses/ohn_cert_rev_0806.htm

For information about other courses offered by the NC OSH-ERC, visit our website at <http://www.sph.unc.edu/osherc/ce.htm> or call 888-235-3320.

Trident Tech

Environmental Compliance ISO 14001:2004 Transition Program
7/19 8-5 pm \$225
To register: Phone: 574-6152;
FAX: 574-6310;
Register on line-

www.tridenttech.edu

For more info: CALL Barbara Eggers-Parker 843-574-6730 or E-MAIL: Barbara.parker@tridenttech.edu

ASSE

St Louis, MO Math Review

July 23, 2006

ASP Prep

July 24-26, 2006

CSP Prep

July 27-29, 2006

Corporate Safety Management

July 24-26, 2006

Boston, MA

Exec. Program (Reducing Losses from Occupational Health Risks and Environmental Exposures)

July 24-25

Exec. Program (Managing the Business Aspects of Safety)

July 26-28, 2006

The National Safety Council (In Columbia)

Principles of Safety
July 17-20

Professional Truck Driver Instructor Course
July 18-20

First Aid/CPR/AED Instructor Course
July 25-27

First Aid/CPR/AED Standard Course
July 25, 2006

Forklift Instructor Course
July 27

Contact:

Stacey Mullis

smullis@scnsc.com

(800)-733-6185

(803)-732-6778

(803)-732-6757 (Fax)

2006-2007 Low Country Officers

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Our Monthly Meeting



This month our speaker is:
 George N. Richardson
 SPAWAR System Chasn
 Cell: 843-327-2805
 Beeper: 877-482-5331
 george.n.richardson@navy.mil
Subject: Safety issues involving international government jobs.

Registration and Networking: 11:30
Lunch, Business and Training: 12:00

Place: North Towne Seafood and Grill
2093 Eagle Landing Blvd.
North Charleston, SC
Phone: (843) 863-1001

Lunch (\$11.50 for members and \$13.50 for non-members so join today!).

Would you consider being a host for a monthly ASSE meeting? Perhaps you know someone who would enjoy our company and great lunch – what better

way to present what they represent. When one hosts a meeting, we request that you provide a door prize for a drawing and/or supply the attendees with a company promo such as pens, hats, or other items with your logo.

In exchange for hosting a meeting, there will be a space for free advertisement provided to you at no charge in that month's newsletter.

Just email jane.lyons@us.bosch.com when you would like to host a meeting. Thanks!

*"Waste not
 fresh tears
 over old
 griefs."
 Euripides*

Local Chapter & Meeting Information

Treasurer's Corner



As of June 30, 2006, the Chapter's account continues to operate with a balance of \$11,311.66.

There were 27 members and guests present at the June 20, 2006 meeting.

New Member

Larry McKeehan - First Carolina Ins.
 Norva Miles - BP Amoco and Larry Papineau - Rhodia Inc.

WELCOME

Looking Past and Forward for the ASSE Low Country

By Jane Lyons 2006-2007 Low Country Chapter President

Looking back at the past year, the Low Country Chapter was **very** successful, thanks to the Leadership of Janice Woods, the Executive Committee and our members. Our past successes will help us to lead to our future success. We have been active in the Community with our bicycle helmet donations to Toys for Toys, we have increased our membership, the topics and quality of our monthly meetings and

newsletter has improved, we hosted the Fall Regional Operating Committee Meeting and golf outing,

Heres to a Safe and Successful 2006-2007 year in the Low Country Chapter of ASSE!

and we had an outstanding Professional Development Conference and co-sponsored it with the South Carolina Chapter of ASSE (a first for both Chapters). For the 2006-2007 year, we want to continue to grow as

a Chapter, become more involved in the Community and be a benefit to our members. Our Toys for Tots program will continue and our involvement with Habitat for Humanity is in the planning stage (watch for details on how YOU can get involved in the fall). We are always looking for new ideas – so, volunteer for a committee and come to our monthly meetings to network and learn.

FACT OF THE MONTH: Best Practices for Employers



The Workers' Compensation markets nationwide continue to experience hard market conditions. With a general understanding of the system and a commitment to good practice, an employer can accomplish some control over their workers' comp program and relieve some of the harsh market conditions.

First Report of Injury

An employer is required by law to promptly report a work injury that results in either *medical attention* or *one lost day of work* or more. Filing a First Report does *not* make the employer liable for that injury. The insurance adjuster investigates the claim and accepts or denies it.

Prompt Reporting

An employer must report a work injury within 72 hours of notice or knowledge of an injury. The value of prompt reporting cannot be overstated. A large number of disputes arise over late-reported injuries. Sometimes when an employer doubts the validity of a claim they do not report it. However, if an employee reports an injury to an employer, the employer

should report it. Statistics show that there is a correlation between the cost of a claim in relation to the timelessness of reporting.

Return to Work

The employee's return to work is a logical and desirable goal in workers' compensation. Return to work allows the carrier to stop paying disability benefits. The employer should be aware that early return to work limits claim costs and helps to ensure some return of normalcy to the injured employee's life. Studies show that the longer the delay in return to work the more likely the employee is to not return to work at all. Employers can limit their own liability and costs by identifying and providing suitable, modified or even part-time work for their injured workers.

Fraud

Fraud refers to a willful false statement or misrepresentation, for the purpose of obtaining a benefit or payment. In the event an employee commits fraud, their claim may be denied, benefits stopped and/or a penalty issued. The department investigates claim(s) in which there is a report of fraud supported with evidence. The quickest opportunity for redress of fraud is for the adjuster to present evidence to the department and request immediate cessation of benefits. In addition, further investigation may be conducted and an administrative penalty may be issued.

