Greetings fellow Members of ASSE San Diego:

As I was browsing through a popular website that provides a list of all of the “National Days” that we celebrate in America such as Bosses Day, National Garlic Day, etc., one item caught my eye called “National High Five Day”, which occurs annually on the third Thursday in April.

The story goes that in 2002, college students at the University of Virginia created National High Five Day.

This “High Five” event reminded me of a not so fortunate event that I experienced a few years ago as Safety Manager for a large construction operation.

The major renovation of a local mall was nearing completion, and one of the new tenants, a movie theater, was in the process of moving into their new space. They had only two workers on site, a forklift operator and one laborer on the ground that was assisting with moving furniture from a truck to inside the theater lobby.

The story goes that at the end of the day, when the work was complete, the laborer approached the forklift and offered up a “high five” to the operator, in celebration for a job well done and the end of a long day. When the operator reached down to high five (well, I guess I mean low five) the laborer, the machine moved unexpectedly, lurching backward and crushing the laborer’s leg, causing a compound fraction of the femur.
I commonly use this story when training forklift and mobile equipment related classes to stress to students the importance of always being on the lookout for the unexpected. As someone who has spent thousands of hours in the seat of a machine, I always felt that I had an obligation to account for ground personnel, and in turn when on the ground, I was always respectful of the machine and kept in contact with the operator. Contact meaning eye contact, not high fives.

We can train people to follow safe work practices, but the challenge will always be, how best to anticipate the unexpected. If one of you has the solution, please let me know!

Thank you and have a safe day!

Chris Malicki
ASSE San Diego Chapter President

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**Government Affairs Committee:**
by Gary Couture, MS-OSH, COSS

**Senate votes to scrap OSHA’s ‘Volks’ recordkeeping rule**

Washington – The Senate on March 23 joined the House by voting to overturn a final rule from OSHA that addresses employers’ “ongoing obligation” to make and maintain accurate records of work-related injury and illness data.

The Senate voted 50-48 to pass a joint resolution disapproving the so-called “Volks” rule, which OSHA issued in the final days of the Obama administration. President Donald Trump is expected to sign the resolution and officially overturn the rule.

Employers have long been required to record and maintain work-related injury and illness data over a five-year span. However, they could be cited for violations only within a six-month time period. Those guidelines changed Dec. 19, when OSHA published the Volks rule, which allowed citations to be issued up to five-and-a-half years after violations allegedly occurred.

The rule stemmed from a legal case involving Volks Constructors. Supporters of the rule say it would allow OSHA to enforce accurate injury and illness recordkeeping. However, critics claim it would create burdens for employers without providing any proof that worker safety would improve.

The Senate passed the resolution of disapproval by a 231-191 vote on March 1. The Senate vote followed party lines, with Republicans casting all 50 “yea” votes. Meanwhile, all 48 “nay” votes came from Democrats and Independents. Sens. Johnny Isakson (R-GA) and Rand Paul (R-KY) did not vote.

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**Acosta emphasizes worker safety during nomination hearing**


Acosta shared a story about his parents, who fled the dictatorship in Cuba to seek freedom in the United States. His mother became a typist at a real estate firm, sometimes commuting 90 minutes each way to work. His father served in the Army and eventually became an inventory clerk at a cell phone store. The family lived from paycheck to paycheck, and it was not uncommon for his parents to take a second job to make ends meet.

“Today, many Americans are facing the same struggles my parents endured, only worse,” Acosta testified to committee members. “My parents had jobs, but not all Americans have jobs.

“Helping Americans find good jobs, safe jobs, should not be a partisan issue. In my visits with each of you, it was crystal clear that each member of this committee wants to help American workers find good, safe jobs – even if you do not all agree on how best to realize this goal.”

The hearing was an opportunity for senators to engage with Acosta, a former Department of Justice official who currently serves as dean of the law school at Florida International University. President Donald Trump nominated Acosta shortly after his first nominee, Andrew Puzder, withdrew his name from consideration.

(See Government Affairs, page 3)
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER

(A Government Affairs, continued from Page 2)

"Mr. Acosta is off to a good start in this process because he’s already been confirmed by the Senate three times,” Sen. Lamar Alexander (R-TN) said in reference to Acosta’s work in President George W. Bush’s administration.

However, Acosta did not escape scrutiny. Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) questioned whether Acosta could be an advocate for all workers. She also cited concerns about President Trump’s proposal to slash DOL’s budget.

“Just because President Trump’s first selection for secretary of labor was so deeply unacceptable, that doesn’t mean we should lower our standards, because workers and families across the country certainly are not,” Murray said. “Instead, they have made very clear that they want a secretary of labor who will stand up for the core mission of the department and fight for their interests; someone who will be an advocate within this administration for workers if President Trump continues down the path of breaking promises after promise to those he said he would help.”

Acosta specifically mentioned worker safety as an important part of his position should he be confirmed.

“Good jobs should also be safe jobs,” he said. “Congress has enacted workplace safety laws. The Department of Labor enforces these, and if confirmed, I will work to enforce the laws under the department’s jurisdiction fully and fairly. As a former prosecutor, I will always be on the side of the law and not any particular constituency.”

Groups file motion to intervene in lawsuit against OSHA recordkeeping rule

Washington – Several public health advocacy groups have filed a motion to intervene in a lawsuit that aims to undo OSHA’s requirement for employers to electronically submit worker injury and illness data for public view.

On March 21, organizations including watchdog group Public Citizen, the American Public Health Association, the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists, and the Center for Media and Democracy filed a motion in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma. The groups argue that they are entitled to act as defendants in the lawsuit, which was filed against OSHA by the National Association of Home Builders and other industry groups.

The Improve Tracking of Workplace Illnesses and Injuries final rule went into effect Jan. 1. The industry groups filed a lawsuit three days later, claiming OSHA had no authority to issue the requirements.

The rule states that establishments with at least 250 workers must electronically submit to OSHA data from OSHA forms 300, 300A and 301 annually. Establishments with 20 to 249 employees in select high-hazard industries are required to submit information from their annual summary form, OSHA Form 300A.

