

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS



ASSE



AUGUSTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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We Need You!!!!

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January 13th Meeting Onboarding and 4SPS

Our January meeting is going to be special. Our guest speaker is William (Bill) Fulcher, Area Director – Atlanta East Area Office. Please take advantage of this rare opportunity to sit with a leader from OSHA and learn his concerns, ask specific questions and hear more about OSHA's priorities. Invite leaders from your organization to attend with you. You don't want to miss this chance to sit with an accomplished safety professional and hear his perspective on a department that effects all of our organizations in a profound way.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

William C. Fulcher (Bill) started with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in 1989 at the Atlanta East Area Office as a safety specialist and performed more than 600 enforcement inspections before being promoted to a Regional Safety Manager position in 1997. In 2001, he was designated as the Team Leader for the Office of Enforcement Programs at the Atlanta Regional Office for OSHA.

Bill has received numerous awards, including seven Assistant Secretary Team Impact Awards related to government re-invention during the late 1990's and special investigations that resulted in significant enforcement actions. He has been recognized fourteen times by the Secretary of Labor for Exceptional Achievement Awards involving activities with industry partnerships, re-invention activities and another significant enforcement cases. Bill received his Certified Safety and Health Manager designation in 2003.

Tuesday, January 13th, 2015

5:30pm-7:30pm

MANDATORY RSVP at the website www.asseaugusta.org
or call the ASSE Voicemail at 706-790-6551 x2773 (ASSE)

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IH Corner Old MSDSs

Are you updating your HazComm binders with the new SDS's coming in from the manufacturers? You should be. Most manufacturers have made the change to new Globally Harmonized SDS format. You should be getting them with your products as they are received. If not, you should start asking for them and facilitate the transition.

What are you doing with the old ones? OSHA requires that old MSDSs (and now SDSs) be kept for 30 years. What?!?! At the rate some of my MSDS are revised I will fill many file cabinets by the time that 30 years gets here. But it's true.

A letter of interpretation regarding the Employee Access to Exposure Records (29 CFR 1910.1020) standard states the MSDS and SDS documents are considered employee exposure records and must be treated the same as sampling data and medical records.

The letter stipulates that in lieu of keeping the MSDs documents, you can use a chemical inventory or any other record which reveals where and when used and the identity (e.g., chemical, common, or trade name) of a toxic substance or harmful physical agent (ingredients).

Why is this important? A plaintiff lawyer will find a similarly named product with high levels of the chemicals he is alleging as "proof" of the exposure. You have to defend it.

Need a good IH? Give me a call, I know a few. Matthew Parker, MS, CIH, CSP
Cardno
706-722-3310

President's Message

Happy New Year! If you're like me, the new year hit the ground running. Protecting our organizations from loss never seems to take a rest! In fact, It seems as if the moment we relax, risk sneaks its way back into the forefront threatening to disrupt, discourage and even injure. We've got to constantly be on guard and hold our ground. That said, leading the charge for safety is not just up to the HSE Professional. No way! To keep loss at bay it's all hands on deck. Everyone in the organization has a part in risk management. What do you do in your organization to rally the troops and encourage employee involvement? Is HSE improvement a performance standard at your company? Is this sort of improvement and success tactfully and effectively rewarded? Please join us for our next meeting on January 13th and share your experience. We start the meeting at 5 pm. Good discussion, food and education is a given and with your participation added to the gathering, we'll all benefit. I look forward to seeing you there!

Rob Loose



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Quote of the Month

The man who goes each day to village to hear the latest news has not heard from himself in a long time.
Henry David Thoreau

Call for Speakers

We are seeking nominations, referrals, suggestions, ideas, recommendations, proposals, hints, etc for speakers for the ASSE meetings. Please contact any of the board members with your thoughts!!!

ASSE AUGUSTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Newsletter Stuff

If you are not receiving this from matthew.parker@cardno.com please send an email to him to request it.

Membership Stuff

Ready to join? Don't know how? You can apply online:
<http://www.asse.org/membership/becomeamember.php>

Next Meetings

February 10, 2015 Topic TBD
March 9, 2015 Topic TBD

New OSHA Reporting Requirements Now In Effect

As 2015 begins, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is sharpening its emphasis on inspecting and citing employers who violate its recordkeeping standard. This takes on greater importance because of the changes and new reporting requirements that became effective on January 1, 2015.

Employers will now be required to report all work-related fatalities within 8 hours and all in-patient hospitalizations, amputations, and losses of an eye within 24 hours of finding out about the incident.

Employers have three options for reporting these severe incidents to OSHA. They can call their nearest area office during normal business hours, call the 24-hour OSHA hotline at 1-800-321-OSHA (1-800-321-6742), or they will be able to report online at www.osha.gov/report_online.

A good Downward Trend

The Bureau of Labor Statistics published their annual report on workplace injuries and illnesses Dec. 4, which stated that three million workers sustained nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses in 2013.

Dr. David Michaels, assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health, issued a statement on the report. "We are encouraged that the rates continue to decline over the past few years, even during this period of healthy economic growth when we would expect the rate of injuries to rise. The decrease in the injury rate is a product of tireless work by those employers, unions, worker advocates and occupational safety and health professionals all coupled with the efforts of federal and state government organizations that make worker safety and health a high priority each and every day."

