

# The Safety Net San Diego



## The President's Message — January, 2020



Steve Workman

Here we are again, faced with a new year. I tend to look back and appreciate the past in order to plan for the future. Last year this chapter held a fantastic PDC. The efforts of many resulted in a successful event. Challenges and compromises were many. Some were well planned, and some required immediate response. Our current and past efforts have been to improve the experience for attendees every year. Opportunities for new expectations and traditions may not seem obvious at first.

We are returning to Jacobs Center on Euclid Avenue in San Diego for the 2020 PDC. This venue provides a very different environment from the hotels and other locations used in the past. If you have not been there, ask someone that attended last year.

The photo booth will return. Many of you had fun with this experience and walked away with a keepsake memento. Something new this year, the chapter's first challenge coin will be available. This coin commemorates our chapter's 56th anniversary. Hopefully, this starts a new tradition and a new coin will be created each year. Also new is the use of the app Whova for program and speaker handouts. Be sure to download this app before you get to Jacobs Center. There is no public Wi-Fi available on location. Once you download the app and the conference materials, Wi-Fi is not required to access them. We cannot expect to improve and grow without investments. We believe these items, some newer than others, will improve your experience over last year.

For our active duty and DoD attendees refer  
*(see President's Message, Page 2)*

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Thank you to all of our 2019 Professional Development Conference sponsors!





## 2019 - 2020 Officers

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### *(President’s Message, from Page 1)*

to OPNAV INSTRUCTION 5050.34. This conference falls under the \$600/per person per day limit and meets the threshold for normal supervisor TAD approval.

I believe Safety professionals attend our PDC to learn new things, get updated information on regulations and to recharge their psychological batteries.

Safety professionals spend a lot of time and energy attempting to influence both workers and management. Both of these can be challenging. There are times when I have felt like backing off because my continued efforts without success wore me down. One recent example of this is after four years of pursuing management to pay for rights to access a safety video for all employees to

view, it finally happened and has support from the very top. This is more than I initially was asking for. A passion for safety can be exhausting; getting support for that passion makes it worth the struggle.

Over the years, safety conferences like our PDC have been how I have recharged my batteries and felt good about continuing my attempts to influence both workers and management. Take a look at the draft program for this year's PDC. I believe spending March 10th with a few hundred safety professionals and experiencing these presenters will serve to recharge us all.

**Steve Workman**, CEAS  
 President  
 San Diego ASSP Chapter

## SAN DIEGO ASSP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Executive Committee met over the phone on Tuesday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Teresa Bonilla, Brooks Carder, Cait Casey, David Ferguson, Dave Hiipakka, Fernand Kuhr, Chris Malicki, Isaac Szmuiłowicz, Scott Simerson, Steve Workman, and Wesley Williams attended.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### 1. **Review Minutes from November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019:**

Steve Workman entertained the motion, Teresa Bonilla moved, and Fernand Kuhr seconded the motion to approve the minutes for November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

#### 2. **Treasurer’s Report:**

- a. Usually in the \$38000 to 39000 range. The account is currently at \$34900. This is due to PDC expenses, and a slight decrease in member dues.

- b. Finding a credit union for the bank account. Not a fan of Wells Fargo.
- c. Will write a letter on the reasons/benefits to change from the current bank (Wells Fargo) to a credit union.

#### 3. **Treasurer’s Report:**

- a. A second meeting will be held/scheduled for a new quote and to update the proposal. Will ask to follow up questions to find the benefits of this proposal in regard to the cost of marketing the chapter. We need to know what our goals are, and the best way to achieve them from.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### 1. **None scheduled.**

