The President’s Catch and Release — July, 2019

If you are reading this newsletter, you might be a chapter member, or just someone on the mailing list. Our Chapter community is made up of professionals new to the profession and those who can see retirement from their current position, and all those in between. In my 19 years as a San Diego chapter member, I have always been impressed with the accomplishments of this chapter. It is my observation that Safety professionals, both new and experienced, have a passion that other professions don’t seem to have. That passion sometimes positively influences others’ behaviors that create a safety culture resulting in a high standard of safety that employees live day to day and take home with them. That same passion can also be the source of stress and challenges when management displays other values. Our challenge is to sell the value of safety—but you probably already know this.

There are many opportunities to be involved in this chapter. Bring your passion and come to a monthly meeting, attend the PDC in March, and consider becoming involved at some level. We welcome you as volunteer regardless of your membership tenure. The years of membership of the 2019-2020 Executive Committee range from 3 to 43. Now what are you waiting for?

Congratulations to the new Executive Committee and I look forward to the next year.

Regards,
Steve Workman
San Diego ASSP Chapter President
Government Affairs Committee:

by Scott Simerson

Status: Introduced on May 23, 2019

1. Short title
This Act may be cited as the Portable Fuel Container Safety Act of 2019.

2. Performance standards to protect against portable fuel container explosions near open flames or other ignition sources
(a) Rule on safety performance standards required
Not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this section, the Consumer Product Safety Commission (referred to in this Act as the Commission) shall promulgate a final rule to require flame mitigation devices in portable fuel containers that impede the propagation of flame into the container, except as provided in subsection (c).

(b) Rulemaking; consumer product safety standard
A rule under subsection (a)—
(1) shall be promulgated in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code; and

(c) Exception
(1) Voluntary standard
Subsection (a) shall not apply if the Commission determines that—
(A) there is a voluntary standard for flame mitigation devices in portable fuel containers that impede the propagation of flame into the container, or a combination of more than one voluntary standard which taken together serve such purpose for the full scope of this Act;
(B) the voluntary standard or combination of voluntary standards described in subparagraph (A) is or will be in effect not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and
(C) the voluntary standard or combination of voluntary standards described in subparagraph (A) is developed by ASTM International or such other standard development organization that the Commission determines to have met the intent of this Act.

(2) Determination required to be published in the Federal Register
Any determination made by the Commission under this subsection shall be published in the Federal Register.

(d) Treatment of voluntary standard for purpose of enforcement
If the Commission determines that a voluntary standard meets the conditions described in subsection (c), the requirements of such voluntary standard shall be treated as a consumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058) beginning on the date which is the later of—
(1) 180 days after publication of the Commission’s determination under subsection (c); or
(2) the effective date contained in the voluntary standard.

(e) Revision of voluntary standard
(1) Notice to Commission
If the requirements of a voluntary standard that meet the conditions of subsection (c) are subsequently revised, the organization that revised the standard shall notify the Commission after the final approval of the revision.

(2) Effective date of revision
Not later than 180 days after the Commission is notified of a revised voluntary standard described in paragraph (1) (or such later date as the Commission determines appropriate), such revised voluntary standard shall become enforceable as a consumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058).
(Government Affairs, continued from Page 2)

U.S.C. 2058), in place of the prior version, unless within 90 days after receiving the notice the Commission determines that the revised voluntary standard does not meet the requirements described in subsection (c).

(f) Future rulemaking

The Commission, at any time after publication of the consumer product safety rule required by subsection (a), a voluntary standard is treated as a consumer product safety rule under subsection (d), or a revision is enforceable as a consumer product safety rule under subsection (e) may initiate a rulemaking in accordance with section 553 of title 5, United States Code, to modify the requirements or to include any additional provision that the Commission determines is reasonably necessary to protect public health or safety. Any rule promulgated under this subsection shall be treated as a consumer product safety rule promulgated under section 9 of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2058).

(i) Rule of construction

This section may not be interpreted to conflict with the Children’s Gasoline Burn Prevention Act (Public Law 110–278; 122 Stat. 2602).

3. Children’s Gasoline Burn Prevention Act

(a) Amendment

Section 2(c) of the Children’s Gasoline Burn Prevention Act (15 U.S.C. 2056 note; Public Law 110–278) is amended by inserting after for use by consumers the following: and any receptacle for gasoline, kerosene, or diesel fuel, including any spout, cap, and other closure mechanism and component of such receptacle or any retrofit or aftermarket spout or component intended or reasonably anticipated to be for use with such receptacle, produced or distributed for sale to or use by consumers for transport of, or refueling of internal combustion engines with, gasoline, kerosene, or diesel fuel.

(b) Applicability

The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect 6 months after the date of enactment of this section.

