



# EXAMINER

A Publication of The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association

**Volume 23, Issue 1**

**March 2023**

Greetings and Happy New Year from the New Jersey Local Section of the AIHA (NJAIHA)! It's the 2023 Winter President's message, and it's an honor to volunteer for and support such a great community of EHS professionals!

This year NJAIHA hosted the in person **Northeast Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition (NEIHce)** on Friday December 2, 2022, at the Princeton Marriott at Forrestal, Princeton, NJ. This was the first in person NEIHce since 2019. It was a big success, with 144 attendees, 25 vendors, 6 corporate sponsors, and speakers on topics including Donna Heidel presenting on the National AIHA Update, Dr. Georgia Michlig on the Great Resignation and Workplace Mental Health, The Right Sensors Used Right 4.0 by Dr. Emanuele Cauda of NIOSH, Heat Stress by Dr. Margaret Morrissey, an AIHA Policies Update by Mark Ames, a Panel on Heat Stress in the Workplace with Dr. Mitchel Rosen from the Rutgers Center for Public Health Workforce Development moderating with 3 panelists, and last but not least IH in Construction by NJAIHA 's very own Craig Doolittle, PE, CSP (see related photos in this issue).

And if that wasn't enough to round out 2022, the day before the Conference (12/1) two virtual NJAIHA **Professional Development Courses (PDCs)** were held. These featured NJAIHA Summer Course Coordinator, Tom Burgess, CIH, CSP, MS, of T&M Associates, speaking on IH Aspects of Confined Space Entry, and Nancy Orr, CIH, CSP, FAIHA, speaking on Building an Ethical Foundation for Occupational Safety and Health Programs, a PDC that fulfills the BGC/ABIH ethics requirement for CIHs (see related photos this issue).

In January and February 2023, in anticipation of winter weather, we had 1 hour virtual zoom presentations. In January, Dr. Mike Jayjock of Jayjock Associates, LLC and the Lifeline Group gave an engaging speech on Human Health Risk Assessment concepts and processes, and in February Isabel DeOliveira, OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist from the Region 3 Philadelphia Office, provided a very informative 2023 OSHA Update with some really good questions from our attendees.

On March 16, 2023, we are having the **Tri-Sectional Mid-Atlantic Biological Safety Association, NJ American Society of Safety Professionals, and NJAIHA meeting** at the Stage House Tavern in Somerset, NJ. Please note this event is **NOT** at the Stage House Tavern in Mountainside, NJ where we were having the 2022 dinner meetings. We are looking forward to another great meeting with our MABSA and NJ ASSP colleagues and friends!

Our planned speakers are **Alex Ruiz**, MS, CIH, CSP, CHMM, CIT, SMS, CHST, Executive Director of Rutgers University Environmental, Health and Safety, who will present on the revised version of the ANSI/ASSP Z9.5 Laboratory Ventilation Standard that was published in 2022. This will include a review of what is changing and develop a new understanding about what the revised Standard will mean for laboratory organizations that apply it. And **Christine Seminerio**, CVT, B.S. who has done environmental, health and safety work in veterinary hospitals for years, and currently works for Red Bank Veterinary network of emergency animal hospitals, will talk about the many health, safety, and biological hazards veterinary workers encounter in these 24 hour emergency facilities.

Finally, to all our members. Please help NJAIHA remain strong and able to continue to provide the quality programs and services you have come to expect from your local section. **We are in search of a President-Elect for the 2023-2024 year.** This is a three (3) year opportunity that begins with one-year sequential terms as President-elect, President, and Past President. Elected members of the NJAIHA Executive Committee who are CIHs can receive 0.5 ABIH Continuing Maintenance (CM) points annually (the President receives 1.0 CM point) per year for their service. Elected officers must be and remain in good standing with NJAIHA and National AIHA to be considered for the position.

Information regarding the complete duties and responsibilities for this leadership position can be found on the NJAIHA website by scrolling down at the following link: <http://www.njaiha.org/about/officers-directors/>

If you are interested in running for this leadership position, please forward your name and a brief biography or resume to: [info@njaiha.org](mailto:info@njaiha.org) Don't worry, plenty of mentoring assistance will be provided by all current Executive Committee Members, a number of whom have served in this President-Elect position in previous years.

Thank you all !

Marc Vargas CIH MPH  
NJ AIHA President

[m.vargas.njaiha@gmail.com](mailto:m.vargas.njaiha@gmail.com)

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## Obtain Knowledge and CIH Maintenance Points through AIHA "eLearning"

NJAIHA has renewed its subscription for the AIHA eLearning program. If you are a NJAIHA member in good standing, you will have access to the designated AIHA eLearning programs at no charge to you.

