

# American Society of Safety Engineers -Western PA Chapter



## The President's Message

<b>August 2009</b>	
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It is that time again – another quick Chapter Year has come and gone and we change Executive Board positions. A very hearty thanks is in order for Tad Pajak, President 2008-2009 Chapter Year, for an outstanding job leading the Western PA Chapter. Tad continues his dedication to the Chapter by staying on the Executive Board as a Delegate and of course Past President.

You will find a listing in this newsletter and on our website [www.wpa-asse.com](http://www.wpa-asse.com) of all members of the 2009-2010 Executive Board. The investment of their time, energy and commitment is greatly appreciated.

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I am very excited to facilitate our 2009-2010 Chapter Year and will begin by asking a few questions.....

On a professional level what really charges you up (no I am not leading into an Arc Flash discussion)? What is it about your daily work activities that really gives you energy and excites you? I look forward to exploring the answers with you.

With a membership count of nearly 700 there is no doubt that we have all types of answers out there. Much of what the Society and certainly your Executive Board strives for is to provide you the support and motivation to excel in your position at every stage of your career.

At the Chapter level we use the monthly chapter meetings as our primary opportunity to provide support. I can't predict your personal experience when you attend a Chapter meeting. I can tell you that it is our objective as Executive Board members to make sure we all do our part to add value and provide the opportunity, for all who attend, to walk away with something good.

I invite you to be a part of a great group of people who happen to be Safety Health and Environmental professionals. Take some time to stop in to a monthly Chapter meeting – the topic may refresh ideas for you and the experience just might be fulfilling in many other ways. You won't know until you try..... We look forward to an exciting year.

Be proud my fellow Safety Health and Environmental professionals.

Kim Morrison, President, WPA - ASSE  
[morrisonkl@upmc.edu](mailto:morrisonkl@upmc.edu)  
42-473-7432

### **REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE from the Chapter President**

Did you know that the Western Pennsylvania Chapter includes members from 13 counties? That fact surprises some people.

The help we need is this: Please look at the following counties and email me with the name of an eating establishment, educational facility, etc. where we can hold a meet and greet in that county. We want to get out to each county this Chapter Year – so please consider helping us out.

**Armstrong, Beaver, Clearfield, Cambria, Fayette, Greene, Lawrence, Somerset, Westmoreland, Washington**

(Allegheny, Butler, Indiana round out the thirteen but we meet in these counties at least once per year or more)

Please send email to [morrisonkl@upmc.edu](mailto:morrisonkl@upmc.edu). THANK YOU.

### **Thank You for the Golf Outing!**

The Chapter had its first - in a long time - golf outing on June 12, 2009. We thank the 45 ASSE members, friends, family and associates who had a great time at Hillcrest Country Club. We will be making this an annual event so if you have any ideas or feedback for the outing in 2010 please let us know.

### **IUP ASSE Student Chapter**

Congratulations to the IUP ASSE Student Chapter for winning the "Volunteer Service of the Year Outstanding Organization" award for 2008-2009! This award comes from the IUP Office of Service Learning. This student chapter is under the direction of Dr. Tracey Cekada, CSP, CHSP, Assistant Professor, Indiana University of PA, Safety Sciences Department.

## **Chapter Events Calendar**

### **September 15, 2009 5:00 pm**

Are you responsible for workers' compensation claims management or know someone who is – then the September meeting is for you. Our topic is Return to Work – What you Don't Know, Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Greentree Holiday Inn. This is a dinner meeting beginning with a 5:00pm meet and greet. Please call the ASSE-WPA hotline to register at 412-281-1885. The cost is \$25.00. Guests of our members are always welcome.

### **Future Program Ideas**

It's not too soon to begin thinking about topics for future programs, so please give it some thought and let us know what you are interested in hearing about or provide us with ideas of speakers you have heard that you think would make for a good monthly meeting.

### **Student Sponsors**

Students enrolled in Safety Sciences are the future of our profession. The Executive Committee and Chairs are continuing the effort to develop linkages and outreach with the two Student Sections at IUP and Slippery Rock. The current policy is to allow Student Section members from either school attend our monthly technical meetings for free. The chapter absorbs this cost in our operating budget. You can help the chapter by sponsoring a student or two and pay their meeting fee. If you or your company would be willing to do this, please get in touch with Nick Kachur at [nkachur@nevchem.com](mailto:nkachur@nevchem.com).

## 2009-2010 WPA Chapter Officers and Delegates

The official results of the elections for Officers and Delegates for the Chapter are listed below:

President: Kim Morrison

Vice President: Aaron Cameron

Secretary: Gary Gillespie

Treasurer: Doug Noble

Delegate: Pam Ferrante

Delegate: Fran Sehn

Delegate: Thad Pajak

Please welcome them and offer your assistance in any way that you can. If you are unsure of the many opportunities to assist the Officers and this Chapter, feel free to contact them.