Cal/OSHA Reminds Employers to Protect Outdoor Workers from Heat Illness as Temperatures Rise Across the State

News Release No.: 2019-44
June 5, 2019
Oakland—Cal/OSHA is reminding all employers to protect their outdoor workers from heat illness as temperatures rise throughout California. The National Weather Service has issued heat advisories for triple-digit temperatures today in Fresno, Kern, Kings and Tulare counties and for—
cants high heat throughout inland parts of the state next week.

In addition to responding to workplace accidents and complaints of hazards, Cal/OSHA investigators conduct high heat inspections at outdoor worksites to ensure compliance with California’s heat illness prevention regulation and other workplace safety and health requirements.

Employers with outdoor workers must take the following steps to prevent heat illness:

**Plan** – Develop and implement an effective written heat illness prevention plan that includes emergency response procedures.

**Training** – Train all employees and supervisors on heat illness prevention.

**Water** – Provide drinking water that is fresh, pure, suitably cool and free of charge so that each worker can drink at least 1 quart per hour, and encourage workers to do so.

**Shade** – Provide shade when workers request it and when temperatures exceed 80 degrees. Encourage workers to take a cool-down rest in the shade for at least five minutes. They should not wait until they feel sick to cool down.

Cal/OSHA urges workers experiencing possible overheating to take a preventative cool-down rest in the shade until symptoms are gone. Workers who have existing health problems or medical conditions that reduce tolerance to heat, such as diabetes, need to be extra vigilant. Some high blood pressure and anti-inflammatory medications can also increase a worker’s risk for heat illness.

To prevent heat illness, it is crucial that supervisors are effectively trained on emergency procedures in case a worker gets sick. This helps ensure sick employees receive treatment immediately and that the symptoms do not develop into a serious illness or death.

Cal/OSHA’s Heat Illness Prevention special emphasis program, the first of its kind in the nation, includes enforcement of heat regulations as well as multilingual outreach and training programs for California’s employers and workers. Detail on heat illness prevention requirements and training materials are available online on Cal/OSHA’s Heat Illness Prevention web page and the 99calor.org informational website. A Heat Illness Prevention online tool is also available on Cal/OSHA’s website.

Cal/OSHA helps protect workers from health and safety hazards on the job in almost every workplace in California. Employers and workers who have questions or need assistance with workplace health and safety programs can call Cal/OSHA’s Consultation Services Branch at 800-963-9424.

Complaints about workplace safety and health hazards can be filed confidentially with Cal/OSHA district offices. Employees with work-related questions or complaints may contact DIR’s Call Center in English or Spanish at 844-LABOR-DIR (844-522-6734).

**Public Affairs Committee:**

*by Isaac Szmuilowicz*

I just met Maricarmen Cervantes, a recent amazing graduate from Southwestern College, who showed interest in attending our breakfast meetings. She graduated with a degree in Associate in Science in Occupational Health and Safety and Associate in Science in Environmental Technology. She was invited to the last meeting by our chapter and we hope she will join us in the future and spread the word about ASSP to her classmates.

I want to thank Veronica Braun Worthington who was for more than two years our liaison with the Red Cross for all her support and for attending PDCs and meetings. She is now the Development Officer for the Girl Scouts of San Diego. Our new contact is Rob Binder who is the Strategic Account Executive for the American Red Cross Training Services. He has experience in Health and Safety and enjoyed our last meeting.

Below is the information for July’s Sound The Alarm event. If anyone is interested in attending, please let me know.

Everyone is welcomed!

**Date:** Saturday, July 13th

**Time:** 8A – 1P

**Meeting Site:** The Cliffs Mobile Home Park Clubhouse

**Address:** 4950 Old Cliffs Rd, San Diego, CA 92120

Everyone is welcomed!

Isaac Szmuilowicz

(619) 417-7189

PA Chair for the San Diego Chapter of ASSP
Sunscreen (lotion or spray), chapstick, and to-go or travel sized hand sanitizer will be gratefully accepted. *Please note that due to storage restrictions, SDYS cannot accept used clothing, towels, and/or bedding.

Please bring your donation to the July 9 breakfast meeting:
7:15 AM at Admiral Baker’s Club
2400 Admiral Baker Road, San Diego, CA 92124

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 ASSP members? Send it to me via e-mail 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 point font. Artwork or graphics (flyers or posters) should be single-page, preferably in MS Word or MS Publisher format. 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 e-mailed to Newsletter@sandiego.assp.org. Please also provide your contact information, including name, e-mail address and phone number.

Study Group

Thinking about working on your ASP/CSP? If so, that’s outstanding and we are pulling for you! If you’d like to receive personal coaching for your ASP/CSP preparation, contact our Chapter President Enrique Medina, CIH, CSP to start the ball rolling.

