

# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS



# ASSE



## AUGUSTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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### September 9th Meeting

## Eye Injuries and Safety in the Workplace

Dr. Joy Ellenberger is from Pittsburgh, PA. She received a BS in Biology from Salisbury University and then her optometry degree from Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, TN. Dr. Ellenberger joined practice with Dr. John W. L. Smith in 2011 and has made North Augusta her home. Dr. Ellenberger's and Dr. Smith have been very active in promoting eye safety in the CSRA for many years and they are currently involved with several safety departments at surrounding facilities. They are well experienced with the prevention and treatment of eye injuries.

## Tuesday, September 9th, 2014

**5:30pm-7:30pm**

**MANDATORY RSVP** at the website [www.asseaugusta.org](http://www.asseaugusta.org)  
or call the ASSE Voicemail at 706-790-6551 x2773 (ASSE)



# ASSE AUGUSTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

## IH Corner Worst is Best

An IH exposure assessment is the process used to evaluate a person's exposure to a chemical or physical agent. To measure a worker's actual exposure, a monitor would need to be placed in their breathing zone each day, something that is cost prohibitive and time consuming. In order to obtain a reasonable estimate of that exposure, IHs rely on representative sampling. Sometimes that consists of random sampling to get a bell curve of data from which to estimate exposures. But other times worst case sampling is performed to try and get sample data from the highest exposure potential tasks.

In worst case sampling, workers who are subjectively believed to have the highest exposures are non-randomly selected. If no worst sample exceeds the OEL, one can be subjectively satisfied (but not statistically confident) that the rest of the workers in the homogeneous exposure group are also below the OEL. Why is it not statistically confident? Because the data set was skewed by the subjective selection of the sample subjects. That's a point for the PhD's to argue, but this IH believes that worst case sampling provides you a reasonable assurance that you can identify the potential maximum value for a workplace exposure.

Now this also comes with a caution. When trying to capture the worst case value, you should not artificially increase production or chemical usage to force the number higher. You should not create a hazard in order to define one.

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

## President's Message

Bring on Autumn! Cooler weather, Halloween, Football, beautiful trees, Thanksgiving and ASSE gatherings are all seasonal elements that get me excited. Could there be a better time to be environmental, health and safety (EHS) professional? Not a chance! It seems so many people these days are focused on EHS excellence. Walk into any business and you'll see charts and graphs displayed on the wall illustrating EHS metrics. Folks, more and more people are taking an interest and realizing the value of EHS initiatives. The spot light is on and you are the star! Now more than ever you need to tap into your ASSE network. Join our meetings, participate and build your peer network. Who's got your back? Your local ASSE chapter, of course. We're all here to help one another.

Our first meeting on Tuesday, September 9th is just around the corner. Bring your boss, bring a friend or bring your boss's friend! It'll be great. I look forward to seeing you there.

Rob Loose



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## Quote of the Month

My philosophy of life is that if we make up our mind what we are going to make of our lives, then work hard toward that goal, we never lose - somehow we win out

Ronald Reagan

## 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

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## Newsletter Stuff

If you are not receiving this from [matthew.parker@cardno.com](mailto: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

October 14, 2014 Topic TBD  
November 11, 2014 Topic TBD

## OSHA Updates Their Training

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has revised the training program for OSHA Compliance Safety and Health Officers (CSHOs).

OSHA has added mandatory training in two phases. Phase 1 involves initial courses in which each CSHO will be required to complete a minimum of eight initial courses offered by the OSHA Training Institute (OTI) during the first three years of his/her career as a CSHO. Phase 2 would add technical courses, in which CSHOs must complete a minimum of six additional technical courses through year eight of their career.

## Buy Quiet

"Buy Quiet" is a prevention initiative launched by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to help companies buy, rent or design quieter machines and tools for their workplaces. Each year millions of U.S. workers are exposed to noise loud enough to be hazardous to their health. For more information about occupational noise hazards and hearing conservation programs, visit OSHA's safety and health topics page on noise.

## OSHA Seeks Comments

OSHA has announced it will extend the comment period on the proposed rule to improve tracking of workplace injuries and illnesses to Oct. 14, 2014. The [proposal](#), published on Nov. 8, 2013, would amend the agency's recordkeeping regulation to add requirements for the electronic submission of injury and illness information that employers are already required to keep.