## Government Affairs Update

Contributed by Stive Tima

### **PA Senate Bill 821 – Workers’ Compensation Safety Committees**

This legislation was introduced on April 27, 2009 and is currently pending with the Senate Labor and Industry Committee. It amends the Public School Code of 1949. This bill requires each school district to have and maintain a certified safety committee for the purpose of the Workers' Compensation Act.

### **PA House Bill 1566 – Public Employee Occupational Health and Safety**

This legislation was introduced on May 29, 2009 and is currently pending in the House Committee on Labor Relations.

### **ASSE Nominates Paul Adams for NACOSH**

ASSE has nominated Paul S. Adams, PhD, CSP, PE, CPE, to serve on OSHA’s National Advisory Committee on Occupational Safety and Health (NACOSH). Paul Adams career spans both industry and academics with particular experience in ergonomics, engineering and the evaluation of safety and health programs. He is also the former President and a current Director on the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP).

### **New Head of MSHA**

The White House has nominated Joseph A. Main to serve as assistant secretary of labor in charge of the Mine Safety and Health Administration. Joseph A. (Joe) Main, has vast mine health safety experience in the U.S. and is internationally recognized as an expert in mining health issues. A Greene County Pennsylvania native, now residing in Spotsylvania, VA, Mr. Main began working in coal mines in 1967 and quickly became an advocate for miners’ safety as a union safety committeeman as well as serving in various local union positions in the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). He has considerable hands on experience inspecting and evaluating mining conditions, plans and systems. Mr. Main currently works as a self-employed mine safety consultant. His recent work has focused on international mine safety, research and analysis projects on preventing mining accidents, and development of training programs and facilities to prepare miners and emergency responders for mine emergencies. He was born in Waynesburg, PA, and is a graduate of the National Mine Health and Safety Academy.

### **MSHA Final Rule on Mine Rescue Teams**

MSHA has published a final rule revising MSHA's standards for mine rescue teams for underground coal mines. On February 10, 2009, the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (Court) held that MSHA's Mine Rescue Teams rule, issued on February 8, 2008, was inconsistent with Section 4 of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act. This final rule revises those portions of the existing rule in accordance with the MINER Act, consistent with the Court's decision. The effective date was June 17, 2009.

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14128.htm>

### **HHS To Fund \$350 Million for State Flu Preparedness**

Obama Administration Calls on Nation to Begin Planning and Preparing for Fall Flu Season & the New H1N1 Virus Administration Leaders Say that Flu Preparedness is a “Shared Responsibility” Announce New Funding for States and New Nation-Wide Flu Prevention Campaign at flu.gov. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services will make available preparedness grants worth a total of \$350 million. These grants were funded by Congress in the latest supplemental appropriations bill and they will give state and local public health offices and health care systems valuable resources to step up their preparedness efforts. The federal government will centralize communications about H1N1 and seasonal flu on the federal government’s new Web site [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov). This one-stop comprehensive site brings together flu-related information from across HHS and other federal agencies. The expanded site builds on the pandemic planning information long presented on [www.pandemicflu.gov](http://www.pandemicflu.gov), and incorporates information about the novel H1N1 flu as well as the seasonal flu.

### **CDC Releases Pandemic H1N1 Vaccine Guidance**

CDC has released H1N1 Vaccine Guidance for the purpose of describing planning scenarios for state and local governments to target high-priority populations for vaccination in order to reduce the health and societal impact of the novel H1N1 influenza virus. The guidance can be found at CDC Guidance (<http://www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/vaccination/stateandlocal/planning.htm?breaknews>).

### **OSHA Withdraws Abbreviated Bitrex[supreg] Qualitative Fit-Testing Protocol**

OSHA has announced that, after thoroughly reviewing comments and other information available in the record for the proposed rulemaking, OSHA decided that the abbreviated Bitrex [supreg] qualitative fit test is not sufficiently accurate to include among the qualitative fits tests listed in Part II of Appendix A of its Respiratory Protection Standard. Therefore, OSHA is withdrawing the proposed rule without prejudice, and is inviting resubmission of the proposed fit test after conducting further research to improve the accuracy of the protocol. Effective June 25, 2009, the proposed rule published December 26, 2007 (72 FR 72971) is withdrawn. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14979.htm>

### **NIOSH Announces Public Meeting to Discuss Respirator Standard Development**

NIOSH has announced a public meeting to discuss current respirator standards development projects for Supplied Air Respirators (SAR); Air Fed Ensembles; and Total Inward Leakage (TIL) for respirators other than filtering facepieces and halfmasks. There will be an opportunity for discussion following NIOSH's presentations and an accompanying poster session. The meeting will be held 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., September 17, 2009, at the Hyatt Regency Pittsburgh International Airport, 1111 Airport Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA 15231. Requests to make presentations at the public meeting may be e-mailed to [niocindocket@cdc.gov](mailto:niocindocket@cdc.gov). <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14085.htm>