By becoming part of our ASP/CSP Study Group Community you will get support, advice, tips, prep course reviews, and post-test debriefing from your peers to assist you in studying for the ASP/CSP professional certification exams. This free service is open to all Chapter members, and members of allied organizations, and you can join at any time. Contact Enrique at (619) 297-1469 or President@sandiego.assp.org.
Job Line
by David Ferguson, CSP, CEA, REPA

Looking for a new job? Local employers are looking for you! Visit our job-line at https://sandiego.assp.org/current-openings/ to see current opportunities such as:

- EHS Specialist III (BDB)
- EHS Specialist III (TC)
- Environmental Health and Safety Manager (Phoenix, AZ)
- Harper Construction—Site Safety and Health Officers (Yuma, AZ)
- Energy Development Group—Industrial Hygienist
- General Atomics—Business Continuity Manager
- Insurance Carrier—Safety and Heath Manager
- Solar Turbines San Diego—EHS Engineer
- LandCare—Division Safety Manager
- MC Contracting—Safety Manager
- Ajinomoto Bio-Pharma Service—Safety Health and Environmental Specialist
- Port of San Diego—Risk Management and Safety Intern
- Morrow-Meadows Corporation—Safety Engineer (Los Angeles area)
- Harper Construction—Site Safety and Health Officer, Temporary
- County of San Diego—Departmental Safety Coordinator
- Liberty Mutual—Risk Control Internship
- CAL/OSHA Associate Safety Engineer
- CAL/OSHA Safety and Health Inspectors

The blue links should take you directly to the posting, when available. Otherwise, see the San Diego ASSP Job Listing for full details and instructions on how to apply. Check out these and other great jobs today!

Announcing the ASSP Career Center!

The ASSP Career Center is a free comprehensive resource available to all ASSP Chapter members who are looking for a job or those who are employed and want to advance their safety careers.

The Career Center’s Job Seeker Resource Center offers resume writing tips, tools to build your resume online, and a Resume Bank where you can post your resume anonymously for employers to view, except for your name and contact information. But that’s not all! You also get interview preparation and follow-up strategies, such as how to bring up and negotiate a salary.

The Job Board lets you to search for job postings throughout the US and internationally by applying filters that fit your criteria, and save them by keyword, location, industry, or job function. The Job Alert automated search sends new postings that meet your criteria right to you, instead of having to log in to search for new jobs. You also get help with career advancement to move your career forward or change industry sectors, including using social media for networking, how to work effectively with recruiters, how to give notice, and negotiating salary and benefits. And you have access to expert coaching!

Employers can post and manage job openings, search and manage job candidates, create a company profile, upload position templates, consult a Resume Bank, and much more.

This is a great free resource designed with you in mind—visit the ASSP Career Center and Job Board at https://jobs.assp.org/.
Officer Transition and San Diego Youth Services Summer Donation Drive

At this meeting: Please welcome incoming Chapter President Steve Workman and join us for the annual installation of Officers and Executive Committee Members for the 2019-2020 term. We will also be conducting our San Diego Youth Services Summer Donation Drive, benefiting homeless and at-risk youths in the greater San Diego area.

Sunscreen (lotion or spray), chapstick, and to-go or travel-sized hand sanitizer will be gratefully accepted.
*Please note that due to storage restrictions, SDYS cannot accept used clothing, towels, and/or bedding.

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.

$18 Members* with RSVP by 7/5/2019 by 5:00 P.M.
$23 No RSVP by 7/5/2019 and for Non-Members/Guests
$10 Students

*Members include: ASSP, ACWJPIA, AHMP, AIHA, IHPM, RNCN, RIMS, PARMA, CPCU, PWI, WUSMA

RSVP/Registration: Please RSVP OR register with payment by credit card on the San Diego ASSP Chapter website events page using the BLUE BUTTON link.

Please note: RSVPs and pre-registrations are very helpful in determining the head-count for the luncheon catering. Those who RSVP may still pay by check, credit card or cash at the door if preferred.

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 0.9 miles from Santo Road.

Next month: Earnesto Coleman, Captain at Hornblower Cruises & Events, presents his maritime experience

September: Jackson Dalton, Prevention Through Design

OLD BUSINESS
1. Review Minutes from May 7 2019:
The Executive Committee accepted the May 7, 2019 EC Meeting Minutes by vote. Motion to vote by Lee Donahue; 2nd by Steve Workman. Passed by unanimous approval.

2. Treasurer’s Report:
The May 2019 Treasurer’s report was unavailable for review at the meeting. It will be sent out as a separate email for EX review. Members may view a copy of the Treasurer’s report upon request to our President, Enrique Medina.

