

American Society of Safety Engineers

Western PA Chapter



The President's Message

August 2007	
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Welcome to a new year for the Western Pennsylvania Chapter and the first issue of our monthly newsletter. I am pleased and honored to be serving as your President this year, but I would be remiss if I didn't also ask you to welcome and support the other members of the Executive Committee and Committee Chairs, whose names and assignments are listed within this newsletter. We are all ready to serve the membership of the Chapter and hope that you will take the time to give us your feedback, let us know of your concerns, tell us your ideas, and ask lots of questions.

We have a lot of great technical programs planned for the fall; please make sure to check out the listing in this issue and mark the dates in your calendar so you can plan to attend. We are also co-sponsoring the Shannon Safety Expo again this year (September 26th at the Hilton Garden

Inn at Southpointe) and have arranged for a great schedule of technical sessions. This event is free unless you want the 0.5 CEU's; in that case it costs a mere \$25.00, Reservations are required and must be in by September 14th, so don't get shut out. A copy of the registration flyer is included at the end of this newsletter.

One last reminder – our newsletter is posted on the website during the third week of each month and you will be informed of the posting via email. We continue to have problems with email messages but are working diligently to correct the problems on our side. You can help us by making sure that you notify the Society if your email address changes. Just call Customer Service at 847-699-2929 (8:30 - 5:00 CST) or email them at customerservice@asse.org. If you are talking with a colleague who is concerned about not receiving information, ask them to contact me and we can try to resolve the problem.

Keeping it Safe!,

Pam Ferrante, CSP, CHMM
 Western PA President
pam@jcsafety.com
 412.414.4769

Chapter Events Calendar

September 13th – Thursday - 11:30 AM to 1:00 PM

We will be taking a tour of the CBS facility (home of local network affiliate KDKA) in Gateway Center downtown courtesy of fellow Chapter member Mark Perriello, Corporate Safety Director- CBS, Inc. The topic of the Tour and Presentation is Safety and Health in the Entertainment and Broadcast Media Industry. There is no cost for the tour. There is a 25 person limit for the tour. Following the tour we will convene for lunch at the Hilton Pittsburgh for the Salad/Sandwich buffet. The lunch will cost \$25.00. Please RSVP by Friday September 7, 2007, by calling the hotline at 412-281-1885 or email Kiena Nutter at disnutt@aol.com to RSVP.

September 26th – 7:30 AM to 4:00 PM

- Shannon Safety Expo – see the [brochure at the end](#) of the newsletter for more details and registration. If you can volunteer some time to help with the event, please let Pam Ferrante know. Also, a golf outing has been added to the Shannon Safety Expo on the afternoon before the event; Tuesday September 25th. This is your chance to play 18 holes at Southpointe Country Club with Shannon's distributor and vendor network. Maureen McMahon will be coordinating reservations for the outing. If you are interested in playing, contact her directly at 412.494.3153 x 15 or Maureen.McMahon@wausau.com. Don't worry about getting a foursome; we will pair you up with another group. You can also play golf even if you aren't able to join us at the Expo.

October 22nd – Time to be announced soon.

- Dinner meeting with our Student Chapter at IUP. We hope to make this an annual fall event. Join us as we hear from past Society President Sam Gualardo and Glenn Goss. The topic will be safety management and excellence in safety programs. More details to follow.

November – Date and Time to be announced soon.

- Speaker will be a representative from UPMC and the topic will be disaster preparedness planning. More details to follow.

Welcome to New Members – (This section will be to extend a welcome to new ASSE-WPA members. Information on new members should be sent to Carl Heinlein, Membership Chairperson.)

Editorial Note: The monthly newsletter will be published electronically – posted on the chapter website – during the third week of each month. Therefore, all material to be placed in the newsletter for the month needs to be in the email mailbox of this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net by the 15th of each month, if not earlier.

Thank you,
Wayne Vanderhoof, CSP, WSO-CSS

Government Affairs Update

ASSE Backs TB Fit Testing in Appropriations Action

An amendment to the Labor-Health and Human Services appropriations bill was proposed in the US House of Representatives that would have continued the current ban against OSHA's enforcement of the annual fit testing provision of its respirator standard with regard to protecting workers from risks related to tuberculosis (TB). ASSE wrote a letter opposing the amendment. Due to the wide opposition that arose, it is being reported that the amendment was not introduced.