*(see ExCom Meeting Minutes, page 3)*



## SAN DIEGO ASSP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

*(ExCom Meeting Minutes, continued from Page 2)*

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. Government Affairs — Nothing to report.
2. Delegate — Nothing to report.
3. Job Line — There are 13 current positions listed in the job line. If anyone sees any glitches on the San Diego Chapter site don't hesitate to reach out.
4. Membership — LB PDC: Well organized, 4 breakout sections, CEUs available at the end. ASSP Class in spring: email, numbers/financial, UCSD Safety Day.
5. Newsletter — Nothing to report.
6. Programs — Confirmed monthly meeting speakers and topics:  
**December:** Christmas Holiday Luncheon on December 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:15 am. \*Note\* Want to decide which organization we will donate to during the luncheon.  
**January:** Speaker TBD. The meeting will be held on January 14th, 2020 at 7:15 am.
7. Public Affairs — No sound the alarm event scheduled for the first 3 months of the year. Next event will be April 18th which will be a national event in Oceanside. The Red Cross has a new group prevention for disaster preparedness. Looking for people who are bilingual and know sign language.
8. Social Media — Adding requests from the executive committee on social media. There are updates on Facebook, and LinkedIn. Steve Workman brought up that the chapters web page photos need updating.
9. Succession Planning — Nothing to report.
10. Special Projects — Have lanyard samples for the 2020 PDC and arrange a meeting with Steve/Scott to view them.
11. PDC — 2020 PDC Planning –
  - a. Need speaker bios for the PDC.
  - b. Speakers list finalized. They will get money to make their own arrangements.
  - c. Thank you gifts: 25 battery packs, items from the ASSP store (coffee mugs, cups, hats, portfolios, camel water bottles.
  - d. Kitchens for Good: want to find out who they use for audio.
  - e. Parking arrangements for this years PDC. Alerting attendees of the trolley line, having parking monitors, utilizing a map of the immediate area.
  - f. Vendors (Lee and Isaac). Starting to populate the list. Estimate that there will be 36 vendor tables.
  - g. Check on who will print the name tags/badges. Or will we use Fed/Kinkos.
  - h. Helping Lee/Teresa to put together badges.
  - i. Who will be manning the tables?
  - j. Photo booth: Will have 3 different pictures for this years background.
  - k. Challenge coin comments. Will possibly do one every year with a different design.

**Next Breakfast Meeting:** December 10, 2019 – Will be the holiday luncheon which starts at 11:15 am.

**Next EC Meeting:** January 7, 2020 – In Person + Conference Call

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

### **Government Affairs Committee:**

*by Scott Simerson*

#### **Silicosis in Stone Fabrication Workers**

California Department of Public Health—November, 2019

Two California workers died in 2018 at the ages of 36 and 38 from severe silicosis. Both had worked at a stone fabrication company, polishing, dry cutting, and grinding slabs of engineered stone for countertops. Forty-three more employees of this company have so far been checked and almost 12% were found to also have silicosis. Silicosis is an incurable occupational lung disease caused by inhaling

particles of respirable crystalline silica.

Silicosis is preventable if stone fabrication and installation employers follow the comprehensive [Cal/OSHA standard](#) for silica and implement appropriate control measures to reduce dust levels.

OHB has published [guidance](#) for countertop fabrication employers and workers to minimize exposure to silica dust when working with engineered stone.

<https://www.cdph.ca.gov/Programs/CCDPHP/DEODC/OHB/Pages/OHWNov2019.aspx>

*(see Government Affairs, page 4)*



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR UPDATES

*(Government Affairs, continued from Page 3)*

### OSHA Enforcement and Compliance Increases in 2019 to Keep America’s Workforce Safe

December 3, 2019

**WASHINGTON, DC** – The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) fiscal year (FY) 2019 final statistics show a significant increase in the number of inspections and a record amount of compliance assistance to further the mission of ensuring that employers provide workplaces free of hazards.

OSHA’s enforcement activities reflect the Department’s continued focus on worker safety. Federal OSHA conducted 33,401 inspections—more inspections than the previous three years – addressing violations related to trenching, falls, chemical exposure, silica and other hazards.

In FY19, OSHA provided a record 1,392,611 workers with training on safety and health requirements through the Agency’s various education programs, including the OSHA Training Institute Education Centers, Outreach Training Program and Susan Harwood Training Grant Program. OSHA’s compliance assistance programs have helped small businesses address safety and health hazards in their workplaces. In FY19, OSHA’s no-cost On-Site Consultation Program identified 137,885 workplace hazards, and protected 3.2 million workers from potential harm.

“OSHA’s efforts – rulemaking, enforcement, compliance assistance and training – are tools to accomplish our mission of safety and health for every worker,” said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Loren Sweatt. “I am proud of the diligent, hard work of all OSHA personnel who contributed to a memorable year of protecting our nation’s workers.”

Contact: Office of Communications

Phone: 202-693-1999

### California’s Minimum Wage to Increase to \$13 per Hour for Large Employers, \$12 per Hour for Small Employers

Release Number: 2019-94—December 5, 2019

**Oakland**—California’s minimum wage will increase on January 1 to \$13 per hour for employers with 26 or more employees and \$12 for employers with 25 or fewer employees. California is the first state in the nation to commit to raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour statewide by 2022 for large businesses, and by 2023 for small businesses. The 2016 law increases the minimum wage over time consistent with economic expansion, while

providing safety valves to pause wage hikes if negative economic or budgetary conditions emerge.