3. Quick Updates:
   a. COMT Report—Based on preliminary submittal and points tally we are in the running for Platinum recognition for the 2018-2019 Chapter year. Recommendation from Enrique to incoming presidents is to look at the points at the beginning of their term and map out how to achieve the level of recognition they desire. The point categories change annually and frequently there are lots of points available for minimum effort if you can plan in advance.
   b. Technical Tour planning status—Steve Workman said that the cost for a bus is $900/day and that the survey results yielded stronger interest in a shorter event. He’s looking at two stops; NASCO and the Crime lab followed by a brewery.
   c. Strategic Planning retreat follow-up—Brooks recapped on the strategic planning event that took place June 1st at Point Loma Nazarene from 9 am to 1 pm. Fifteen individuals attended the retreat and discussed marketing, Chapter strengths, weaknesses, and hopes for the future. A TON of energy and excitement was generated and the next step is to go over the results of the retreat with a smaller focus group and develop an action plan.
   d. June breakfast meeting coordination—Chris, Gary, and Enrique won’t be in attendance at the June breakfast meeting. Lee has agreed to arrive early and be the speaker liaison. He will meet up with Chris to get the projector and banners etc.

NEW BUSINESS
1. ExCom Transition—Reminder that all outgoing and incoming officers and volunteers should be meeting up and exchanging files. New officers need to go to Officer Central and complete required training for their position. There are USB drives as well as the ability to use Chapter online file storage. Note: ASSP assigned email accounts will reset via Society with new term.
2. 2019-2020 Budget Preparation—Reminder that the 2019-2020 Chapter budget needs to be planned. Suggestion for all officers to put together a proposed budget for consideration as a line item in the Chap-
3. **2020 PDC Planning**—Scott Simerson is the 2020 PDC chair and is working with Steve Workman to get all of the contact information for the Jacobs Center so that he can reserve March 10, 2020 for our PDC. There is some discussion of a joint PDC with AIHA in the future, but there were other suggestions for how to strengthen that relationship and share resources beyond the PDC that might be more beneficial.

4. **North County Update**—North County Section failed to publish their slate in time for 2019-2020 elections and the Chapter is working with the Region to dissolve the Section effective July 1st, 2019. Both Amy Leung and Vaughn Osterhout have volunteered to write letters as members of the North County Section requesting dissolution of the Section. The Chapter is looking forward to eliminating bureaucracy and continuing support of our North County members and is committed to having content and meetings accessible to a variety of locations.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

2. Delegate — Nothing to report.
3. Job Line — There are 12 positions listed in the job line.
5. Newsletter — Nothing to report.
6. North County Section — Nothing to report.
7. Programs — Transition to Fernand is in the works. Scheduled topics:
   - July: Officer transition
   - August: Earnesto Coleman, Maritime Safety
   - September: Jackson Dalton, Prevention Through Design
9. Social Media — Claire had another training call with David last week and he’s feeling confident in taking the reins for communications starting July. The June event and email reminders are already set up.
10. Succession Planning — Interviews: Luisa Dunn June; Steve Thompson July; will confirm Aug with Monica Netherly, Amir Vafaei calendar interview OR his personal essay early fall September(?) PLAN: to ask all attending the retreat to recommend 3 persons to interview AFTER the strategic retreat points us in the direction for the next 5 years. With Safety Net stories about 80% positive response from those invited to tell their story, we are potentially booked through 2024 and someone will keep it going as Cait retires out in her 9th decade.

**Next EC Meeting:** July 2, 2019 – Call-in meeting

**Next Event:** Chapter breakfast meeting, June 11, 2019

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### Calendar of Special Events

**July 2019**

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<th>Dates</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<td>National Fireworks Safety Month</td>
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<td>National Cell Phone Courtesy Month</td>
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<td>Independence Day</td>
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<td>National Workaholics Day</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>National Pet Fire Safety Day</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>National Heatstroke Prevention Day</td>
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![Calendar of Special Events](https://sandiego.assp.org/event/)
Providing Leadership & Direction to the Safety Professional since 1911

AGC SAFETY & HEALTH Conference

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2019
Skanska USA Civil | 1995 Agua Mansa Rd. Riverside, CA 92509
SCHEDULE: 8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Join us to engage with safety exhibitors and high-quality speakers from across the state, and collaborate in an exchange of industry knowledge! California’s top safety professionals will be sharing their expertise in safety, health, emergency preparedness, and risk management - this is a must-attend safety conference for the California construction industry!