The National Association of Home Builders and other groups claim that OSHA’s intent to make the data public “exposes a business to significant reputational harm, all without demonstrating any evidence that it would effectively reduce workplace injuries and illnesses.”

However, Public Citizen and other groups who filed the motion to intervene say the rule will improve data collection that can be used to identify injury and illness trends and improve worker protections.

“Under the new administration, which has vowed to repeal and weaken key safeguards that protect workers’ health and safety, this rule is needed more than ever,” Dr. Sammy Almashat, researcher with Public Citizen’s Health Research Group, said in a press release. “These data are critical to our mission as researchers seeking to reduce hazards that workers face on the job.”

**Final rule on beryllium: OSHA pushes effective date to May 20**

Washington – A final rule intended to protect workers from exposure to beryllium has been delayed a second time.

The rule originally was scheduled to go into effect on Jan. 9 but was delayed until March 21. OSHA then pushed back the effective date again to May 20, OSHA announced March 21. However, the compliance dates for the final rule have not changed.

“The additional time will allow OSHA the opportunity for further review of the new Beryllium Final Rule, including review of concerns that commenters raised, and is consistent with the memorandum of Jan. 20, 2017, from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, entitled ‘Regulatory Freeze Pending Review,’” states a notice published in the March 21 Federal Register.

OSHA received 25 comments about its proposal to delay the beryllium rule until May 20. Responses were mixed: Among the commenters was Rep. Bradley Byrne (R-AL), chairman of the House Workforce Protections Subcommittee, who said a delay was necessary to allow time for scrutinizing the rule’s coverage of abrasive blasting operations under the construction and shipyard standards.

Beryllium can pose serious health risks to workers who are exposed, according to OSHA. Exposure can lead to chronic beryllium disease and lung cancer. The agency published a final rule Jan. 9 that called for lower permissible exposure limits and requirements for exposure assessments, respiratory protection and other features.

(See Government Affairs, page 4)
Murray, DeLauro reintroduce legislation on paid sick leave

Washington – Sen. Patty Murray (D-WA) and Rep. Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) on March 13 reintroduced the Healthy Families Act, which would allow workers to accrue up to seven sick days annually, to be used when they or a family member are ill. About 41 million U.S. workers lack access to paid sick leave, according to the National Partnership for Women and Families. Under the act, workers would earn one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked.

"It is unacceptable that 41 million people across the country have to take time off – or risk losing their job – if they catch the flu, if their child is sick, or if they have to take care of a sick parent," Murray said in a March 15 press release. "No one should have to choose between their health and their economic security, but our outdated policies are forcing too many workers to make that kind of choice. We are seeing the benefits of paid sick days in seven states and more than 30 cities across the country and it’s time our national policy catches up to ensure all hardworking families are able to care for themselves and loved ones when they need it the most."

Studies have shown that providing sick time to employees can help reduce the spread of disease and decrease injuries sustained on the job. In addition, a recent report from the Center for American Progress, a policy research and advocacy organization, found that policies for paid sick days and family and medical leave do not result in increased unemployment.

"Not only is it in the best interest of the employee to be able to take a sick day, it benefits the employee’s colleagues and employer," Murray said in the release. "We must enact workplace policies that work for a 21st Century economy and our nation’s employees and employers. The Healthy Families Act is a smart policy that should become law."

Businesses with existing sick leave policies would not have to change procedures provided they met the act’s minimum standards, the release states, and employers with fewer than 15 employees would be exempt from the law.

Lawmakers debate ‘Preserving Employee Wellness Programs Act’

Washington – A proposal to clarify regulations for employee wellness programs is stirring controversy between Republicans and Democrats in Congress.

Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), chair of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, introduced the Preserving Employee Wellness Programs Act (H.R. 1313) on March 2. If passed, the bill would exempt workplace wellness programs from:

- Limitations under the Americans with Disabilities Act on medical examinations and inquiries of employees
- The prohibition on collecting genetic information in connection with issuing health insurance
- Limitations under the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act on collecting the genetic information of employees or family members of employees – this exemption applies to workplace wellness programs that adhere to limits on rewards for participation in the program

Discrimination based on genetic information is and will remain illegal under federal law, Foxx said in a press release. Workplace wellness programs would remain 100 percent voluntary under the proposal. Regulatory clarity is needed so employers will not have to confront contradictory information from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the Affordable Care Act, Foxx said.

The proposal drew sharp criticism from Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), ranking member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee. Scott used a press release saying that the plan would transfer costs to workers, weaken anti-discrimination and privacy protections, and undercut effective enforcement of civil rights laws.

"If the end goal of wellness programs is to promote health and well-being, we must ensure that all workers – including those who do not want to disclose sensitive and private health information – can access them," Scott said in the release.

The bill was referred to the House Ways and Means Committee, where it remained at press time.

Small Business Administration to EPA: Withdraw proposed rule on trichloroethylene

Washington – The Small Business Administration Office of Advocacy is urging the Environmental Protection Agency to withdraw a proposed rule that would ban use of the toxic chemical trichloroethylene as an aerosol degreaser and as a spot cleaner in dry cleaning facilities.

The proposed rule would prohibit all manufacturing, processing and commercial distribution of TCE for the above uses. It also would require manufacturers, processors and distributors to notify retailers and others in the supply chain about the ban.

In a letter sent March 15, SBA wrote that "Small businesses have expressed concerns with the agency’s risk assessment used to support the unreasonable risk determination for these TCE uses. Advocacy suggests that EPA withdraw the proposed rule and reassess the TCE uses in this rule as part of its ongoing risk evaluation of TCE uses. Small businesses have also identified additional costs that were not considered by the agency in determining the compliance costs for these businesses."

(See Government Affairs, page 5)
Trade-off suggests that the agency reassess its compliance with the [Regulatory Flexibility Act] to include these additional costs.”

In addition, the letter requests that EPA assemble a Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act panel “to learn about small business impacts of regulatory proposal, and to develop significant alternatives to the rule.”

In 2014, EPA determined that TCE may cause cancer, developmental and neurotoxicological effects, and toxicity to the liver, among other adverse health effects.