OSHA is soliciting comments on whether to amend the proposed rule to: 1) require that employers inform their employees of their right to report injuries and illnesses; 2) more clearly communicate that any injury and illness reporting requirements established by the employer must be reasonable and not unduly burdensome; and 3) provide OSHA additional means to prohibit employers from retaliating against employees for reporting injuries and illnesses.

Individuals interested in submitting comments may do so electronically at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), the federal e-Rulemaking Portal.

## OSHA Cites Security Lapses

In two separate cases, OSHA cited New York medical care providers for failing to protect workers from workplace violence and assault. One case involved Corizon Health Inc., which provides medical, dental and psychiatric services to inmates at the Rikers Island correctional facility in New York City. A second case involved Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center in Brooklyn.

The agency's Manhattan Area Office initiated the Corizon inspection in response to a complaint. OSHA found that workplace violence incidents involving Corizon employees at Rikers increased from eight in 2011 to 39 in 2013, and six incidents occurred during the course of OSHA's investigation. These included threats, physical assault, a Corizon employee locked in a cell by an inmate and the circulation of a hit list of Corizon staffers targeted by inmates.

"Corizon failed to address the serious problem of assaults against its employees until OSHA began its inspection," said Kay Gee, OSHA's area director for Manhattan, Queens and Brooklyn. "Corizon needs to develop and implement an effective, targeted workplace violence prevention program that includes administrative and engineering control, as well as personal protective equipment and training, to reduce the risk of violence against its employees."

In a separate inspection, OSHA determined that employees at the Brookdale medical facility were also exposed to workplace violence hazards. The most serious incident was a Feb. 7 assault of a nurse who sustained severe brain injuries. Citations included a willful violation for failing to develop and implement adequate measures to reduce or eliminate the likelihood of physical violence and assaults against employees by patients

# ASSE AUGUSTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

## Picture of the Month



**Budget Short Fall**

## Altitude Sickness???

Attention pilots and flight attendants: for your safety, please fasten your seat belts, note the location of the aircraft's emergency exits — and be sure to apply plenty of sunscreen to reduce your risk of melanoma. When it comes to the risks of flying, skin cancer may not be the first health hazard that comes to mind. But a new study in JAMA Dermatology says that pilots are 2.22 times more likely than folks in the general population at large to be diagnosed with melanoma. For members of the cabin crew, the risk was 2.09 times greater.



## OSHA in Georgia

**Production company for "Midnight Rider" film cited for willful and serious safety violations following worker fatality and injuries** JESUP, Ga. – Sarah Jones, a 27-year-old camera assistant, was killed and eight other workers were injured while trying to escape an oncoming freight train during the filming of a scene on Feb. 20 for the movie "Midnight Rider," a biopic based on the life of musician Gregg Allman. Film Allman LLC of Pasadena, California, was cited by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration for one willful and one serious safety violation for exposing employees to struck-by and fall hazards.

OSHA initiated the inspection in response to the incident, which occurred during the filming of a scene on the tracks of the Doctortown train trestle in Georgia that spans the Altamaha River. While the crew was filming, a CSX Corp. train traveling on the tracks was observed heading toward them. Crew members immediately started exiting the tracks, trying to remove set pieces and get off the trestle. However, they were unable to outrun the oncoming train. Ms. Jones was killed and eight other crew members were injured by debris when the train hit a hospital bed being used as a set piece.

"Their failure to develop a safety plan to prevent such hazards, including obtaining permission from the rail owner to use the tracks for filming, led to the death of one crew member and injuries to eight other employees," said Kurt Petermeyer, OSHA's Regional Administrator for the Southeast.

A willful citation was issued for the employer's failure to provide safety measures to protect employees from moving trains. A willful violation is one committed with intentional knowing or voluntary disregard for the law's requirements, or with plain indifference to worker safety and health. The serious citation was issued for exposing workers to fall hazards while working on a train trestle that was not equipped with safety guardrails or other fall protection measures. A serious violation occurs when there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known.

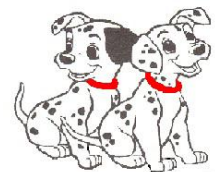
At the time of the incident, the company employed 20 workers on the set and approximately 74 workers nationwide. Proposed penalties total \$74,900.



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# ASSE AUGUSTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

## 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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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