REGISTRATION

☐ AGC Member: FREE
☐ AGC Non-Member: $75

Contact Ryan Sannic at 916-371-2422 or sannicrci@agc-ca.org
RSVP by: Friday, July 5, 2019

SPONSORSHIPS

☐ $750: Gold Sponsor
☐ $300: Silver Sponsor
☐ $75: Vendor Booth & Sponsor

AGC-CA and AGC SD SAFETY & HEALTH CONFERENCE: RSVP by FRIDAY, JULY 5, 2019.
Register online: https://www.agc-ca.org/AGCSafetyHealthConf2019/ Mail to: AGC of California | 2095 Beacon Blvd. | West Sacramento, CA 95691 Attention: Ryan Sannic | Phone: 916.371.2422 | Fax: 916.371.2362 | Email: sannicrci@agc-ca.org
Everyone Has a Story

Monica Netherly, MPH, ASP, CSP

As interviewed by Cait Casey

As I reflect on my early career as an industrial hygienist, I can only wonder where I would be today if I had not taken a leap of faith to pursue this unique and specialized field. As a youth, I was determined to become an obstetrician-gynecologist, but after two years of intense course work as a pre-medicine student, I decided to focus my energies on becoming a scientific researcher. I landed a position as a lead laboratory technician in a state-of-the-art protein computation laboratory. One of my many responsibilities included training incoming graduate and undergraduate students on laboratory safety. I remember feeling relieved when my principle investigator tasked me to train incoming students on operating moving equipment and handling hazardous chemicals. It dawned on me that I enjoyed interfacing with people just as much as I love conducting research. This experience should have motivated me to pursue a graduate degree in health and safety, but it did not.

At the time there were no health and safety or industrial hygiene graduate programs offered in San Diego. I decided to study environmental health. My graduate degree was awarded as the great recession was ending. Jobs were difficult to come by and I was eager to find work in the HSE field. My mentor, Andrew Bryson, encouraged me to attend the ASSE and AIHA local section chapters. I attended both meetings with my resume in hand, seeking opportunities. Attending ASSE and AIHA meetings change the trajectory of my career, forever. Interactions with both chapters resulted in meaningful employment and the opportunity to serve in multiple leadership positions, including serving as the 2017 President of the AIHA San Diego local section.

I currently work as an industrial hygienist for the federal government. As an industrial hygienist, I work to identify, analyze and control workplace stressors that could lead to injury, illness or impairment. I work closely with safety to ensure that policies and plans put in place by the organization meet challenges identified during the industrial hygiene workplace analysis. I enjoy interacting with both civilian and military personnel and do my best to articulate the value of industrial hygiene to the command and work to ensure that their OSH programs are compliant. In my quest to have a balanced safety and health mind set, I recently became a certified safety professional and look forward to sitting for the certified industrial hygienist exam.

My most memorable experience as an industrial hygienist was deploying to Puerto Rico to assist with rebuilding the island’s electrical grid post-hurricane Maria. I experienced multiple safety challenges and successes working as a cost documentation leader under an incident command system. My deployment experience ultimately resulted in an article published in the American industrial Hygiene Associations’ May 2018 issue of the Synergist Magazine.

My short time working in Puerto Rico forced me to re-evaluate my purpose and fueled my desire to share the HSE profession with others, particularly with high school and university students. I made a personal commitment to share my journey with students, as I strongly believe in the power of community service and outreach. This past year, I have participated on several career panels hosted by students from local universities. On these panels, I share my academic and career experiences with students. I reassure them that it is not the end of the world if they decide to change their majors or adjust their goals to pursue a different path. I encourage them to seek out multiple mentors and share new skills to their communities. Most importantly, I remind them to push through adversity even during the times when they feel like they want to give up.

As the industrial hygienists who blazed the trail for young professionals like me enter into retirement age, it is critical for working industrial hygienists to keep the momentum of the profession going. This includes joining national organizations and actively participate in recruiting high school students and college students.

I am happy with my decision of becoming an industrial hygienist and look forward to contributing my talents to the HSE field for many years to come.

Monica is a former President of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, San Diego Section, and currently serves as the Chair of the AIHA ACTIONS Committee. She was the featured speaker at the San Diego ASSP Chapter Breakfast Meeting in February of 2019.
OSHA Trade News Release
U.S. Department of Labor
OSHA, Office of Communications

US DOL Schedules Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health Meeting; Announces Committee Appointments

June 27, 2019

Washington, DC — The U.S. Department of Labor will hold a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH) on July 17-18, 2019, in Washington, D.C.

The tentative agenda includes updates from OSHA directorates and a discussion of proposals to add a reference to the definition of “confined space” that applies to welding activities in construction and clarify the requirements for the fit of personal protective equipment in construction.

The committee will meet from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. EDT on Wednesday, July 17, and from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. EDT on Thursday, July 18. Both meetings will be held in Conference Rooms N-5437 A-D at the U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20210. The meeting is open to the public.