### **Aging Workforce**

The four generations that currently make up the U.S. workforce are: The World War II Generation (up to 1945); The Baby Boomers (1946-1964); Gen X (1965-1980); and Gen Y (1980-2000). Each group provides it different responses to workplace dynamics and challenges to employers, which are described at length in a pamphlet available at the AARP website

([http://www.aarp.org/money/work/employer\\_resource\\_ctr/articles/workforce\\_publications\\_for\\_employers.html](http://www.aarp.org/money/work/employer_resource_ctr/articles/workforce_publications_for_employers.html) , click on “Leading a Multigenerational Workforce” on the left for the PDF version).

### **OSHA Seeks Paperwork Comments on HexChrome Standard**

OSHA seeks comments on its proposal to extend OMB approval of the information collection requirements contained in the Hexavalent Chromium (VI) (29 CFR 1910.1026) Standard, and on a potential change to burden hour and cost estimates to the Standard's employee exposure notification requirement in response to a court remand. Comments are due August 21, 2009. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14578.htm>

### **PHMSA Proposed Rule on Pipeline/Liquefied Natural Gas Reporting Requirements**

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking to revise its Pipeline Safety Regulations impacting data collection from operators of natural gas pipelines, hazardous liquid pipelines, and liquefied natural gas facilities. Comments are due August 31, 2009.

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-15532.htm>

### **EPA Final Rule on Aluminum/Copper/Nonferrous Foundry Emission Standards**

EPA has revised its area source category list by changing the name of the "Secondary Aluminum Production" category to "Aluminum Foundries" and the "Nonferrous Foundries, not elsewhere classified (nec)" category to "Other Nonferrous Foundries." EPA also issued final national emission standards for the Aluminum Foundries, Copper Foundries, and Other Nonferrous Foundries area source categories. EPA states that these final emission standards for new and existing sources reflect its determination regarding the generally available control technologies or management practices (GACT) for each of the three area source categories. The final rule became effective June 25, 2009. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14613.htm>

### **PHMSA Withdraws Increase in Registration Fees**

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) has withdrawn notice of proposed rulemaking published May 5, 2008 (73 FR 24519) because its revised estimates of unexpended balances from previous years and revenues expected to be generated at current registration fee levels indicate that an increase in registration fees is not necessary to fund the national Hazardous Materials Emergency Preparedness (HMEP) grants program at its authorized level of \$28,318,000 for Fiscal Year 2009. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14569.htm>

### **EPA Changes Dates for SPCC Plans**

By final rule, EPA has amended the dates by which facilities must prepare or amend their Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) Plans, and implement those Plans to November 10, 2010. EPA also established November 10, 2010 as the date for farms to prepare or amend their Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plans (SPCC Plans), and implement those Plans. This final rule became effective June 19, 2009. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14247.htm>

### **EPA on Volatile Organic Compound Emission Standards for Aerosol Coatings**

EPA has published a final rule amending the National Volatile Organic Compound Emission Standards for Aerosol Coatings that establishes national reactivity-based emission standards for the aerosol coatings category (aerosol spray paints) under section 183(e) of the Clean Air Act. These amendments add compounds and associated reactivity factors to Table 2--Reactivity Factors based on petitions EPA received from regulated entities and clarify which volatile organic compounds are to be quantified in compliance determinations. The final rule also makes certain changes related to the notice required for a company to certify that it will assume the responsibility for compliance with recordkeeping and reporting requirements for a regulated entity and addresses which party is liable following such a certification. Minor revisions and corrections to the aerosol coatings reactivity rule are also made and the deadline for submitting the initial notifications required in one section of the aerosol coatings regulations is extended for 30 days until July 31, 2009. The final rule became effective June 23, 2009. <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14580.htm>

### **From the Underbelly of Green Energy**

From Boston Herald at <http://www.bostonherald.com/business/general/>  
Toxic waste casts cloud on Massachusetts solar co. - By Christine McConville  
Friday, July 3, 2009

Evergreen Solar Inc., one of Massachusetts' rising green energy stars, is on its way to becoming one of the state's top producers of hazardous waste. The company generated more than a million pounds of hazardous waste last year, according to a report filed this week with the state Department of Environmental Protection, even though its new \$450 million factory in Devens wasn't operating at full capacity.

"It's the other side of this whole clean energy push," said Liz Harriman, deputy director of the Massachusetts Toxics Use Reduction Institute at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell.