**NEW!** All NJAIHA members in good standing who choose to participate in the eLearning Program have access to the live presentation as well as the recorded session at a later time.

The 2023 package will include 10 contact hours of live webinars or the associated archive recordings and 10 contact hours of selected sessions from the AIHceEXP OnDemand.

Updates for the NJAIHA roster are made quarterly. If NJAIHA members are not receiving correspondence from AIHA regarding eLearning offerings, please contact Ronnie Tutty ([rtutty@ptd.net](mailto:rtutty@ptd.net)) to verify that your correct email address and current membership status are in place. If you are not able to participate in a live webinar, the recordings will be made available online within a few days after the live webinar.

Go to <https://www.aiha.org/education/elearning>, and click "View Online Classroom" to get started.

## AIHA “eLearning” (cont’d)

Available webinars (as of 3/14/2023, access expires on 01/01/2024);

### Upcoming Live Webinars & Recordings

Please note that participation in live webinars is optional. Recordings from these live webinars will be made available in the online classroom 1-2 days after the event, and remain active for participants until the end of the program year.

- AIHA University Webinar: **AIHA and the IH/OEHS Community: Your Role in Consensus Standards** - Recording Available Now!
- AIHA University Webinar: **Workplace Violence Primer and Update for the IH** - Recording Available Now!
- AIHA University Webinar: **Research Laboratory Safety in the 21st Century** - Recording Available Now!
- AIHA University Webinar: **An IH and a Data Scientist Swap Perspectives on Big Data** (Tuesday, March 28, 2023, from 1:00-2:00 PM ET)
- AIHA University Webinar: **Strategies for Effective Risk Communication** (Tuesday, April 25, 2023, from 1:00-3:00 PM ET)
- AIHA University Webinar: **Beat the Heat! Considerations for Your Heat Stress Management Plan** (Thursday, May 11, 2023, from 1:00-2:00 PM ET)

### OnDemand Offerings

- **Perspectives and Challenges of IH Professionals Within the Circular Economy** (AIHce EXP 2022 OnDemand)
- **Research Roundup: Epidemiology** (AIHce EXP 2022 OnDemand)
- **Research Roundup: Hazard Recognition** (AIHce EXP 2022 OnDemand)
- **Why Don't We See the Things That Can Hurt Us?** (AIHce EXP 2022 OnDemand)

### Complimentary Course

- AIHA University Course: **Making Accurate Exposure Risk Decisions (9 Contact Hours)**



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***Protecting New Jersey Worker Health***

# Dual Concentration in Rutgers School of Public Health (SPH) Environmental and Occupational Health and Justice (EOHJ) Department, including Occupational Safety and Health MPH

The MPH concentration in occupational safety and health at Rutgers School of Public Health (SPH) has been approved. This is now one of two concentrations within the Department. Please note you can go online and see details at:

<http://sph.rutgers.edu/concentrations/Environmental-Occupational-Health/index.html>

A formal application to the program is done through SOPHAS.

<http://sph.rutgers.edu/admissions/index.html>

Please select “occupational health” (and not “environmental health”) among choices under Rutgers SPH, listed at: <https://programfinder.aspph.org/>

Admissions requirements, and deadlines for application submission, are posted at SOPHAS and on main Rutgers SPH website. Contacts: Dr. Derek Shendell (shendedg@sph.rutgers.edu) and Dr. Koshy Koshy ([koshyko@sph.rutgers.edu](mailto:koshyko@sph.rutgers.edu))

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## OUTREACH UPDATE

We are working hard to continue to build momentum in our Outreach Program and we need your help. We have developed materials, both written and visual, that can be used at conferences, job fairs, presentations at high schools and colleges, etc. and we are looking for NJAIHA members to share your passion and story as to why you became an industrial hygienist. If you weren't already planning to attend our monthly meeting next week, please come and join us so we can gather your testimony and a picture (with your approval of course).

Attracting students and young professionals to become industrial hygienists or pursue other disciplines in the environmental, health and safety field is a need recognized by national AIHA and your Executive Committee has taken this challenge on here in New Jersey. For this to be most successful, these students and young professionals will benefit immensely by being able to connect with you who are actively protecting the health of our workforce.

Please plan on joining us!

Now that Marc Vargas is President, NJAIHA is also seeking excellent candidates for a new Outreach Coordinator. Please address nominations or questions to [info@njaiha.org](mailto:info@njaiha.org).