Schedule for California Minimum Wage Rate:

Date / Minimum Wage for Employers with 26 or More Employees / Minimum Wage for Employers with 25 or Fewer Employees:

January 1, 2020 \$13.00/hour / \$12.00/hour

January 1, 2021 \$14.00/hour / \$13.00/hour

January 1, 2022 \$15.00/hour / \$14.00/hour

January 1, 2023 \$15.00/hour / \$15.00/hour

State law requires that most California workers be paid the minimum wage. Some cities and counties have a local minimum wage that is higher than the state rate. Workers paid less than the minimum wage are urged to contact the Labor Commissioner’s Office in their area to file a wage claim. Employers must post information on wages, hours and working conditions at a worksite area accessible to employees. Notices for the wage orders in English and Spanish can be downloaded and printed from the workplace postings page on the DIR website.

The Labor Commissioner’s Office, officially known as the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, is a division of DIR. Among its wide-ranging enforcement responsibilities, the Labor Commissioner’s Office adjudicates wage claims, inspects workplaces for wage and hour violations, investigates retaliation complaints and educates the public on labor laws. Employees with work-related questions or complaints may contact DIR’s Call Center in English or Spanish at 844-LABOR-DIR (844-522-6734). Employees with work-related questions or complaints may contact DIR’s Call Center in English or Spanish at 844-LABOR-DIR (844-522-6734). Contact: Peter Melton / Paola Laverde, [Communications@dir.ca.gov](mailto:Communications@dir.ca.gov), (510) 286-1161

### Public Affairs Committee:

*by Isaac Szmuiłowicz*

Our big National Sound the Alarm event where we aim to install 800 alarms will be on April 18<sup>th</sup> in Oceanside. We will need all the help we can get, so if you’re interested in joining us, please email Melissa or me for more details.— see the flyer on [page 11](#) of this newsletter.

There is a new group being formed to give presentations for Disaster Preparedness in San Diego – anyone interested in participating? English, Spanish and Sign language speakers are needed.

Isaac Szmuiłowicz

(619) 417-7189

PA Chair for the San Diego Chapter of ASSP



Check us out on social media!



Twitter @AsspSan



Facebook American Society of Safety Professionals—San Diego ASSP Chapter



LinkedIn ASSPSanDiego



Instagram assp\_san\_diego

We Need Your Help!

It’s time to think about renaming the newsletter, and we want your help doing it! While “The Safety Net” has served us well, we’re ready for something that better reflects our San Diego community and our ASSP Chapter’s mission. So with that in mind, what do you think the name should be?

We’ll take suggestions via email to newsletter@sandiego.assp.org until January 20th, 2020. The Executive Committee will determine the finalists, which will be announced in the February newsletter and at the February breakfast meeting. During February, voting will be open to all chapter members, with the name capturing the popular vote being the winner. This final name will be announced at the PDC in March, and the changes will be made the following newsletter release in April.

Prizes will be awarded for names selected to the final vote, with a grand prize of a FREE PDC attendee ticket given for the overall winner! You may submit as many unique names as you like, so don’t delay—send in

Getting Started in Safety?

Are you just embarking down the path of a career in safety? Seasoned professionals are a fantastic resource for finding your way. As some of us close out successful careers and transition into retirement, we would like to see our bodies of knowledge find new life. ASSP member Miles Katayama has generously offered to hand off his library of safety and health resource materials, spanning over 35 years, to an interested ASSP member learning the ropes of this career path. This extensive collection includes textbooks, Dan Peterson books, handouts, Cal/OSHA publications, sample programs and forms, and even a spine model! For more information or to get in touch with Miles, please write him at mckatayama@gmail.com.



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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 letter-sized 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. E-mail all submissions to Newsletter@sandiego.assp.org. Please also provide your contact information, including name, e-mail address, and phone number.



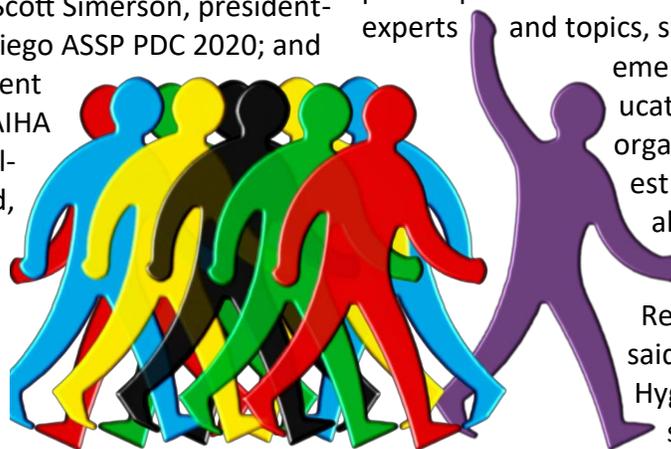
## Five Leaders

By Cait Casey

Five leaders from local chapters of AIHA and ASSP compared notes. Unpacking the differences in the organizations, structure, titles, national resources, and regional support also uncovered common challenges and shared opportunities for our members. Enrique Medina, past president of both chapters; Mychelle Fernandez, president of San Diego American Industrial Hygiene in 2020; Steve Workman, current San Diego ASSP president; Scott Simerson, president-elect and chair of the San Diego ASSP PDC 2020; and Janita Coleman, past president of SDAIHA and lead of the AIHA 2019 Symposium: all are volunteer leaders, experienced, and committed to provide value to membership.