Comments and requests to speak may be submitted electronically at http://www.regulations.gov, the Federal eRulemaking Portal, by mail, or facsimile. Read the Federal Register notice for submission details. Comments and requests must be submitted by July 5, 2019.

Additionally, the Department recently selected 15 new and reappointed members to serve on the committee. The members represent the public, employers, employees, and federal and state government interests. Each serves a two-year term. The newly appointed members are:

Employee Representatives:
- Mark S. Mullins, National Coordinator, Elevator Industry Work Preservation Fund
- Richard Tessier, Director of Safety, United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers & Allied Workers Representative Research & Education Joint Trust
- Christina Trahan Cain, Safety and Health Director, North America’s Building Trades Unions

Employer Representatives:
- Favel Combs, Corporate Manager, EHS, M.A. Mortenson Company
- Greg Sizemore, Vice President of Health, Safety, Environment and Workforce Development, Associated Builders and Contractors
- Wesley L. Wheeler, National Director of Safety, National Electrical Contractors Association

Public Representative:
- Christopher A. Fought, Global Construction & North America Contractor Safety Manager, General Motors LLC

State Representative:
- Christopher “Scott” Mabry, Assistant Deputy Commissioner, North Carolina Department of Labor

Federal Representative:
- Dr. G. Scott Earnest, Ph.D., C.S.P., P.E., Deputy Director, Office of Construction Safety & Health, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

The reappointed members are:

Employee Representatives:
- Palmer L. Hickman, Director of Safety and Code Training and Curriculum Development, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Electrical Training Alliance
- Randall A. Krocka, Administrator and Project Director, Sheet Metal Occupational Health Institute Trust, International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers

Employer Representatives:
- Kevin R. Cannon, C.S.P., Senior Director, Safety and Health Services, Associated General Contractors of America (ACCSH Chair)
- Cindy DePrater, Senior Vice President, Chief Environmental, Health & Safety Officer, Turner Construction Company

Public Representative:
- R. Ronald Sokol, C.S.P., President & CEO, Safety Council of Texas City

State Representative:
- Charles N. Stribling, C.S.P., OSH Federal-State Coordinator, Kentucky Labor Cabinet, Department of Workplace Standards

Established under the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act and the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act of 1970, ACCSH advises the Secretary of Labor and Assistant Secretary of Labor for occupational safety and health on construction standards and policy matters.
The Human Face of Artificial Intelligence

John Howard, M.D., Director, NIOSH

The term artificial intelligence, usually referred to as AI, first came into use in the 1956, when computer scientists began to predict that machines had the potential to be programmed to “think” and learn from experience, just like human beings. It was in the 2010s that AI became more of a reality, thanks to the availability of practically unlimited storage capacity on computers, along with faster, cheaper processing power, and a flood of big data.

Recently, many articles have been published in the popular press about various uses of AI in areas such as robotics, healthcare (e.g., to identify lung cancer from x-ray images), visual and speech recognition, and text translation.

In addition, the U.S. government’s interest in understanding the benefits and risks of AI has also increased, as highlighted in a 2018 White House Summit report. Recently, NIOSH established its own Artificial Intelligence Interest Group (AIIG) which held its inaugural meeting in May 2019. Through AIIG, NIOSH is bringing together individuals from across NIOSH to share information about how AI is being used, what successes and pitfalls come from using AI, and what new ways AI may be applied to solve problems relevant to the NIOSH mission.

Many researchers in NIOSH are already using AI. Some examples include:

- Using AI to analyze genomics information. The system is able to examine over 22,000 genes looking for suitable biomarkers.
- Exploring AI image analysis and computer vision for self-driving vehicles.
- Using AI for “natural language processing” leading to coding of health records and using AI in analyzing health informatics data.
- Using AI for NIOSH Industry & Occupation Computerized Coding System (NIOCCS) to change text descriptions of industry and occupation into standard codes. Also using AI to work with data from kinetic sensors and video recorder input to study human factors.

Moving forward, AIIG will explore ethical issues, psychological effects, such as those from AI-caused job displacement, and the reliability of AI, as well as the implications on worker and workplace safety. AIIG is also developing a NIOSH webpage on AI to highlight on-going activities.

The advances in AI present new opportunities for progress across occupational safety and health. However, with that comes a need to understand the potential implications of AI on workers and workplaces in unanticipated ways. NIOSH is committed to leveraging the benefits of AI to improve our ability to respond to the modern world of work, while also working to ensure that the safety and health of all workers continues to be protected.

2018 Health Hazard Evaluation Program Annual Report Available

The NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE) Program is pleased to share its 2018 annual report. The report includes summaries of interesting projects and other highlights of 2018. We hope the report stimulates conversations about what the HHE Program is and how it makes a difference for the health and safety of employees throughout the United States.