**GAO gives OSHA Outreach Training Program a thumbs-up on efficiency**

Washington – OSHA’s Outreach Training Program, which educated nearly 900,000 workers about occupational hazard recognition and prevention during fiscal year 2016, is operating efficiently, according to a Government Accountability Office report released March 9.

GAO examined the following criteria, as outlined in the report:

- The extent to which the Outreach Training Program aligns with leading practices in designing an effective training program
- The process for documenting successful completion of the training and whether internal controls are in place to ensure completion is accurately documented
- How OSHA oversees training providers and assesses the results of the program

For its assessment, GAO compared OSHA’s design and evaluation efforts for its training program with leading practices in GAO’s training guide (which OSHA is not required to follow) and federal internal control standards. GAO also analyzed fiscal years 2012-2016 data from OSHA (the most recent year for which data was available) on time frames for processing completion card requests from online training providers, in addition to interviewing nine online training providers and five in-person training providers and OSHA officials.

Based on its finding, GAO stated that it will not issue any recommendations for OSHA.

“OSHA took steps to design the Outreach Training Program so that workers receive consistent and quality training by using data to identify the content of the training, developing training materials, and issuing detailed requirements for training providers,” the report states. “According to OSHA officials, the content of the training was selected after the agency reviewed data on the leading causes of worker deaths and the most frequently cited OSHA standards.”

**Trump budget ‘blueprint’ proposes 21% funding cut for DOL; would eliminate CSB**

Washington – The first budget proposed by the Trump administration would cut $54 billion in funding to various segments of the federal government, including the Departments of Labor and Transportation and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Released March 16, America First: A Budget Blueprint to Make America Great Again lists the Departments of Defense, Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs as the only entities that would receive funding increases in fiscal year 2018.

The budget also would eliminate funding for 19 independent agencies, including the Chemical Safety Board. CSB Chairperson Vanessa A. Sutherland issued a statement saying the agency’s investigations and recommendations “have had an enormous effect on improving public safety” and that “as this process moves forward, we hope that the important mission of this agency will be preserved.”

Among the proposed department cuts:

- EPA: $2.6 billion – a 31 percent decrease from FY 2017
- DOL: $2.5 billion – a 21 percent decrease
- DOT: $2.4 billion – a 13 percent decrease

“A budget that puts America first must make the safety of our people its number one priority – because without safety, there can be no prosperity,” Trump wrote in the document’s introduction. “That is why I have instructed my Budget Director, Mick Mulvaney, to craft a budget that emphasizes national security and public safety.”

The document states that the blueprint “provides details only on our discretionary funding proposals,” and that the full budget, slated for release in the spring, will include specific mandatory and tax proposals.

Politicians from both sides of the aisle commented on the blueprint.

Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC), chair of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, voiced her support. “Crafting a budget is about setting priorities, and during the last eight years, it seems the only priority in Washington was to spend beyond our means and far more than hardworking taxpayers can afford,” Foxx said in a press release. “That approach isn’t sustainable for family budgets, and it is not sustainable for the federal government. President Trump has promised to begin getting our nation’s fiscal house in order, and this budget shows that he intends to keep his promise.”

(See Government Affairs, page 6)
Among those opposed to the proposed cuts are Rep. Bobby Scott (D-VA), ranking member of the House Education and the Workforce Committee. In a press release, Scott said the blueprint is “no way to grow the national economy or put people back to work.”

“Working families deserve a budget that invests in their health and futures, boosts wages, helps them balance work and family life, and levels the playing field for them and their children to succeed,” Scott said in the release. “President Trump’s budget proposal eliminates and reduces vital programs for students, teachers, and workers that will endanger public education, make college less affordable, and reduce the availability of workforce training.”

**House reps revive legislation to make VPP permanent**

Washington — Several members of the House have joined forces to reintroduce bipartisan legislation that would make permanent OSHA’s Voluntary Protection Programs.

Reps. Todd Rokita (R-IN), Gene Green (D-TX) and Martha Roby (R-AL) claimed the Voluntary Protection Program Act is “sound policy that is not only good for the employers and employees, but for the American economy overall,” Rokita said in a March 9 press release.

The proposed legislation would denote a long-term commitment to OSHA’s program, which recognizes worksites that achieve exemplary occupational safety and health performance. To be accepted into the program, worksites must implement safety and health management systems that yield below-average injury and illness rates. Successful worksites involved in VPP then gain exemption from certain OSHA inspections.

More than 2,200 worksites covering approximately 900,000 employees have participated in VPP since its 1982 inception. The VPP Act would codify the program, meaning Congress would be unable to withdraw its funding.

The legislation has remained before the Senate’s Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee since it was read twice and referred to the committee in late April 2016.

“The Voluntary Protection Program is one of the few programs that has achieved unified support from both union and non-unionized labor, small and large businesses, and government,” Green said in the release. “I am proud to work with colleagues on both sides of the aisle to codify this important safety program that saves money while protecting workers.”

Added Roby: “The best way to ensure worker safety is through partnerships, not penalties. VPP helps companies become compliant with workplace safety rules on the front end to avoid costly fines and harmful penalties on the back end. It’s a smart way to ensure a safe and productive workplace, while also making government smaller and more efficient.”

The House considered similar legislation — also introduced by Rokita, Green and Roby — in May 2015. It was referred to the Workforce Protections Subcommittee that November.

**Trump signs bill killing Obama-era worker safety rule**

By Kimberly Kindy

President Donald Trump signed a bill Monday [March 27] that killed an Obama-era worker safety rule that required businesses competing for large federal contracts to disclose and correct serious safety and other labor law violations.

Earlier this month, the Senate voted to eliminate the Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces rule, which applied to contracts valued at $500,000 or more. Votes on the bill in both the House and Senate divided along party lines.

The Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces regulation was finalized in August but most of it was never implemented. Within days of it being finalized, the Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC) sued, securing a temporary injunction that prohibited the federal government from implementing it.

In a last-minute effort to fight for the rule earlier this month, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass., released a staff report that showed that 66 of the federal government’s 100 largest contractors have at some point violated federal wage and hour laws. Since 2015, the report says, more than a third of the 100 largest OSHA penalties have been imposed on federal contractors.