NIOSH Budget Cut Voted Down

The US House of Representatives voted against an amendment that would have cut more than 20 percent of NIOSH's budget. The amendment sought to restrict the National Institute of Health's contribution to the Evaluation Fund of the Public Health Service Act. This fund is the entire source of funding for the NIOSH NORA research program. The FY 2008 appropriations bill proposes to fund NIOSH NORA at \$88.365 million.

OSHA Withdraws Explosives Rulemaking

On April 13, 2007, OSHA published a proposed rule entitled Explosives with a comment period that ended July 12, 2007. On July 9, 2007, the comment period was extended to September 10, 2007. Now, OSHA has closed the comment period effective July 17, 2007. OSHA states that it intends to re-propose the Explosives rulemaking at a later date in order to clarify the intent of the rulemaking. The National Rifle Association had expressed concern over provisions of the rulemaking. The NRA's announcement of this decision can be found at <http://www.nraila.org/Legislation/Read.aspx?ID=3162>
<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/01jan20071800/edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/E7-13925.htm>

ASSE on OSHA Proposal on Voluntary Consensus Standards and PPE

ASSE commended OSHA for its thoughtful effort to establish a better way for its standards to reflect the latest safety and health voluntary consensus standards in the May 17, 2007 notice of advanced rulemaking concerning personal protective equipment (PPE) sections of its general industry, shipyard employment, longshoring and marine terminals standards with regard to the use of eye and face protective devices, and head and foot protection. *Updating OSHA Standards Based on National Consensus Standards; Personal Protective Equipment* (95 Fed. Reg. 27771). ASSE is concerned that the overall approach reflected in the notice, though well-meaning, does not guarantee that the voluntary consensus standards included in a Non-Mandatory Appendix will be quality standards widely accepted by industry and the safety and health community. Without such a guarantee, OSHA's approach could result in the recognition by OSHA of standards offered by standards development organizations (SDOs) that are not respected or widely recognized. If this approach is to work, subsequent rulemaking will need to include criteria that address specifically the qualifications of SDOs and acceptable voluntary consensus coordinating equal to organizations like the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and ASTM International. ASSE is also concerned that the issue of copyright is not addressed in this proposal. ASSE urged OSHA to state explicitly that a voluntary standard's inclusion in a Non-Mandatory Appendix does not create a right to the contents of that standard. ASSE also noted that the Non-Mandatory Appendix listed standards that are no longer current and suggested a better approach would be simply to list the appropriate standards and state that the most current version would apply.

For more information, follow the [link to Government Affairs Updates](#) information.

Local News and Events

ASSE Membership Changes

As a member of ASSE you should be aware of changes in membership criteria that were approved by the House of Delegates at the Society's Annual PDC in Orlando this summer. The changes affect the requirements for the various membership status and categories, specifically what is required to become a Professional member of the Society. Those who are already Professional members will not be affected, but it is important to note that there is a one-year grace period currently in place until July 2008, to obtain Professional membership status under the old criteria. Once the grace period closes, you will need to abide by the new criteria. For information on the changes follow the links below:

Link to *Society Update* which describes the changes and new criteria in detail -

http://www.asse.org/societyupdate/0708_HOD_Votes.php

Link to reclassify your membership status during the grace period -

<http://www.asse.org/cartpage.php?link=additem&PID=MEMBERRECLASS&QTY>

Fatality Prevention in the Workplace

Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Safety Sciences Department, in cooperation with the Alcoa Foundation, will host a national two-day forum to study the nature and cause of fatalities in the workplace. The dates for the forum are November 1-2, 2007 at the Embassy Suites in Coraopolis, PA. This forum will seek to examine key aspects of the complex relationships on the safety and health management system as it relates to hazards that have the potential for fatal consequences. The forum will feature six presenters who are leading authorities on accident prevention, including well-known author Fred Manuele. For more information, contact Jolene Campbell at 724.357.3017 or by email at [jolene@iup.edu](mailto:jolenec@iup.edu). Information is also posted on the home page of IUP's website which is www.iup.edu/safetysciences.