Construction Owner Died in Trench Wall Collapse—Michigan

An excavating company owner died in a trench collapse. The owner dug a trench and placed an excavator bucket at the top of a wall to provide support. The owner entered the excavation without shoring or a trench box. As he was standing in the trench, the excavation collapsed. Trench rescue teams recovered the owner two days later.
Bill to protect health care, social services workers from violence advances out of House committee

Washington — Legislation that would direct OSHA to issue a standard requiring employers in health care and social services industries to develop and implement workplace violence prevention plans was voted out of the House Education and Labor Committee on June 11, and now advances to the full House.

The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Services Workers Act (H.R. 1309) seeks an enforceable federal standard to disrupt the growing level of violence against nurses, physicians, social workers, emergency responders and other caregivers, bill sponsor Rep. Joe Courtney (D-CT) said during a markup hearing before the committee voted on the bill.

“Every person who has worked in a hospital as a psychiatric aide, a social worker or emergency responder knows how serious and pervasive this problem is and how it affects their ability to do their jobs,” Courtney said. “These events shouldn’t be part of the job.”

Courtney cited data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics that showed intentional injuries sustained by health and social assistance workers occurred at a rate of 9.1 per 10,000 workers in 2017. For all private industry, that rate was 1.9.

The bill would offer protections to public-sector workers in the states not under OSHA oversight while calling on employers to identify risks; specify solutions; and require training, reporting and incident investigations. The legislation also would require an interim final OSHA standard one year after enactment and the completion of a final standard within 42 months.

“These are not radical, impractical, infeasible or unaffordable requirements,” Rep. Alma Adams (D-NC) said during the hearing. “The least we can do is ensure that [these workers] come home safe at the end of their workday.”

Courtney quoted Cleveland Clinic CEO Tom Mihaljevic from the health system’s Feb. 28 State of the Clinic address, during which Mihaljevic revealed that 30,000 weapons were confiscated from patients and visitors in 2018 at its northeast Ohio facilities.

National Nurses United, the nation’s largest union of registered nurses with more than 150,000 members, applauded the bill’s advancement in a June 11 press release.

“Today’s vote is a big step forward in passing legislation that would hold our employers accountable, through federal OSHA, for having a prevention plan in place to stop workplace violence before it occurs,” NNU President Jean Ross said in the release. “We urge House leadership to schedule a vote on the floor ... as soon as possible, because every moment we lose puts life in jeopardy.”

The bill has 173 co-sponsors, including three Republican lawmakers.

However, two Republicans on the committee were among the bill’s dissenters. They expressed concern during the hearing about circumventing OSHA’s normal rulemaking process.

Rep. Phil Roe (R-TN), who is a physician, shared an American Hospital Association statement opposing H.R. 1309, citing concerns about the legislation creating duplicate anti-workplace violence measures for health care facilities that already have them in place and allowing only a limited opportunity for the public and stakeholders to review and comment on the bill.

“No one is more interested in having a safe workplace more than the hospitals,” Roe said. “What’s the hurry? Why don’t we do this in a bipartisan way? We could have the American Hospital Association in to testify and see what their issues are. That’s what I would recommend.”

Rep. Virginia Foxx (R-NC) added, “Health care workers are familiar with the Hippocratic Oath: ‘First do no harm.’ In its rush to judgment, H.R. 1309 does great harm by short-circuiting the public input process and prescribing a specific end result from the beginning.”

This article originally appeared in Safety+Health on June 12, 2019.

World Health Organization calls burnout an ‘occupational phenomenon’

Tampa, FL — Geneva — The term “burnout” is defined more clearly in the World Health Organization’s 11th revision of its International Classification of Diseases.

WHO describes burnout as an “occupational phenomenon,” not a medical condition, that results from unmanaged workplace stress. According to the organization, the syndrome has “three dimensions”:

• Feelings of energy depletion or exhaustion
• Increased mental distance from one’s job, or feelings of negativity or cynicism related to the work
• Reduced effectiveness on the job

WHO states that burnout applies only in occupational contexts and “should not be applied to describe experiences in other areas of life.”

The organization also noted that it is beginning to formulate new evidence-based guidance for mental health and well-being at work.