Warren criticized the Republican-led effort during a speech on the Senate floor moments before the vote. “Instead of creating jobs or raising wages,” she said, “they’re trying to make it easier for companies that get big-time, taxpayer-funded government contracts to steal wages from their employees and injure their workers without admitting responsibility.”

Hours later, the bill passed. On Monday, just after Trump signed the bill that eliminated the rule, House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) praised Trump’s decision, saying the rule unfairly placed businesses on a “blacklist” and that it “unjustly blocks many businesses accused of violating labor laws from federal contracts.”

Did You Resolve to Get Your ASP/CSP This Year?

Thinking about working on your ASP/CSP? If so, that’s outstanding and we are pulling for you! If you’d like to participate in an ASP/CSP study group, contact our Chapter Secretary, Enrique Medina, CIH, CSP to start the ball rolling.

A Virtual ASP/CSP Study Group meets twice a month via GoToMeeting to assist those studying for their ASP/CSP professional certification exams. It’s free and open to all Chapter members, and you can join at anytime from the comfort of your home or office.

Enrique can be reached at: (619) 297-1469. Or emedina@pulse-point.com

This is a great opportunity our Chapter appreciates. Call today for dates and times of our next meeting!

Job-Line

By David Ferguson, CSP

Looking for a new job? Visit our job-line at http://sandiego.asse.org/current-openings/ to see current opportunities such as: Risk Control Specialist; Safety Coordinator; Safety Supervisor (NW Arizona); Safety Administrator (City of Anaheim, CA); Safety Engineer. Check out these and other great jobs today!

Membership Chair:

by Steve Workman, CEAS

Welcome to our new members!

Jeffrey Nelson                      Amtrust Financial Services, Inc.
Douglas Poole                      1mission Solutions
Thomas Stenzel                    City of San Diego

New Members North County Section:

David Schaper                    Member

Call for Program Topics, Speakers, Events and Ideas

As your programs chair for this new chapter year, I am pleased to report that we have some great topics and events lined up for 2017, but we still need your input and ideas on what you would like to see, hear or participate in at future meetings or events (dinner social, cookout or ??). Please send your ideas and comments to Amy Leung at: Past-President@sandiego.asse.org

Remember, it’s your input and your chapter!
Editor’s Note: Do you have an item of interest, safety-related event, sister-organization meeting, special accomplishment or other newsworthy article that you would like to share with your fellow San Diego ASSE members? Send it to me via email no later than the 15th of the month and I will do my best to get it published. Here are some conditions: news articles, reports and other text-based submissions should be limited to a maximum of two pages, 10—12 pitch font. Artwork or graphics (flyers or posters) should be single-page, preferably in MS Word or MS Publisher format. Acrobat PDF files are sometimes difficult to import into MS Publisher (the program used to create this newsletter) and may need a lot of time and effort to convert. Please remember, this is not my full-time job. If you are “borrowing” a news item previously published somewhere else (i.e., not your own original work), please provide the source and whether or not you have permission to reprint it. All submissions should be emailed to gcouture@san.org. Please also provide your contact information, including name, email address and phone number.

Calendar of Special Events:

**April, 2017**

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<td>World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2017</td>
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Peer to Peer (P2P) Resource Directory is Available Now

Do you need help with a safety issue or question? The P2P Resource Directory can help you. SD ASSE Chapter members can now download the P2P directory matrix from the chapter website’s News tab at sandiego.asse.org/news. You will be directed to the password protected ASSE member login to download the current list.

The P2P directory lists San Diego chapter members who are willing to provide other members no fee advice on areas of their expertise as a professional courtesy. There are over 45 safety specialty categories listed. If you would like to be listed, just download the P2P registration form from the same website, complete it, and send it to chapter secretary Enrique Medina at secretary@sandiego.asse.org. All members are welcome to sign up for the P2P.
Assessing Wildfire Impacts from Property Damage to Health Risks: A Primer for Health, Safety and Risk Professionals

SPEAKER: Enrique Medina, MS, CIH, CSP; Alliance Consulting International

Large wildfires are becoming more common in North America, and particularly in California and other Western states. Wildfires release smoke that can impact buildings and homes at long distances from the fire, affecting their indoor environments. Risk, Safety and Industrial Hygiene professionals are commonly tasked with investigating the impacts of wildfire residuals within a property as part of insurance claims, or to assess the potential health risks, and review restoration measures. The absence of standards for the assessment of wildfire residues introduces challenges during initial investigation, sampling, analysis, and data interpretation. The speaker will present an overview of key elements for assessing wildfire residual contamination and potential health impacts, and common sampling and analytical techniques used to evaluate a structure’s impacts from wildfire residues.

Speaker Enrique Medina is an environmental and occupational health and safety professional with extensive international experience. He consults for corporate, government, and non-governmental organizations in the areas of occupational safety and health, regulatory compliance, risk assessment, and indoor environmental quality. His practice covers a wide range of industrial, commercial, legal, and insurance sectors. He is president of Alliance Consulting International in San Diego, California. Mr. Medina is a Fellow of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, and a member of the San Diego Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, where he serves on the Executive Committee as Secretary and is a candidate for President-elect for 2017-2018.

Admiral Baker Clubhouse
3604 Admiral Baker Road, San Diego, CA 92120
Registration and Breakfast begins at 7:15 a.m.
Welcome and Speaker begins at 7:30 a.m.