"We cannot ignore those three million workers. The severity of their injuries and illnesses varies widely; some are amputees, some suffer back injuries, while others have to struggle for each breath. Work injuries can instantly pull the rug out from a family striving for a good middle-class life," Michaels said.

The Georgia Conference

**The 2015 Georgia
Safety, Health, and Environmental Conference
will be held**

September 9-11, 2015

at the

**Savannah Marriott Riverfront
Savannah, Georgia.**

We will be adding information on attending, becoming a speaker, sponsor and/or an exhibitor to the official website in the near future.

**We had a great 2014 Conference
Join us in 2015!!**

OSHA in Georgia

Tenneco Automotive Operating Co. Inc., doing business as Tenneco, was cited by OSHA for 27 safety and health violations following an inspection at its Hartwell, Ga., plant. Elite Logistic Service Inc., a staffing agency that provided temporary employees to Tenneco at the Hartwell plant, was also cited for one serious safety violation. OSHA initiated the inspection after receiving a complaint alleging improper material handling and machine guarding hazards. Proposed penalties total \$342,250. "The high number of repeat violations of the same or similar hazards demonstrates that this employer is not concerned with protecting its permanent or temporary employees from occupational dangers," said Bill Fulcher, director of OSHA's Atlanta-East Area Office. "

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Picture of the Month



**Dying to Try
Or Trying to Die**

REGION IV

Special Emphasis Programs

- Regional Emphasis Program - Lead
- Regional Emphasis Program - Silica
- Regional Emphasis Program (REP) -- Falls in Construction
- Regional Emphasis Program for Landscaping and Horticultural Services
- Regional Emphasis Program (REP) for Electrical Hazards
- Local Emphasis Program for Ship/Boat Building and Repair
- Regional Emphasis Programs for Noise Hazards
- Regional Emphasis Program addressing Sanitation and Clean-up operations in the NAICS Groups 311xxx & 3121xx
- Regional Emphasis Programs for Powered Industrial Truck
- Regional Emphasis Program for Safety Hazards in Auto Parts Industry – NAICS 3363XX (Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing)
- Local Emphasis Program for Construction
- Regional Emphasis Program (REP) for Programmed Maritime Inspections
- Local Emphasis Program for Federal Agencies

You've Been Cited

See FDRsafety.com for full story

Despite your best efforts to operate a safe workplace, the bad news has arrived: OSHA has issued a citation to your company. If you are like many organizations, you may be uncertain what to do next. Here is a step-by-step guide.

- First, be aware you have 15 working days from receipt of a citation to begin formally contesting it. During those 15 days, you may go to your local OSHA office to request an informal settlement conference, during which you can often achieve a reduction in the assessed penalty or a modification of the abatement date, or even a withdrawal or reclassification of the alleged violation.
- Before engaging with OSHA, it is important to know where you stand:
 - Conduct your own fact-finding. Make sure the allegations made in the citation are correct.
 - Review the OSHA regulations cited in each violation. Check to see whether the facts of the situation correctly match the regulation alleged to have been violated.
 - Determine whether any employees were actually exposed to the alleged hazard. Without actual exposure, the alleged violation may not hold up.
 - Determine whether anyone in your company knew of the alleged hazard in advance or could have known through the use of reasonable diligence. If no one knew, OSHA may have a problem making the case to cite you for a serious violation.
- Review this information and determine whether you want to contest the alleged violation. Appeals begin by filing a "Notice of Contest" with the OSHA area director. You may appeal the violation itself, its classification, the proposed penalty or the abatement deadline, or all of these.
- If you start the formal review process, engage with the Solicitor's Office at the U.S. Department of Labor to see if you can arrive at a negotiated settlement. (Do you need an OSHA lawyer? Well, you can represent yourself, but if you do, you'll have a fool for a client.)



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Chapter Education Assistance

The Augusta Chapter Educational Assistance Program provides money to individual members for educational assistance in the fields of environmental, safety or health. The money must be used for training, education or certification in these fields. The Chapter will issue annual awards to approved recipients in the amount of \$250 or \$500. The amount and approval will be determined by the Chapter Board of Directors. Any request must be accompanied by a complete and separate application questionnaire. Recipients must be an active member in good standing. Monies will be paid to the institution/organization providing the training or certification. The Application form is provided below

Request for Financial Award Questionnaire

By completing this questionnaire, I am applying for financial assistance, which may be awarded from the American society of Safety Engineers Augusta Chapter. I understand this award is to be in the amount of monies to be determined by the American society of Safety Engineers Augusta Chapter and will be donated once per year. Future awards will be considered by the American Society of Safety Engineers Augusta Chapter by separate applications.

Signature _____ Date _____

1. Are you an active member of the local ASSE & National ASSE? (*Attend a minimum of five (5) monthly meetings per year*)
2. Are you working in an Environmental, Safety & Health job at this time?
3. Are you pursuing certification or a degree in the Environmental, Safety & Health field?
4. What training/certification or degree are you pursuing?
5. Does your employer pay for any of your educational expenses? How much?
6. What is your current mailing address?

Home: _____ Business: _____

7. Please give a brief summary of your immediate and long term goals as related to the profession and professional development.

8. What institution/organization are you enrolled in for pursuing this certification or degree?