Mychelle introduced a speakers’ concept “Me, You, We.” ME establishes personal background; YOU, a pain point that leads to purpose; and WE shares how we are able to work together. Cost and availability of professional information and how members select and pay for education could be pain points for our members. Some are challenged by personal and professional goals, competing events, and/or lack of workplace funding. In our economic world, small business, research, tech, academic, government agencies, and major corporate employers set guidelines for funding. Janita remarked that venue is critical to size and delivery of programs. Both chapters engage Admiral Baker Club. ASSP holds monthly topic and breakfast meetings; AIHA a bi-monthly lunch with continuing education or contact points. Extended day and half-day events are held elsewhere. All spoke about using vendors to demonstrate equipment, new technology, and regulatory perspectives, but noted they are sometimes unavailable due to timing, demand, or conflicting events.

Steve spoke of our history of robust past conferences



with 250 safety professionals attending more than a day of concurrent sessions. A number of local chapters and industries with shared missions and foci were identified. The conversation moved into technical and soft topic value. San Diego AIHA hosts “hot topics” to address important, less technical emerging concerns. Janita spoke about “hot topic” as a structured platform for a theme, held at different locations, organized as a social event, with an icebreaker of questions about a specific subject. She spoke about subject matter experts as a resource and support to professionals of both organizations. A list of experts

and topics, social and other opportunities emerged in the conversation. Educational and social opportunities organized around topics of interest provide additional educational opportunities for our members.

Reflecting on the meeting, Scott said “The American Industrial Hygiene Association has or should have a symbiotic relationship with American Society of Safety Professionals; our professions are similar in intent and slightly overlapping in scope. We exist to provide safe environments to workers and by extension, their families and society at large. Cooperatively, our groups have the capability of providing tangible benefits to the workers of San Diego through education experiences provided to our members. By leveraging the vast knowledge and experiences of our individual members, we can expand the educational experiences provided to the rest of our community through technical meetings and tours as well as social events that allow new relationships to form and information passed on.”

What to look for in 2020:

- Educational network and mentoring opportunities
- AIHA educational events announced in ASSP Safety Net /web site calendar
- Subject matter expert list combine and share in

(see *Five Leaders*, page 7)



*(Five Leaders, continued from Page 6)*

- formal contacts
- Promote shared participation and communication
- Social and small gatherings on topics include outreach to north/east/south county, other industries and professional organizations.
- Identify and invite others to specific meetings as appropriate.
- Maintain one price for chapter meetings and continue to include and recognize other professional groups
- Invite and provide booth space at PDC to inform our membership like minded professional groups

There are opportunities and challenges. Steve considers one mark of chapter success to be the number of members engaged and contributing to the chapter. Doing stuff together doesn't have to be an elected position. In our work environment when a specific topic benefits human resources, engineering, maintenance, office, labs, warehouse, landscaping, or other departments, invite them to a meeting.

Enrique pointed out the seat on the bus doesn't matter, it's the people on the bus that drive the future. Steve's vision includes having more than one person for election ballot positions as a mark of ideas and strength of chapter leadership.

There was energy, interest, mutual support for our members, and the possibility of “being on the same bus.” I took that as share information, an invitation to attend other chapters' events, and outreach to professional organizations.

*There is one universal mission that binds us all – protecting worker health. Every day we are faced with the reality that the process of an industry creating value can also be a hazardous one to those workers involved. We believe that it is only through the sharing of information, best practices, opportunities, and experiences that we can ensure that the binding mission of protecting worker health, the core of everything we do, can be fully realized. Please join us in this journey!*

Victor W. Block, CSP 2019 AIHA President

## Membership Chair

by Jo Curcio

### Welcome to our newest members!

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| Chien Chao     | Breauna Winn   |
| Anthony Kinzel | Alfredo Winter |
| Eric Simmons   |                |



## 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:

- California Department of Public Health—Occupational Health and Safety Specialist
- North County Health Services—Safety Coordinator
- ASI Hastings—Safety Coordinator
- Sentry—Safety Services Consultant
- Hach Company—EHS Colorado Site Manager
- Western Precooling—Safety Manager
- American Equity Underwriters—Loss Control Manager (Southern California)
- Huntington Ingalls Industries—Industrial Hygienist
- 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!