This article originally appeared in Safety+Health on June 12, 2019.
FEATURED SAFETY RECALLS

6/4: Generation Brands Recalls Glass Pendant Light Fixtures Due to Risk of Injury: https://is.gd/3UB2jh
6/4: Polaris Recalls RZR Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles Due to Crash and Injury Hazards: https://is.gd/JURqYE
6/4: Polaris Recalls Recreational Off Highway Vehicles Due to Crash Hazard: https://is.gd/W8YKpP
6/5: Apple Recalls Three-Prong Wall Plug Adapters Included in World Travel Adapter Kit Due to Risk of Electric Shock: https://is.gd/X3tNUR
6/6: Xtreme Outdoor Products Recalls Climbing Sticks Due to Fall Hazard and Risk of Serious Injury: https://is.gd/0Jm3mi
6/11: Cushy Form Recalls Folding Mattress Due to Violation of Federal Mattress Flammability Standard; Sold Exclusively at Amazon.com: https://is.gd/ezN0iu
6/11: Target Recalls Toddler Boots Due to Choking Hazard: https://is.gd/9Qhbem
6/11: Amazon Recalls AmazonBasics Ceramic Space Heaters Due to Fire and Burn Hazards: https://is.gd/sJBD2g
6/12: Hayward Industries Recalls Pool Heater Vent Kits Due to Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Hazard: https://is.gd/r0FWGi
6/12: Mares Recalls Buoyancy Compensation Vests Due to Drowning Hazard: https://is.gd/zGuFda
6/13: American Honda Recalls Recreational Off-Highway Vehicles Due to Crash and Injury Hazards: https://is.gd/bkj1G
6/18: Home Meridian Recalls Corner Curio Cabinets Due to Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards; Sold Exclusively at Havertys: https://is.gd/JJVXTd
6/20: Hunter Fan Recalls Brunswick Three and Four Light Ceiling Fans Due to Shock Hazard: https://is.gd/QRLSUs
6/21: H.E. Industrial Recalls Electric Garage Heaters Due to Fire Hazard: https://is.gd/hZvpiA
6/21: Ranee’s Recalls Women’s Beach Cover-ups Due to Violation of Federal Flammability Standard: https://is.gd/TliuAN
6/21: Honeywell Recalls Gamewell-FCI and Notifier Photoelectric Smoke Sensors Sold with Fire Alarm Systems Due to Failure to Alert of a Fire: https://is.gd/efdhEs
6/25: QTOP USA Recalls LED Work Light Replacement Bulbs Due to Fire Hazard: https://is.gd/7uxBC7
6/25: West Marine Recalls Folding Deck Chairs Due to Fall and Injury Hazards: https://is.gd/k3Nni8
6/26: Keystone Recalls G-Force Fireworks Due to Violation of Federal Standard; Explosion and Burn Hazards: https://is.gd/ItnKta
6/26: Patriot Pyrotechnics/Bill’s Fireworks Recalls Fireworks Due to Violation of Federal Standards; Explosion and Burn Hazards; Sold Exclusively at Patriot Pyrotechnics: https://is.gd/4oKLqr
6/26: GS Fireworks Recalls Fireworks Due to Violation of Federal Standards; Explosion and Burn Hazards; Sold Exclusively at GS Fireworks: https://is.gd/yYIs4c
6/26: Grandma’s Fireworks Recalls Fireworks Due to Violation of Federal Standards; Explosion and Burn Hazards: https://is.gd/ApF9zF
6/27: Fisher-Price Recalls Inclined Sleeper Accessory Included with Ultra-Lite Day & Night Play Yards Due to Safety Concerns About Inclined Sleep Products: https://is.gd/S8s54p
6/27: Apple Recalls 15-Inch MacBook Pro Laptop Computers Due to Fire Hazard: https://is.gd/BmkfnD
6/27: BRP Recalls Coolers Due to Entrapment and Suffocation Hazards: https://is.gd/imTkME
6/27: Gillette Recalls Venus Simply3 Disposable Razors Due to Laceration and Injury Hazards: https://is.gd/0eQd2y
6/27: Chandeliers Recalled by Dolan Northwest Due to Impact and Laceration Hazards: https://is.gd/b2psqT
6/28: Yamaha Recalls Grizzly ATVs and Wolverine X2 ROVs Due to Incorrect Owner’s Manual: https://is.gd/jUQaX5

Note: Agency logos are used here solely for identification and familiarity purposes, and do not constitute an endorsement by those agencies.
HELPFUL LINKS AND OTHER INFORMATION

American Industrial Hygiene Association: http://www.aiha.org/
American Red Cross: http://www.redcross.org/
American Society of Safety Professionals Main Website: https://www.assp.org/
ASSP Center for Safety and Health Sustainability: http://www.centershs.org/
ASSP Learning Library: http://www.safetybok.org/
ASSP Risk Assessment Institute: https://www.assp.org/advocacy/risk-assessment-institute
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/
Food and Drug Administration: https://www.fda.gov/NEW
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/
OSHA Silica Frequently Asked Questions: https://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/generalindustry_info_silica.htmlNEW
San Diego ASSP Website: https://sandiego.assp.org/
US Chemical Safety Board (CSB): http://www.csb.gov/