$15 Members* with RSVP by 4/7/2017 by 5:00 P.M.
$20 No RSVP by 4/7/2017 and for Non-Members/Guests
*Members include: ASSE, ACWJPIA, AHMP, AIHA, IHPM, RNCN, RIMS, PARMA, CPCU, PWI, WUSMA

RSVP: Please RSVP Enrique Medina, Secretary: Secretary@sandiego.asse.org
OR via credit card on the San Diego ASSE Chapter website events page:
http://sandiego.asse.org/events/potential-health-risks-of-wildfire-residues/

Directions: Interstate 15 to Friars Road East; left onto Santo Road (traffic light); immediate right on Admiral Baker Road; go STRAIGHT at STOP sign; pass the recreation area and part of the golf course; road curves to right at the driving range; keep going all the way to the club-house parking lot—a total of .9 miles from Santo Road.
2016-2017 Officers

PRESIDENT:
Chris Malicki
President@sandiego.asse.org

PRESIDENT-ELECT:
Allison Long
President-elect@sandiego.asse.org

SECRETARY:
Enrique Medina, MS, CIH, CSP
Secretary@sandiego.asse.org

TREASURER:
Brian Verrenti, CSP
Treasurer@sandiego.asse.org

PAST-PRESIDENT:
Amy Leung, CSP, ARM, CRIS, CPhT
Past-President@sandiego.asse.org

NORTH COUNTY CHAIR:
Cindy Reyes
communications@sandiego.asse.org

NORTH COUNTY SEC/TRES:
Vaughn Osterhout
nctreasurer@sandiego.asse.org

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR:
Steve Workman
Membership@sandiego.asse.org

JOB LINE:
David Ferguson, CSP, CEA, REPA
Jobline@sandiego.asse.org

PROGRAMS CHAIR:
Amy Leung, CSP, ARM, CRIS, CPhT
Past-President@sandiego.asse.org

PUBLIC AFFAIRS:
Isaac Szmulowicz, CSP, COSS
Public@sandiego.asse.org

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:
VACANT

WEBSITE COORDINATOR:
Cathi Marx, ACLM, COSS, CHS-V,
CBRNE
webmistress@sandiego.asse.org

NEWSLETTER EDITOR:
Gary Couture, MS-OSH, COSS
newsletter@sandiego.asse.org

PDC COMMITTEE CHAIR:
Allison Long
President-elect@sandiego.asse.org

House of Delegates Members:
Gary Couture, MS-OSH, COSS
newsletter@sandiego.asse.org
Cathi Marx, ACLM, COSS, CHS-V,
CBRNE
webmistress@sandiego.asse.org


Due to the lack of a quorum no motions were made or votes taken at this meeting. Agenda items were discussed and comments noted in the minutes to be voted on at a future meeting.

TREASURER’S REPORT:
Brian (not present) sent the financial report for February 2017 to all EC members for review and comment.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Review / Approve Minutes from February, 2017: Minutes were reviewed, and no changes were requested.

2. Feedback on January breakfast meeting:
The consensus was that Debra Dupree did a very good job. She was very professional, imparted very useful information, and more engaging with the audience than any other speaker this year. The audience exercises were very effective, and her use of slides as topic entry points was very innovative. The main critique was that elements of the presentation got very close to surpassing the restrictions on sales pitches than we have in place. The use of the red bag to collect business cards to enter a raffle for a prize was low key but still intrusive. Several members reported that they continue to receive weekly marketing emails not related to a specific prize. Chris will give feedback to Debra.

3. Peer to Peer Coaching Matrix: Enrique reported no new registrations in the P2P matrix since last month. Currently, there are 15 names on the list. He suggested including information on P2P as part of the new member welcoming communication.

4. ASP/CSP Study Group:
Enrique reported that Amir Vafaee just passed the ASP exam this week. He plans to continue to study for the CSP. There were problems with the GoToMeeting scheduling that dropped the last two meetings barely minutes after they had started. Enrique consulted with JT Parnell, who does IT for the Region, after the first problem and was told the problem with conflicting scheduling had been addressed. However, the problem occurred again. In keeping with the commitment that students made in January to register with BCSP to take the exam this year, the study group will go on hiatus and will resume when at least two members are approved by BCSP as candidates.

5. Survey Monkey member survey:
Cindy was not in attendance to provide an update.

6. Contributions to the community:
Isaac had no update to report.

7. EC members to review current by-laws and make suggestions for changes / updates – tabled for now.

8. PDC March 2017:
Allison confirmed the in-person meeting at Aspen RMG for Thursday, March 9 at 7AM. The latest registration figures range between 100 and 108, depending on who’s counting. Allie reduced the meal count from 150 to 118, the minimum allowed in the contract with the Handlery. Due to the table arrangements, the actual seating will be for 130 people. Last minute details will be discussed on Thursday.

(See Executive Committee, on page 11)
Executive Committee, continued from page 10

9. Government Affairs Chair: Chris reported that Scott Simerson has agreed to become the GA Chair for the upcoming term starting in July. Chris plans to arrange a meeting between Scott and Society’s GA point person to brief Scott on his duties.

10. 2017 EC members. Chris reported that the election is scheduled for the April 11 meeting. The slate of candidates needs to be announced to the membership 15 days prior to the election, which is March 27. The announcements will be in the newsletter, in an email to all members, and at the PDC.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Chris’ sit down meeting with Cathi, Amy, and Allison to discuss officer transition activities through 06/30/2017 was postponed due to the recent rain and will be re-scheduled after the PDC.

CHAIR REPORTS

North County Section: Cindy — Absent, no report.

Programs: Amy Leung — The speakers are lined up through the end of 2017, pending a decision with Chris about the June topic. Amy will coordinate with Cindy on the next NC section luncheon date and speaker.

Membership: Steve Workman—Nine new members signed up as of February 14. Steve will check the list and give the latest information to Chris. Chris will announce the names of the new members who attend the monthly meeting. A welcoming email can be sent to new members.

Public Affairs: Isaac Szmuilowicz — ARC had a successful disaster planning/recovery meeting. Veronica Brown plans to attend the PDC. The Chapter will provide a table at no charge. Isaac reported that several organizations with limited or no promotional budgets, such as CERT, All County Fire, Cal/OSHA Reporter, declined the vendor opportunity at the PDC due to the cost, and the need to have representatives for a large part of the day. Isaac believes that it is difficult to convince vendors to participate when we don’t have personal contacts with them.

Governmental Affairs: Position vacant.

Newsletter: Gary Couture—Absent, no report. Newsletter is ready to go out.

Website: Cathi — Absent, no report.

Job line: David Ferguson — 13 current openings, job line is up to date and going well.

Next Committee Meeting: April 4 –7:00am – 800am. Call-in 1-641-715-0861; Access code 878498#.