Safety - BIGGEST Cost Saver

The #1 way to reduce workers' compensation costs and claims is through safety and training. Safety measures, training and experience all contribute to a reduction in work injuries. Each employer should review their reports of injury and the nature of injuries in their workplace or profession and target those injuries for additional safety training. Training is only the first step. Providing guidelines, safety equipment, followed by enforcement, reminders and consequences for not following safety protocol can all serve to reduce injuries. Common work practices may actually contribute to injuries. Understaffing can impose too strenuous a workload on existing workers. Overtime can exacerbate and contribute to repetitive use or overexertion injuries. Inadequate training can result in improper or dangerous work procedures. Taking the time and effort to properly train and enforce safety can reduce injuries and costs.

Demand Service from your Insurance Company and Agent

Cost may be your biggest concern when selecting insurance but service should be considered. Ask your agent or carrier what the insurance carrier will do for you. How are claims handled? How many claims does each adjuster have? Who will you be communicating with? When? How often? How do they adjust claims? What can they tell you to assure you that they will be a strong advocate for you? The insurance carrier represents your interests and a claim and you will want to be certain *before* a claim is filed that they have your best interests at heart.



NEAR MISS REPORTING - Bringing the Message 'Home' to Your Employees

By Greg Seavers

Getting employees to report Near Misses is a challenge. Employees often question the value of reporting what they've seen. Indeed, many fear that coming forward with a report will cause trouble and lead to punishment. However, I've found an effective technique to overcome reluctance: Analogize Near Misses at work to incidents at home. Since many of our employees are parents — and all of them were once children — this casts the subject in a light to which they can more easily relate. Here's how to use the technique.

NEAR MISSES HAPPEN AT WORK AND HOME

A Near Miss is an undesired event that, under slightly different circumstances, could have resulted in harm to people or damage to property, materials or the environment. Proper reporting of Near Misses is essential and the investigation that follows is for the purpose of training, educating and preventing future incidents or injury.

Near Miss is a term used by occupational health and safety professionals. But incidents also take place outside the workplace. Parents frequently handle Near Miss situations at home.

Here's a tale of a domestic Near Miss to illustrate how this works.

THE NEAR MISS OCCURS

You tell your 16-year-old son (let's call him Junior) to wash the dishes. Junior drops a carving knife while loading the dishwasher. The knife falls violently to the ground and lands blade-down on the kitchen floor, just missing the foot of Junior's little sister, Suzie, by a few centimeters.

That is a Near Miss. As a parent, you will want to know what happened so you can take steps to ensure it doesn't happen again. But will Junior or Suzie tell you about the incident?

JUNIOR AND SUZIE DECIDE WHETHER TO REPORT IT

It depends. Through life experience and social conditioning, children are encouraged not to report situations that cast a "supposedly" negative light on themselves or anyone else. And, in many families, there's an unwritten code among siblings to keep misbehavior a secret and not "tattle tale to mom and dad."

The motivation for such behavior is to protect oneself and one's siblings from punishment. But there are ways to defuse this. One way is to persuade your children to always tell the truth and promise they won't be punished for doing so.

THE HAPPY ENDING

Let's say Junior does in fact come forward and tell you what happened. Like a good parent should, you investigate the incident and assess the risk of recurrence. As a result, you discover that Junior:

Always rushes to load the dishwasher (1st mistake); and
Grabs knives by the blade instead of the handle (2nd mistake).

Now that you know what's going on, you are in a position to educate Junior on the dangers of always being in a rush and on the proper handling of knives. The problem is resolved and dishwasher loading becomes safer at your home.

THE UNHAPPY ENDING

Junior and Suzie don't report the incident. So you have no reason to suspect that Junior is rushing to load the dishwasher and handling knives by the blade. And since no injuries have occurred, the improper behavior is reinforced. So it's repeated.

Two weeks later, Junior asks permission to go out with his buddies on Friday night. Your response: "Okay, but only after you load that dishwasher." Junior accepts the deal but is in an even bigger hurry than usual to complete his chore. He distractedly grabs a steak knife by the blade and slices open his hand.

This accident could have been avoided. But it wasn't. The reason: You didn't know about Junior's dangerous loading techniques until after an injury occurred. The Near Miss, in other words, was an opportunity to fix the problem before it led to an injury. Unfortunately, that opportunity was lost since the Near Miss wasn't reported.

CONCLUSION

This is simple stuff. But it's surprising how placing the importance of Near Miss reporting in the context of the home situation drives home the message to employees. The technique has a secondary benefit: In addition to encouraging the reporting of Near Misses, it enables parents to consciously build on the practice at home and thus eliminate dangers that threaten their families. So give it a try.

POP QUIZ

BARRIERS TO SAFETY TRAINING

By Catherine Jones

Question: In a recent survey, Michigan business owners, operators and managers were asked to explain the reasons they don't teach employees about workplace safety. What do you think they listed as their number one barrier?

- A. Availability of information
- B. Cost of training
- C. Lack of time
- D. High employee turnover
- E. Other reasons

Answer: C. 25% of respondents cited lack of time as the single top barrier to workplace safety training.

Other obstacles ranked in this order:

- Availability of information 7%
- Cost of training 7%
- High employee turnover 11%
- Other reasons 11%
- Undecided 38%

The survey also uncovered that only 26% of respondents had increased their focus on educating employees about health and wellness in the past year, with the vast majority — 61% — reporting little or no increase at all.

Greg Seavers



Greg is a Security, Safety, Health, and Environmental Coordinator at a Global Paint Manufacturing facility in the Midwest