Recertification Training For Workers' Comp. Safety Committees

Thursday, September 27, 2007 – Holiday Inn Harrisburg/Hershey

The Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry, in cooperation with the Pennsylvania Bureau of Workers' Compensation and the Bureau of PENNSAFE, present the annual training that is one of the main requirements of the state's Safety Committee Workers' Compensation Discount Program, **leading to a 5 percent discount on companies' workers' compensation insurance premiums.** PENNSAFE and the Pennsylvania Bureau of Workers' Compensation are the agencies responsible for training, re-certifying and enforcing certification and recertification of safety committees. The annual training consists of three subjects:

- Safety Committee Dynamics
- Hazard Identification
- Incident Investigation

This conference also offers the opportunity for those companies that are not currently certified to educate their safety committees, **become recognized as having met the required committee training**, and learn the next steps in the certification process. Because companies must bring multiple people, we're offering this training at a special conference rate.

For further information on this event, please contact Sue Smith at 717-720-5457 or ssmith@pachamber.org or at <http://www.pachamber.org/www/conferences/conference.php?ID=0718#description>

ANSI/ASSE Z359 Fall Protection Code Receives Final Approval

Many ASSE members have inquired about the status of the ANSI/ASSE Z359 Fall Arrest/Protection standards. The United States has not seen a revised or new general industry national consensus standard on fall arrest/protection since the publication of ANSI/ASSE Z359.1-1992 (R1999), but on April 23, 2007, the Z359.2 standard for managed fall protection received final ANSI approval. ASSE is now also pleased to announce that the Z359.0, Z359.1, Z359.3 and Z359.4 standards received final ANSI approval on May 31, 2007. These standards will be available soon and will have an effective date of October 15, 2007. For the full text of this article, [click here](#).

Membership Personal Notes (This section will be for ASSE-WPA membership personal notes such as recent promotions, recent certifications, personal achievements, links to articles and papers published by chapter members, etc. Please send related information to this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net .)

ASSE-WPA Executive Board

Title	Member Name	Email Address
President	Pam Ferrante	pam@jcsafety.com
Vice President	Thad Pajak	Tpajak@ffic.com
Secretary	Scott Keener	Scott.Keener@amwater.com
Treasurer	Doug Noble	dnoble@ehs.pitt.edu
Programs	Fran Sehn	fran.sehn@hrh.com
	Kim Morrison	morrisonkl@upmc.edu
Membership	Carl Heinlein	cwheinlein@acig.com
Foundations	Jim Feeny	birdog704@aol.com
PDC Delegates	Pam Ferrante	pam@jcsafety.com
	Rick Schultz	RSchultz@ehs.pitt.edu
	Del Kubeldis	delkubeldis@ergsafe.com
Honors & Awards	Pam Ferrante	pam@jcsafety.com
By-Laws	Rick Schultz	RSchultz@ehs.pitt.edu
Webmaster	Barry Gibson	barry.gibson@basf.com
Government Affairs	Steve Tima	stima@portauthority.org
Social	Josh Shaw	joshshaw@ergsafe.com
Arrangements	Kiena Nutter	disnutt@aol.com
Auditor	Bill Boots	Bill.Boots@hrh.com
Student Section	Nick Kachur	NKachur@nevchem.com
Council on Practices and Standards Representative	Carl Heinlein	cwheinlein@acig.com
Long-Range Planning	Rick Schultz	RSchultz@ehs.pitt.edu
Special Projects	Cathy Davis	cathdavis1@comcast.net
Newsletter Editor	Wayne Vanderhoof	wvanderhoof@netzero.net

Feel free to contact any member of the Executive Board with ideas, questions, comments and concerns.

Membership Information

In order to keep our member information up to date, please notify Carl Heinlein, Membership Chairperson at cwheinlein@acig.com with corrections, deletions, revisions, or additions to member contact information especially the email address. If you know of a member that is not receiving chapter information by email, please let Carl know. Also, questions about chapter membership should be directed to Carl.

Other Societies Event (In cooperation with other professional organizations, this section, at the discretion of the Executive Board, may be utilized to list events from other organizations such as, but not limited to, the ABIH, ACHMM, RIMS, CPCU, etc. Please send related information to this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net .)

General Safety Articles (This section will be for links to articles published by ASSE-WPA members. Please send related information to this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net .)

Job Openings – Local (This section will be to list any local job openings in the safety fields for membership. Please send related information to this editor at wvanderhoof@netzero.net .) Positions can be viewed on the chapter web site on the [Job Page](#).

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