## ASP® Study Group CSP®

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 [past-president@sandiego.assp.org](mailto:past-president@sandiego.assp.org).

## 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/>.

## Calendar of Special Events

January 2020

- Dates Event
- 1-31 [National Radon Action Month](#)
- 1-31 [National Bath Safety Month](#)
- 1-31 [National Blood Donor Month](#)
- 18-24 [International Snowmobile Safety Week](#)



January 2020 						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Always find the latest San Diego ASSP events at <https://sandiego.assp.org/event!>



MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING, JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>

Southern California Edison’s Error Prevention Initiative

Topic Overview: Implementing this initiative using industry best practices in close partnership with stakeholders across the company including Business frontline and leadership. This initiative is part of the Safety Culture Transformation designed to proactively prevent “unwanted outcomes” (injury, system reliability interruption & damage) triggered by human and system errors that may impact the safe, reliable operation of the bulk electric system.

Presenters: Carmen Lopez M.S. (Senior Advisor) and Thomas Saffell (Senior Advisor)

Carmen has spent 10 years at SCE and has over 12 years of work experience in the field of organizational development, human/system error prevention, change management, technical training and employee selection assessments coupled with a Master’s of Science Degree in Industrial Organizational Psychology. Specialties include: error prevention strategy design, development and execution, change management, enterprise wide technical training programs oversight according to the Systematic Approach to Training, project management, program development, contract and budget management, benchmarking, assessment tool development and validation, leadership assessment centers, 360 Feedback, consulting, statistical data analysis, CTI Co-Active Coaching Certification and Human Performance Practitioner Certification. Two and a half years ago initiated the design of the SCE Error Prevention Initiative strategy using a grassroots approach and industry best practices including those of the North America Transmission Forum (NATF) and the US Department of Energy (DOE).

Thomas has spent 10 years at Southern California Edison focused on safety initiatives and projects. He has had several lead roles on safety teams, which included developing Contractor Safety programs, Safety Preparedness teams including facility and Incident Management programs, and is currently the Director of Community Outreach for an Employee Resource group within SCE. Thomas began honing his expertise in error prevention in early 2019, and has been brought on to partner with Ms. Lopez to develop and deliver the Error Prevention Initiative at SCE. He has recently completed an Advanced Cause Evaluation course and was certified as a Human Performance Practitioner in November of this year. Thomas is committed to developing his understanding of the relationship between workers in the field and the organization’s systems, processes, and programs.



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.



\$20 All Attendees, \$10 Students

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.



# ASSP SD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SYMPOSIUM

## WHEN

**March 10, 2020**  
**7:30am – 5pm**

## WHERE

**Jacobs Center**

**404 Euclid Ave San Diego CA 92114**

Symposium meets Navy threshold for normal  
supervisor approval, per OPNAVINST 5050.34

**[HTTPS://SANDIEGO.ASSP.ORG/EVENTS/  
ASSP-PROFESSIONAL-DEVELOPMENT-  
CONFERENCE-2020](https://sandiego.assp.org/events/assp-professional-development-conference-2020)**

## JOIN US!

### EARLY BIRD

**\$150/Person until February 15th**

### REGULAR

**\$175/person**  
**\$1000/table (8)**

## TOPICS

- Earthquake Early Warning & Recovery
- Surviving Workplace Violence/Active Shooter
- 6 Lies About Work Safety Pros Believe
- Ergonomics Made Fun & Easy for Employees
- HAZMAT CUPA Requirements
- NIOSH Updates

## VENDORS

- MAKESafe Tools
- Grainger
- Industrial Environmental Association
- Cal-OSHA Reporter
- InfraGard
- UCSD OSHA Training Institute Education Center
- First Aid Only
- Safe-T-Proof



## Help us Sound the Alarm about home fire safety.

The American Red Cross is teaming up with fire departments, military members, volunteers, and partners to Sound the Alarm with home fire safety and smoke alarm installation events. Help us install FREE smoke alarms and make our communities safer.

We need your help!

**Every day 7 people die in home fires. You can help change that.**

Join us for our next big installation event:

Oceanside – Saturday, April 18th, 2020 8AM-1PM

Breakfast, snacks, and lunch are provided.

**For more information visit [www.SoundTheAlarm.org/SanDiego](http://www.SoundTheAlarm.org/SanDiego)  
or email [Melissa.Altman@RedCross.org](mailto:Melissa.Altman@RedCross.org)**



## OSHA Trade News Release

U.S. Department of Labor  
OSHA, Office of Communications



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

### Statement from OSHA Regarding Occupational Fatalities in 2018

December 17, 2019

**Washington, DC**—The Bureau of Labor Statistics’ (BLS) Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries Report, released today, shows the rate of fatal work injuries remained unchanged in 2018.