Next Event: April 11 Breakfast Meeting 7:30 a.m., Admiral Baker Club “Assessing Wildfire Impacts from Property Damage to Health Risks: A Primer for Health, Safety and Risk Professionals”

Download a free copy of the 2017 NFPA Standards Directory

The 2017 NFPA Standards Directory is now available for download. The directory is a central location containing the Regulations Governing the Development of NFPA Standards; the guide for the Conduct of Participants; the Technical Meeting Convention Rules; an updated list of committee project and scopes; and more.

Read More
Fellow ASSE San Diego Members:

A number of weeks ago, select Executive Committee Members came together and formed the Officer Nominating Committee whose responsibility is to select qualified candidates for elected Chapter Officers for the 2017-2018 term. The Nominating Committee consists of:

Amy Leung (Chair Person)
Cathi Marx
Allison Long
Steve Workman
Chris Malicki

We are required to publish and distribute to Chapter members, candidate’s names and qualifications, at least 60 days prior to the election which according to Chapter by-laws is to occur on April 11, 2017, at the April breakfast meeting.

Also, any 15 Chapter members may submit a signed petition nominating one or more individuals for elected office. The petition shall be accompanied by a written acceptance by the nominee(s) and shall be submitted to the Chair Person of the Nominating Committee 30 days in advance of the election. The names and qualifications of such nominees shall be published and distributed to Members at least 15 days prior to the election.

After an exhaustive effort on the part of the Committee, the Following slate of Officers for the 2017-2018 term have been identified:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter Officers 2017-2018</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Allison Long</td>
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<tr>
<td>President-Elect</td>
<td>Enrique Medina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Fernand Kuhr</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Teresa Bonilla</td>
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<tr>
<td>House of Delegates Representative #1</td>
<td>Allison Long</td>
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<td>House of Delegates Representative #2</td>
<td>Gary Couture</td>
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<tr>
<th>Appointed Positions 2017-2018</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Steve Workman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jobline</td>
<td>David Ferguson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government Affairs</td>
<td>Scott Simerson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Affairs</td>
<td>Isaac Szmuilowicz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Programs</td>
<td>Chris Malicki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Brian Vernetti</td>
</tr>
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</table>

If you have questions about the election process, please contact Amy Leung, Committee Chair, at Cell: (619) 213-4198 Amy.Leung@LibertyMutual.com.

Thank you for your commitment to ASSE San Diego.
Chris Malicki
ASSE San Diego Chapter President
Board of Directors Propose “Rebranding” of Society Name & Logo, and Dues Increase; Delegates to Vote on Changes at HOD Meeting, June 19

The Board of Directors of the American Society of Safety Engineers, headquartered in Park Ridge, IL, has proposed a “rebranding” of the Society name and logo. The committee began considering this in March, 2016, and engaged the services of a Chicago based firm, 88 Brand Partners, to undertake the process of evaluating the current brand, benchmarking with other similar associations, and proposing a new, updated brand.

In considering the Society’s name, two changes were considered; changing American to International to reflect the worldwide membership, and changing Engineer to Professional. Even among our international members and customers, it was determined that American was a stronger and more desirable word because of the strength and high value of workplace safety in the US. The term Engineer seemed exclusionary and did not accurately reflect the majority of the Society’s membership. The result is a proposed name change to American Society of Safety Professionals.

The research showed that the logo was viewed by members polled as being bland and outdated. While the shield presented a strong image, the color scheme of yellow and green seemed old-fashioned and the cross brought up religious overtones in some areas. After considering the inputs and options, 88 Brand Partners presented a logo that was agreed upon by the Board of Directors. In addition to the new name and logo, a tag line of “Working Together for a Safer, Stronger Future” was added to reflect the Society’s mission. For more information please go to a new website about the rebranding proposal: www.assp.org.

The Finance Committee has also proposed a dues increase to be considered for all US chapters. The last dues increase for US chapters was enacted in 2009 when the dues were increased from $120 per year to $150 per year, implemented in a $10 increase over three consecutive years. The Finance Committee is proposing the same increase, $30 over three years beginning in the next fiscal year. With this increase, annual dues will be raised to $160 in 2018, $170 in 2019 and $180 in 2020.

In a PowerPoint presentation posted in the Officers Central area of the ASSE website, the Finance Committee explained that the dues increase was warranted in order to maintain the current level of services, and highlighted several service improvements planned in the future. A benchmark comparison of similar organizations worldwide shows that ASSE’s annual dues are lower than the majority of those organizations.

Your Chapter Delegates, Cathi Marx and Gary Couture, will be asked to vote on these two proposals at the next House of Delegates meeting on June 19, 2017 in Denver, CO. It is imperative that your voices be heard and that your Delegates represent your interests in casting their votes. Please contact them to express your opinion on these two proposals. Their contact information can be found in the sidebar on page 10.
ASSE stands behind U.S. Chemical Safety Board

03/21/2017

Park Ridge, Illinois – (March 21, 2017) – The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) – representing more than 37,000 occupational safety and health professionals across the globe – supports the mission of the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) and is deeply troubled that the CSB is targeted for elimination in President Trump’s budget blueprint for 2018.

For more than 20 years, the CSB has played a critical role in keeping American workers safe as an independent, non-regulatory federal agency in charge of conducting root-cause investigations of industrial chemical incidents at fixed facilities. Examples include the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico and the Texas City Refinery explosion. The investigations lead to vital safety recommendations that ASSE members and many others use to prevent workplace incidents. As a result, American workers stay safer, and many lives are saved.

“Chemical incidents don’t just impact an individual facility and its employees, they impact entire communities and often a substantial number of people around our nation,” said ASSE President Tom Cecich, CSP, CIH. “Understanding the cause of a serious incident benefits all of us. While we understand this Administration aims to make the government leaner, more effective and more accountable, removing the only federal agency solely dedicated to investigating chemical incidents hurts the efforts to build stronger manufacturing capabilities.”

Occupational safety and health professionals depend on the agency’s chemical incident reports and safety bulletins. The CSB also produces videos that are widely used for safety training as well as by emergency response teams. Hundreds of major chemical incident investigations have been conducted over decades.

