

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS



ASSE



AUGUSTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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No December Meeting
Happy Holidays



**The Augusta Chapter of the ASSE
does not meet during the month of
December. We wish all of you a SAFE
and happy holiday season.**

ASSE AUGUSTA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

IH Corner To PNOR or not to PNOR

That is the question! OSHA sets enforceable permissible exposure limits (PELs) to protect workers against the health effects of exposure to hazardous substances. PELs are regulatory limits on the amount or concentration of a substance in the air. Most PELs are chemical or compound specific, but in the absence of a specific PEL the PNOR (Particulates Not Otherwise Regulated limit typically comes to play.

The PNOR limit is frequently referred to as the total (or respirable) dust standard and applies to all particulates/powders or mists that do not have their own PELs. But this may not always be a suitable standard. Some particulates have irritating or chemically active properties that may be hazardous at the PNOR levels.

I recently conducted a survey for a powder called sodium troclosene. This chemical also known as sodium dichloro-isocyanurate (say that three times fast) doesn't have a PEL or TLV. The MSDS says it is irritating to the eyes, nose, and throat and may cause burns to the lungs with resulting edema. So what's a safety manager to do?

You can enforce the PNOR standard, but this will likely result in impairment or injury. You can enforce an in house exposure limit based on some percentage of the allowable limit, but what percentage is safe. Or, you can use a similar compound as surrogate standard and use that PEL or TLV. The latter is probably the best answer, but that still leaves you open to litigation or citation...

Need a good industrial hygienist? Give me a call, I know a few.

Matthew Parker
ATC Associates
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President's Message

Happy Holidays to everyone! I hope that all of you get to take some time for some much needed rest and relaxation along with fun times with family and friends.

We will not be having a meeting in December due to the holiday season. If I do not get to see you between now and then, have a safe and Happy Holiday season. I look forward to seeing all of you back in January.

Our speaker for January is Shannon England who will be speaking to us about ergonomics. She has many years of industry experience and surely will be a joy to listen to.

One of our goals as a chapter this year is to increase membership and bring those who have not come for some time to the chapter meetings. If you know of someone is interested in joining our chapter please have them contact Jim Dickson or myself.

Maria Neis
Augusta ASSE Chapter President
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QUOTE OF THE MONTH:

Socrates: To do is to be
Shakespeare: To be is to do
Sinatra: Do Be Do Be Do

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TRI DATA ONLINE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has published preliminary data on the release of toxic chemicals occurring in the United States between Jan. 1 and Dec. 31, 2008. In its continued commitment to openness and transparency, EPA is releasing the raw data prior to the agency completing its analysis. The agency will publish the national analysis once it is completed. "EPA's job is to ensure an open and transparent flow of information between Americans and their government, and today's unprecedented step represents the agency's commitment to doing just that," said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. "While we are still analyzing this information, we hope this raw data will be reviewed and used responsibly by stakeholders and the public to help them make informed decisions."

The Toxics Release Inventory is a database that contains detailed information on nearly 650 chemicals and chemical categories that more than 23,000 industrial and other facilities manage through disposal or other releases, recycling, energy recovery, or treatment. The data are collected from industries including manufacturing, metal and coal mining, electric utilities, commercial hazardous waste treatment, and other industrial sectors. Facilities must report their data by July 1 of each year. http://www.epa.gov/TRI/tridata/tri08/national_analysis/index.htm

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TRANSPORTATION FATALITIES FALL IN 2008

Transportation fatalities in the United States decreased by almost 10 percent in 2008 from 2007, according to preliminary figures released by the National Transportation Safety Board. This marks the third consecutive year of decreasing transportation fatalities.

"While the statistics reveal an encouraging trend line, there is still much work to be done to ensure that fewer families each year will face losing a loved one in a transportation accident," said Deborah A.P. Hersman, NTSB chairman. "We at the NTSB will continue to press hard advocating improvements in all modes of transportation to keep this trend moving in the right direction, because every transportation fatality is an unnecessary tragedy."

The data indicate that total transportation fatalities in all modes fell by almost four thousand, from 43,384 in 2007 to 39,397 in 2008. Along with a significant reduction in highway fatalities, rail and pipeline deaths also decreased but fatalities in the aviation and marine modes ticked up slightly.

PCBS IN BUILDING MATERIALS

There has been some recent activities by the EPA to take another look at PCBs in Building Materials and how they "fit" under the existing Toxic Substances Control Act of 1976 (TSCA) regulatory process. Experience from around the country has shown that the TSCA regulations were not created with this situation in mind. Some consider the issue a "round peg in a square hole." The most aggressive enforcement efforts have been in the Northeastern US, where the focus has been about PCBs in caulk, rubberized paint and sealant materials in Office Buildings and schools. The fact of the matter is, from the early 1940s through mid 1970s, PCBs were used as common additives for water and chemical resistance. They were known for their durability and elasticity and commonly used in chlorinated paints on furnaces, industrial machinery and masonry walls. During that period, caulking could contain up to 10-20% of PCBs. Need more info, read the article at <http://www.atcassociates.com/atcweb/eblast/Solutions/SolutionsVol15October2009/IntrotoPCBsInCaulkOct09.html>



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Picture of the Month



Heat Stress Controls?

Upcoming Meetings

December 2009

No Meeting, Have A Great Holiday!

January 12, 2009

Ergonomic Incident Investigation

Shannon England

The Ergo Company

February 9, 2009

Topic/Speaker TBD

Write the date down now!

March 9, 2009

Topic/Speaker TBD

Write the date down now!

Newsletter Stuff:

If you are not receiving this newsletter directly from

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Membership Stuff

Ready to join? Don't know how?

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<http://www.asse.org/membership/becomeamember.php>

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EYE SAFETY

Did you know about 1,000 eye injuries occur each day? The estimated cost of these injuries is over \$300 million each year in lost production, and medical and workers compensation expenses, but there is no dollar amount that can reflect the pain and personal toll these injuries have on workers and families. Leading Causes of Workplace Eye Injuries

+ Not Wearing Eye Protection: 3 of 5 workers injured do not wear eye protection prior to the accident.

+ Wearing the Wrong Kind of Eye Protection for the Job: 40% of injured workers wear some form of eye protection before an injury; however, they wore glasses without side shields.

REAL ROI: ACCIDENT COST IS PROFIT LOST

Nothing is more important or more tragic than the human aspects of incidents: injury, pain, sorrow, anguish, loss of body parts or functions, occupational illness, disability, death, etc. The costs associated with these horrific events can be staggering. Even so, they tend to be only the tip of the iceberg. Studies have shown that more than 90% of accident costs can come from equipment damage, quality degradation, environmental damage, materials losses and rework, and performance interruption. Tens of thousands of dollars pour unchecked and uncontrolled through corporate budgets while many managers incorrectly accept these profit-robbers as a necessary cost of running the business. A competitive financial advantage exists for those who reject that idea and learn how to control accidental loss.

BCSP LAUNCHES NEW WEBSITE FEATURING SAFETY SALARY SEARCH

The newly redesigned website of the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP) went live on the World Wide Web in early August, 2009. Featuring easy navigation, expanded content and an interactive salary search engine, BCSP aims to extend the reach of all their certifications by serving a broad audience of professionals, paraprofessionals, students and the general public interested in safety certification and careers in safety, health and environment. [Read the Full Release](#) at

<http://www.bcsp.org/AnnouncementRetrieve.aspx?ID=31196>



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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?