Tragically, unintentional overdoses at work increased by 12 percent—the sixth consecutive annual increase and a reflection of the broader opioid crisis that our nation is facing. To combat this problem, President Trump has declared the opioid epidemic a National Health Emergency. OSHA also teamed with the National Safety Council on the release of a toolkit to help employers address opioid abuse in their workplaces and support workers in recovery.

Suicide at work, which increased by 11 percent in 2018, is also a tragic public health problem that can have lasting harmful effects on families, workplaces, and communities. OSHA created a [new webpage](#) with free and confidential resources to help identify the warning signs of suicide and to help users know who and how to call for help.

Today’s report also showed a 14 percent decline in work-related fatal falls from heights, the lowest total since 2013. Enforcement efforts helped abate more than 7,000 fall-related hazards in the construction industry.

“OSHA will continue to use BLS data for enforcement targeting within its jurisdiction to help prevent tragedies,” said Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of

Occupational Safety and Health Loren Sweatt. “Inspections for OSHA were up, and we will work with state plans so employers and workers can find compliance assistance tools in many forms or call the agency to report unsafe working conditions. Any fatality is one too many.”

Employers who need assistance in meeting their safety obligations can take advantage of OSHA’s no-cost and confidential [On-Site Consultation Program](#). OSHA Training Institute Education [Centers](#) (OTIs) also provide training to workers, employers, and other safety professionals across the nation. ■

### U.S. Department of Labor Updates National Emphasis Program On Amputations in Manufacturing Industries

November 27, 2019

**Washington, DC**—The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recently issued an updated [National Emphasis Program \(NEP\)](#) to focus agency inspections on amputation hazards in manufacturing industries. This directive updates the 2015 NEP on amputations.

The NEP targets industrial and manufacturing workplaces where employees are injured by unguarded or improperly guarded machinery and equipment. NEPs focus agency enforcement activity and do not create any new obligation to employers.

The updated NEP:

- Revises targeting methodology to include data from amputation re-

U.S. Department of Labor news materials are accessible at <http://www.dol.gov>. The Department’s [Reasonable Accommodation Resource Center](#) converts departmental information and documents into alternative formats, which include Braille and large print. For alternative format requests, please contact the Department at (202) 693-7828 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (federal relay).

- Revises coding requirements for amputation inspections in the OSHA Information System; and
- Adds new appendices on amputations targeting methodology and North American Industry Classification System codes.

The emphasis program includes a three-month period of education and prevention outreach, which will run until March 10, 2020. During this period, OSHA will continue to respond to com-

plaints, referrals, hospitalizations and fatalities. Enforcement activities will begin after the outreach period and remain in effect until canceled. OSHA-approved State Plans are expected to have enforcement procedures that are at least as effective as those in this instruction.

Employers are already responsible for ensuring machines are properly safeguarded to prevent worker amputations and other fatal injuries. OSHA’s [Machine Guarding webpage](#) provides compliance assistance resources to help employers identify amputation hazards, and follow required procedures to properly guard stationary and portable machines. ■

The mission of the Department of Labor is to foster, promote, and develop the welfare of the wage earners, job seekers, and retirees of the United States; improve working conditions; advance opportunities for profitable employment; and assure work-related benefits and rights.



## Inside NIOSH: Work-related Injuries More Common Among Temporary Workers

Temporary workers had a higher rate of workers' compensation claims for injuries than did permanent workers, according to a large study in Ohio published in the *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*.

As the nature of work continues to change, temporary workers are becoming more common in many workplaces. These workers may work for staffing agencies or be on-call, contract, or freelance workers.

This study looked at more than 1.3 million injury claims to the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation during 2001 to 2013. Of these claims, 45,046 were from temporary employment agency workers. The rate of injury in this group of workers was 11.6 per 100 workers, compared to a rate of 4.9 among permanent workers. In terms of age, injured temporary workers were about 5 years younger than permanent workers. In addition, temporary workers had worked for the organization for a shorter time before the injury occurred. Nearly half as many temporary workers as permanent workers had worked for the organization for 3 months or longer when the injury caused them to miss 8 or more workdays.

These findings are comparable to other workers' compensation studies in Washington and Illinois. Although the findings can help inform efforts to protect temporary workers from injury, more research is needed to understand how to prevent these injuries from occurring.

More information is available: [Protecting Temporary Workers](#).

## Outside NIOSH: Tool Helps Construction Companies Evaluate Jobsite Safety Climate

A new resource, known as the Safety Climate Assessment Tool (S-CAT), can help construction companies evaluate their jobsite safety climate, reports a NIOSH-funded study published in the *Journal of Safety Research*.