“The CSB has directly contributed to employers’ and our members’ understanding of how best to keep safe the thousands of Americans who work in complex and dangerous chemical processing facilities, undoubtedly avoiding injuries and illness, and saving lives,” Cecich said. “The CSB’s investigations and reports enable the entire country to learn from chemical disasters. Without this mechanism, tragic events may be repeated.”

As a global advocate and leader for the occupational safety and health profession, ASSE embraces the CSB’s immeasurable value, and believes the agency’s important mission must be preserved.

“It’s important to have independent and technically supported investigations that lead to improved regulations and best practices,” said ASSE Senior Vice President Rixio Medina, CSP, CPP, a former presidential appointee to the CSB. “All CSB team leaders have chemical safety backgrounds. Sound recommendations prevent incident recurrences. Other agencies are not equipped to handle these specific investigations as effectively as the CSB.”
OSHA's 'Safe and Sound' campaign assists employers in keeping workplaces safe and healthy

The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration launched its "Safe and Sound Campaign" recently, calling on employers to review their safety and health programs to protect workers, and reduce workplace injuries and deaths.

"Workplace safety and health incidents hurt workers and their families, and they cost businesses' capital better invested in growing their business and creating jobs," said Kim Stille, OSHA's Regional Administrator in Kansas City. "By identifying and controlling job-related hazards that can lead to injuries and illnesses, businesses can improve their safety and health programs, save money and improve competitiveness."

"With just a phone call, companies can contact OSHA for assistance in achieving safety compliance. Working together with businesses, unions, and employees, we can reduce these sobering statistics and implement and sustain workplace safety and health programs that can help employees avoid preventable injuries and deaths," Stille said.

Employers have proven that safety and health programs reduce the numbers of injuries and illnesses, and improve their bottom line. While there are different approaches to ensuring worker safety and health, all effective programs share three core elements:

- **Management leadership.** Top management commits to establishing, maintaining and improving the program continually, and provides any necessary resources.

- **Worker participation.** Employers invite workers to identify solutions. Improved worker engagement can lead to better productivity, higher job satisfaction and worker retention - lowering turnover and recruitment costs.

- **A systematic "find and fix" approach.** Employers and workers examine their workplaces, proactively and routinely, to identify and address hazards before they can cause injury or illness.

Employers seeking to create a safety and health program should know that the process doesn’t have to be complicated or demand outside consultants be employed; there are some simple, do-it-yourself steps to get started. OSHA’s "Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs" page offers practical advice on how any organization can integrate safety and health programs.

OSHA also offers compliance assistance, tips, consultation for small- and medium-sized businesses, educational materials, training and other information to employers and workers on common workplace safety hazards and how to prevent illness and injury - all at no charge.

"We don’t want businesses, especially small ones, to believe they cannot afford to protect their workers. OSHA provides good safety information and will work with employers to help them comply with safety and health standards," Stille said.

Each state has its own On-site Consultation Program. This free and confidential safety and health consultation program is targeted toward smaller businesses primarily; employers can find out about potential hazards at their workplace, improve programs already in place and even qualify for a one-year exemption from routine OSHA inspections. Information is available at OSHA’s Web site, www.osha.gov/consultation.

To ask questions, obtain compliance assistance, file a complaint, or report amputations, eye loss, workplace hospitalizations, fatalities or situations posing imminent danger to workers, the public should call OSHA’s toll-free hotline at 800-321-OSHA (6742) or one of the federal offices including: Des Moines at (515) 284-4702, Kansas City at (816) 502-0312, Omaha at (402) 553-0174, St. Louis at (314) 425-4255, Wichita at (316) 269-6646.
Itasca, IL – OSHA, the National Safety Council, the American Industrial Hygiene Association, the American Society of Safety Engineers and NIOSH have designated the week of June 12-18 as Safe+Sound Week. The nationwide effort aims to promote awareness and understanding of the value of workplace safety and health programs. More than 4 million workers incur serious, work-related illnesses and injuries annually, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Organizers of Safe+Sound Week are encouraging employers to host events promoting the building blocks of safety and health programs: management leadership, worker participation, and finding and fixing workplace hazards.
NIOSH announces free health screenings for coal miners

Washington – A series of free, confidential health screenings will be available for coal miners as part of the NIOSH Coal Workers’ Health Surveillance Program.

NIOSH will provide the screenings in its state-of-the-art mobile testing unit, which will travel across the country to mining sites and public locations. The screenings could provide early detection of coal workers’ pneumoconiosis, commonly referred to as “black lung.”

The first set of screenings will take place from March 26 to April 15 in coal mining regions throughout Alabama, according to NIOSH. The second set will occur from May 10 to May 31 throughout Indiana and Illinois. Finally, testing will take place from July 30 to Aug. 26 throughout Eastern Kentucky.

NIOSH said miners who participate in the screenings will benefit from:

- An easy method to check their health
- A confidential report on whether they have radiographic evidence of black lung
- Possible early-stage detection of chest problems other than black lung

The prevalence of black lung has increased in the past two decades, NIOSH states. The potentially fatal disease is caused by exposure to respirable coal mine dust.

“The NIOSH surveillance program and access to free screenings helps recognize early disease in miners and enables those with black lung to take action to reduce their dust exposures,” NIOSH Director John Howard said in a press release. “These services, available to both underground and surface miners, help to disseminate knowledge, raise awareness, and motivate workers to participate in activities aimed at preventing the disease.”

Law enforcement officer wins NIOSH Safe-in-Sound award

Washington – An innovative sheriff’s deputy has been named the winner of NIOSH’s Safe-in-Sound Excellence in Hearing Loss Prevention Award.

Ryan Lee Scott, deputy sheriff with the Alachua County Sheriff’s Office in Florida, was honored for his work that examined noise exposure among law enforcement officers and sought solutions to protect their hearing.

Scott’s efforts include developing an educational workshop, titled “Firearms Training and Hearing Loss,” tailored for law enforcement officers. He also has contributed to studies regarding high-level impulse sounds from firearms and intervention strategies that can help reduce the risk of hearing loss.