### **Work Zone Safety Clearinghouse Launches New International Section**

The National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse has launched a multilingual section of its website to provide road construction zone safety resources in Arabic, Chinese, French, Japanese, Spanish and Russian to supplement its extensive English language materials. Information can be found at Work Zone Safety Foreign Language Section ([http://www.workzonesafety.org/foreign\\_language\\_materials](http://www.workzonesafety.org/foreign_language_materials))

# Local News and Events

This section is for news and events of local importance and should be forwarded to the newsletter editor for inclusion.

# Welcome to New Members

This section is for welcoming new ASSE-WPA members. Information on new members should be sent to Carl Heinlein, Membership Chairperson.

# Membership Personal Notes

This section is for ASSE-WPA membership personal notes such as recent promotions, recent certifications, personal achievements, links to articles and papers published by chapter members, etc.

## Membership Information

In order to keep our member information up to date, please notify Carl Heinlein, Membership Chairperson at [cwheinlein@acig.com](mailto: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.

National membership questions can be answered, in general, on the ASSE website at <http://www.asse.org/membership/>.

# ASSE-WPA Executive Board

Title	Member Name	Email Address
President	Kim Morrison,	<a href="mailto:morrisonkl@upmc.com">morrisonkl@upmc.com</a>
Vice President	Aaron Cameron	<a href="mailto:acameron@harsco.com">acameron@harsco.com</a>
Treasurer	Doug Noble	<a href="mailto:dnoble@ehs.pitt.edu">dnoble@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
Secretary	Gary Gillespie	<a href="mailto:ggillespie@harleysvillegroup.com">ggillespie@harleysvillegroup.com</a>
Programs	Gene Mattis	<a href="mailto:gene_mattis@pmagroup.com">gene_mattis@pmagroup.com</a>
Arrangements	Mark Barch	<a href="mailto:mbarch@ffic.com">mbarch@ffic.com</a>
Membership	Carl Heinlein	<a href="mailto:cwheinlein@acig.com">cwheinlein@acig.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Wayne Vanderhoof	<a href="mailto:wayne@rjsafety.com">wayne@rjsafety.com</a>
Webmaster	Pam Ferrante	<a href="mailto:pam@jcsafety.com">pam@jcsafety.com</a>
Government Affairs	Steve Tima	<a href="mailto:stima@portauthority.org">stima@portauthority.org</a>
Student Section	Nick Kachur	<a href="mailto:nkachur@nevchem.com">nkachur@nevchem.com</a>
Honors and Awards	Scott Keener	<a href="mailto:skeener@pawc.com">skeener@pawc.com</a>
Special Projects	Fran Sehn	<a href="mailto:fran.sehn@willis.com">fran.sehn@willis.com</a>
Special Projects	Cathy Davis	<a href="mailto:cathdavis1@comcast.net">cathdavis1@comcast.net</a>
Long Range Planning	Rick Schultz	<a href="mailto:rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu">rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
Public Affairs	Nick Kuntz	<a href="mailto:nkuntz@hdhgroup.com">nkuntz@hdhgroup.com</a>
Auditor	Bill Boots	<a href="mailto:bill.boots@hrh.com">bill.boots@hrh.com</a>
By-Laws	Rick Schultz	<a href="mailto:rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu">rschultz@ehs.pitt.edu</a>
Foundations	Thad Pajak	<a href="mailto:tpajak@ffic.com">tpajak@ffic.com</a>
PDC Delegate	Fran Sehn	<a href="mailto:fran.sehn@hrh.com">fran.sehn@hrh.com</a>
PDC Delegate	Pam Ferrante	<a href="mailto:pam@jcsafety.com">pam@jcsafety.com</a>
PDC Delegate	Thad Pajak	<a href="mailto:tpajak@ffic.com">tpajak@ffic.com</a>
Council on Practices and Standards Representative	Carl Heinlein	<a href="mailto:cwheinlein@acig.com">cwheinlein@acig.com</a>
Social (Holiday Party)	Thad Pajak	<a href="mailto:tpajak@ffic.com">tpajak@ffic.com</a>

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

## General Safety Articles

This section is for links to articles published by ASSE-WPA members.

## Other Societies Event

### **October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009 - Atlantic Safety and Health Alliance (MASHA)**

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. The Mid Atlantic Safety and Health Alliance (MASHA) is having their kick off safety conference on Thursday October 1<sup>st</sup> at the Regional Learning Alliance Center, 850 Cranberry Woods Drive, Cranberry Township, PA 16066. A conference brochure is attached or you can access [www.mashainc.com](http://www.mashainc.com) for more information.

## Job Openings – Local

Current job openings can be sent to Pam Ferrante to post on the chapter website. **Current job openings** can be viewed on the chapter web site on the [Job Page](#).

**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 [wayne@rjrsafety.com](mailto:wayne@rjrsafety.com) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month, if not earlier.

Thank you,

Wayne Vanderhoof, CSP