Jobsite safety climate is defined as employees' shared perceptions of the consistency between a company's stated safety policies and procedures and actual jobsite practices. Studies have shown that a strong safety climate is associated with better safety and health outcomes.

Despite advances to improve safety and health in construction, it remains one of the most hazardous industries. To address this issue, researchers at CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training and Washington State University partnered to develop the S-CAT. With this free online [tool](#), respondents use text-based scales to answer questions across these eight safety-climate factors:

1. Demonstrating management commitment.
2. Aligning and integrating safety as a value.
3. Ensuring accountability at all levels.
4. Improving site safety leadership.
5. Empowering and involving workers.
6. Improving communication.
7. Training at all levels.
8. Encouraging owner/client involvement.

Construction industry experts identified these factors while participating in a 2013 Safety Climate/Culture workshop sponsored by CPWR and NIOSH. The researchers used information from 985 respondents to confirm that these factors could reliably measure and also provide companies with a better understanding of their jobsite safety climate. With the S-CAT results in hand, a company can use [CPWR's safety climate workbook](#) to identify specific interventions to target lower-scoring factors. Companies can then use the S-CAT at a future date to evaluate the effectiveness of the interventions at improving safety climate.

More information is available:

- [NIOSH Science Blog: The Safety Climate Assessment Tool \(S-CAT\) for Construction](#)
- [NIOSH National Center for Construction Safety and Health Research and Translation](#)



HEALTH AND SAFETY NEWS

Most Americans feel pressure to work when sick: survey

November 19, 2019

New York—Nearly 4 out of 5 Americans say they feel pressure to work when they don’t feel well, results of a recent survey show.

Researchers from OnePoll, on behalf of the cold medication company Robitussin, surveyed 2,000 U.S. adults – 1,930 of whom had jobs – about sickness in the workplace and dealing with sick co-workers.

Of the employed respondents, 78% reported “feeling pressure to pow-

er through the workday when they’re feeling under the weather,” a Nov. 7 press release states. However, 82% said they would be annoyed if a co-worker showed up with a cough, while 41% would rather take on the extra workload temporarily than have a co-worker come to work sick.

Other findings:

- 69% of workers believe having a bad cough isn’t a valid reason to stay home.
- 42% of workers feel stressed out when calling out sick.
- 1 out of 3 employees fear their boss would not consider having



a bad cough a valid reason to stay home sick.

If a co-worker starts coughing, 52% assume that person is sick. ■

This article originally appeared in Safety+Health on Nov. 19, 2019.

Long commutes stressing out U.S. workers, survey shows

Menlo Park, CA—Half of respondents to a recent survey say their commute to and from the office stresses them out, and 45% think their trip is too long – up from 30% in 2017.

Researchers, on behalf of staffing firm Robert Half, surveyed 2,800 adult office workers in 28 major U.S. cities. The respondents’ average commute time was around 48.4 minutes, and nearly 20% said they spend at least an hour traveling to work.

Respondents in the nation’s capital reported the longest average commute (65.8 minutes), followed by workers in New York (60.8) and Houston (59.2). Workers in Los An-

geles reported most often that their commute was too long (65%), followed by employees in Austin, TX, and Miami (62% apiece).

Miami had the most respondents reporting stressful commutes, with San Diego, Austin, Los Angeles and Phoenix rounding out the top five, respectively.



Results of another Robert Half survey that sampled more than 2,800 senior managers at organizations with at least 20 employees show

that about 43% of the respondents said their company offers flexible scheduling to help workers avoid peak traffic times, and another 40% said their organization offers telecommuting.

“When workers have difficult commutes into the office, their engagement and productivity can suffer the rest of the day,” Paul McDonald, senior executive director for Robert Half, said in a Nov. 5 press release. “This may affect staff satisfaction and retention in the long run. With the current employment environment favoring job seekers, organizations can’t afford to ignore the issue and lose their best team members to other opportunities.” ■

This article originally appeared in Safety+Health on Dec. 2, 2019.

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Nat'l Highway Traffic Safety Admin.  
1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
[www.nhtsa.gov](http://www.nhtsa.gov)