“Hearing is a critical sense for a police officer, who uses it to communicate and monitor the safety of community members, fellow officers, and themselves,” NIOSH Director John Howard said in a press release. “Deputy Sheriff Scott is a pioneer, examining the noise exposure problem among his colleagues and developing an innovative approach to bring solutions to the law enforcement community.”

The Safe-in-Sound Excellence in Hearing Loss Prevention Award honors people who have contributed to the prevention of noise-induced hearing loss and tinnitus through effective practices or innovations directed to those who are exposed to noise at work,” the press release states.
SMOKE ALARMS SAVE LIVES!
ARE YOU PREPARED?

Did you know...

- Most fatal house fires occur at night
- Smoke from toxic gases can put you into a deeper sleep
- You have as few as 2 minutes to escape a burning home
- Working smoke alarms in your home can save your life!

The American Red Cross and The Burn Institute are hosting a FREE smoke alarm installation event and need volunteers to help with installation of the alarms and education of homeowners.

DATE: WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19
TIME: 4:30-7 PM
WHERE: RANCHO BONITA MOBILE HOME PARK
CHULA VISTA, CA

For more information or to sign up as a volunteer contact:
Ricardo Moran
Regional Manager
Preparedness & Resiliency

American Red Cross of San Diego/Imperial Counties
3950 Calle Fortunada | San Diego, CA 92123-1827
Direct: (858) 309-1272 | Fax: (858) 309-1289
Cell: (858) 357-6472 | E-mail: ricardo.moran@redcross.org
PRODUCT SAFETY RECALLS:

1. Little Tikes Recalls Toddler Swings Due to Fall Hazard: [https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Little-Tikes-Recalls-Toddler-Swings](https://www.cpsc.gov/Recalls/2017/Little-Tikes-Recalls-Toddler-Swings)


U.S. DOT National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Recalls

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V158
Manufacturer: Polaris Industries, Inc.
Subject: Loose Steering/Suspension Connections

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<tr>
<td>POLARIS</td>
<td>SLINGSHOT</td>
<td>2017</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V159
Manufacturer: Kia Motors America
Subject: Loss of Electric Power Steering Assist

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<td>KIA</td>
<td>NIRO HYBRID</td>
<td>2017</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V168
Manufacturer: Ford Motor Company
Subject: Driver’s Door may Unlatch in a Crash/FMVSS 206

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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V184
Manufacturer: Nissan North America, Inc.
Subject: Power Steering Hose may Detach

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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V189
Manufacturer: BMW of North America, LLC
Subject: Passenger Frontal Air Bag Inflator May Rupture

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<tr>
<td>BMW</td>
<td>X5</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V142
Manufacturer: Hyundai Motor America
Subject: Incorrect Tire Pressure Sensor Mode/FMVSS 138

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<tr>
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<td>SANTA FE</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V143
Manufacturer: Nissan North America, Inc.
Subject: Possible Driver-Side Curtain Airbag Non-Deployment

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<tr>
<td>INFINITI</td>
<td>QX30</td>
<td>2017</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V145
Manufacturer: Zero Motorcycles Inc.
Subject: Anti-Lock Brakes may not Function Properly

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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V146
Manufacturer: Chrysler (FCA US LLC)
Subject: Tire Pressure Warning Light/FMVSS 138

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<td>FIAT</td>
<td>500X</td>
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U.S. DOT National Highway Traffic Safety Administration Vehicle Recalls

NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V150
Manufacturer : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.
Subject : Seatbelt Component may Detach and Enter the Cabin

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<td>A5 CABRIOLET</td>
<td>2017</td>
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<td>AUDI</td>
<td>S5 CABRIOLET</td>
<td>2017</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V151
Manufacturer : Volkswagen Group of America, Inc.
Subject : Cracks in Fuel Filter Flange may cause Fuel Leak

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<tr>
<td>VOLKSWAGEN</td>
<td>TOUAREG</td>
<td>2007-2010</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V152
Manufacturer : Hyundai Motor America
Subject : Seat Belt Linkages may Detach

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<td>SONATA</td>
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<tr>
<td>HYUNDAI</td>
<td>SONATA HYBRID</td>
<td>2011-2015</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V153
Manufacturer : Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC
Subject : Incorrect Driveshaft may have been Installed

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<td>JAGUAR</td>
<td>F-PACE</td>
<td>2017</td>
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NHTSA Recall ID Number : 17V154
Manufacturer : Jaguar Land Rover North America, LLC
Subject : Passenger Frontal Air Bag may not Deploy

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<td>LAND ROVER</td>
<td>RANGE ROVER</td>
<td>2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>LAND ROVER</td>
<td>RANGE ROVER SPORT</td>
<td>2016</td>
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CPSC extends comment period for rule on portable generators

Washington – The Consumer Product Safety Commission has extended the comment period for a proposed rule that would limit carbon monoxide emissions from portable generators.

The rule seeks to set weighted emissions rate limits at 75 grams per hour for portable generators powered by handheld spark-ignition engines and Class I spark-ignition engines. The proposed rate limit for one-cylinder, Class II spark-ignition engines is 150 grams per hour and 300 grams for two-cylinder, Class II spark-ignition engines.

Comments are due April 24. The original comment period was slated to close Feb. 6.

CPSC stated that it is extending the comment period after receiving a request for more time for stakeholder feedback.
HELPFUL LINKS AND OTHER INFORMATION

American Industrial Hygiene Association: http://www.aiha.org/
American Red Cross: http://www.redcross.org/
American Society of Safety Engineers Main Website: http://www.asse.org/
ASSE Body of Knowledge: http://www.safetybok.org/
ASSE Risk Assessment Institute http://www.oshrisk.org/
ASSE Center for Safety and Health Sustainability http://www.centershs.org/
California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH), (Cal/OSHA): http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/
Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): http://www.cdc.gov/
Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): http://www.epa.gov/
FEMA “Be Ready” Website: http://www.ready.gov/
Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA): http://www.msha.gov/
National Institute of Health Sciences (NIH): http://www.niehs.nih.gov/
National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH): http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/
Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Main Website: https://www.osha.gov/
San Diego ASSE Website: http://sandiegoasse.org/
US Chemical Safety Board (CSB): http://www.csb.gov/