## FEATURED SAFETY RECALLS

- 11/18: BMW X6—Lower Child Seat Anchor Bards May Become Damaged: <https://is.gd/vb3WvS>
- 11/21: Ford Ranger—Intermittent or Inoperative Tail Lights: <https://is.gd/TEMquq>
- 11/16: Volvo—Doors May Unexpectedly Open: <https://is.gd/SriNro>
- 12/4: Volkswagen Golf and Passat and Audi A3—Driver Side Air Bag Inflator May Explode: <https://is.gd/DNaaOG>
- 12/4: Ford F250, F-350, F-450—Tailgate May Open Unexpectedly: <https://is.gd/pHIEYJ>
- 12/5: DaVinci Recalls Bassinets Due to Fall Hazard: <https://is.gd/MHPjYk>
- 12/5: The J. M. Smucker Company Issues Voluntary Recall of Specific Lots of Special Kitty® Wet, Canned Cat Food Due to Health Concerns: <https://is.gd/KC8r2G>
- 12/6: Trek Recalls Super Commuter+ Electric Bicycles Due to Fall Hazard: <https://is.gd/FE1ny2>
- 12/6: Surly Bikes Recalls Bicycle Racks Due to Crash and Injury Hazards: <https://is.gd/JPOPYE>
- 12/6: WilliamsRDM Recalls Cooktop Fire Suppressors Due to Risk of Failure to Activate and Suppress Fires: <https://is.gd/gqxuLr>
- 12/6: Tropical Nut and Fruit Co. Issues Allergy Alert of Undeclared Soy and Tree Nut (Almonds) on Their Truly Good Foods South of the Border Mix: <https://is.gd/4JxKem>
- 12/6: White Castle Frozen Food Division Announces Voluntary Recall of a Limited Production of Frozen Sandwiches Sold in Select Grocery Outlets Due to Possible Presence of Listeria Monocytogenes: <https://is.gd/a8vLDb>
- 12/10: Bass Pro Recalls MR. STEAK™ Gas Grills Due to Fire Hazard: <https://is.gd/jyvwEt>
- 12/11: Profile Design Recalls Bicycle Carbon Aerobars Due to Crash Hazard: <https://is.gd/xgjb08>
- 12/11: Toyota C-HR and Corolla—Rear Seat Belt Assemblies May Not Lock As Intended: <https://is.gd/l4ET2f>
- 12/17: J. Crew Recalls Boys' Denim Pants Due to Aspiration and Choking Hazards: <https://is.gd/k0PH0K>
- 12/18: Hillsdale Furniture Recalls Five-Drawer Chests Due to Tip-Over and Entrapment Hazards: <https://is.gd/TOXyEu>
- 12/18: Cooper Tire—Tire Sidewall May Fail: <https://is.gd/SGC4DA>
- 12/19: BMC Recalls Bicycles and Framesets Due to Fall Hazard: <https://is.gd/8No45o>
- 12/19: BCI Burke Recalls Merge Playground Climbers Due to Entrapment Hazard: <https://is.gd/Ojqjsz>
- 12/19: Toysmith Recalls Light-Up Magic Wands Due to Choking and Ingestion Hazards: <https://is.gd/JT05r7>
- 12/20: Bosch Thermotechnology Recalls Buderus Boilers Due to Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Hazard: <https://is.gd/wEs4mi>
- 12/20: Hallmark Recalls Candles Due to Fire and Laceration Hazards: <https://is.gd/AkaRRA>
- 12/20: Allergy Alert Issued Due to Undeclared Milk or Coconut in 365 Everyday Value Dark Chocolate Sandwich Cremes: <https://is.gd/zRbeRU>
- 12/23: Bakkavor Foods USA, Inc. Issues Voluntary Recall of Trader Joe's Egg Salad and Potato Salad Because of Possible Health Risks: <https://is.gd/G5BskO>
- 12/23: Mavidon Issues Voluntary Worldwide Recall of all Manufactured Products Due to Burkholderia cepacia Contamination: <https://is.gd/ccAGAf>
- 12/31: FiveStar Gourmet Foods Voluntary Recalls Fresh Snack Products Due to Possible Health Risk: <https://is.gd/nq7Meb>
- 12/31: Dianne's Fine Desserts Issues Allergy Alert on Undeclared Peanut Allergen in Product Sienna Turtle Brownie Item Number 8495241115 Lot Code 19198: <https://is.gd/g7MZca>



*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.centershhs.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/>

Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC): <https://www.cpsc.gov/>

Electronic Library of Construction Occupational Safety & Health: <http://www.elcosh.org/index.php>

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): <http://www.epa.gov/>

Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Main Page: <http://www.fema.gov/>

FEMA “Be Ready” Website: <http://www.ready.gov/>

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration: <http://www.fmcsa.dot.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/>

National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA): <https://www.cdc.gov/nora/> **NEW**

Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Main Website: <https://www.osha.gov/>

OSHA Silica Fact Sheets: <https://www.osha.gov/pls/publications/publication.searchresults?pSearch=Controlling+Silica+Dust+in+Construction+&pSearch=>

OSHA Silica Frequently Asked Questions: [https://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/generalindustry\\_info\\_silica.html](https://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/generalindustry_info_silica.html) **NEW**

San Diego ASSP Website: <https://sandiego.assp.org/>

US Chemical Safety Board (CSB): <http://www.csb.gov/>