# OUR LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS

## 2022-2023

<u>Office</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Email Address</u>
<i>President</i>	Marc Vargas		<a href="mailto:m.vargas.njaiha@gmail.com">m.vargas.njaiha@gmail.com</a>
<i>President Elect</i>	Richard A. Lynch	609-694-4539	<a href="mailto:richard@lynchcihiaq.com">richard@lynchcihiaq.com</a>
<i>Past President</i>	Brian Feury	973-560-4857	<a href="mailto:bfeury@langan.com">bfeury@langan.com</a>
<i>Treasurer</i>	Barbara Woodhull	732-489-2821	<a href="mailto:b2bwoodhull@gmail.com">b2bwoodhull@gmail.com</a>
<i>Secretary</i>	Jack Zybura	908-955-7763	<a href="mailto:jzybura@lsga.com">jzybura@lsga.com</a>
<i>Dir. Member Services</i>	Candice Kowalewski	732-695-4880	<a href="mailto:cakowalewski@msn.com">cakowalewski@msn.com</a>
<i>Dir. Administration</i>	Brian Feury	973-560-4857	<a href="mailto:bfeury@langan.com">bfeury@langan.com</a>
<i>Dir. Publications</i>	Vince Daliessio	856-656-2862	<a href="mailto:vdaliessio@pennoni.com">vdaliessio@pennoni.com</a>
<i>Executive Secretary</i>	Ronnie Tutty		<a href="mailto:njaiha@ptd.net">njaiha@ptd.net</a>
<i>Webmaster</i>	Jack Zybura	908-955-7763	<a href="mailto:jzybura@lsga.com">jzybura@lsga.com</a>
<i>Historian</i>	Tim Rice	908-782-2102	<a href="mailto:ricehss@comcast.net">ricehss@comcast.net</a>
<i>IH Course Director</i>	Tom Burgess	973-859-5322	<a href="mailto:tburgess@tandmassociates.com">tburgess@tandmassociates.com</a>
<i>Outreach Coordinator</i>	Daniel Preisler	973-714-9849	<a href="mailto:dpreisler@trcccompanies.com">dpreisler@trcccompanies.com</a>

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## NJAIHA - WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Member	Date Joined
William Hagan	1/2023
Christopher McCann	1/2023
Jennifer Shinn	1/2023
Stephanie Griffin	1/2023
J Horn	1/2023
Alexander Borisov	2/2023
Christopher Brennan	2/2023
Brian Cichetti	2/2023

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## ***Publications Director's Note***

### **Cochrane Stands By Conclusion - Masking Ineffective Against Respiratory Infection**

In January, the Cochrane Review published a large survey and meta-analysis of 78 Randomized Controlled Trials (RCT) and Cluster Randomized Controlled Trials, which concluded that the evidence for community masking for controlling the spread of respiratory viruses including SARS-CoV-2 was weak and inconclusive. Somewhat better evidence was shown for use of N95 FFP respirators in controlled settings.

<https://www.cochranelibrary.com/cdsr/doi/10.1002/14651858.CD006207.pub6/full>

Of course this conclusion was immediately attacked in the press, and pressure brought upon the lead author of the study to retract the conclusion, to which his response was to lean harder on how heterogeneous and relatively uncertain the studies were, but he did not retract the conclusion.

### **USEPA East Palestine OH Derailment Monitoring and Sampling Data Page**

The biggest news (up to yesterday) in the EHS space this year has been the Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine OH, just west of the Pennsylvania border. The political and news cycle circus around the derailment has been relentless, but staying focused on the response actions and exposure data is where we can be most helpful. The USEPA has added sampling data to the dashboard page, which can be found at this link.

<https://www.epa.gov/oh/east-palestine-ohio-train-derailment-emergency-response#Monitoring~:text=be%20in%20touch.-,On%20this%20page,-%3A>

### **USEPA Issues Proposed PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation**

Yesterday, the USEPA issued a proposed PFAS National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, and including proposed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) for PFOA and PFOS of 4 parts per trillion (4 ppt, = 4 ng/L), and a hazard index of 1.0 for PFNA, PFHxS, PFBS, and HFPO-DA (also known as Gen-X PFAs). Not only does this proposal likely mean that drinking water contamination by these “forever chemicals” will be regulated throughout the US, but the MCLs are significantly lower than previously established state MCLs, e.g., the NJDEP MCL of 14 ppt for PFOA and 13 ppt for PFOS and PFNA in drinking water systems and private wells.

Link is here. <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>

## ***We Need You!***

NJAIHA Members are encouraged to submit items for publication in “The Examiner”. Interesting items related to Industrial Hygiene, outreach activities, (non-proprietary) things from your work in the field, papers, presentations, and posters from conferences, everyday examples of the importance and power of a healthy environment, or anything you’re passionate about in our field that might be of interest to our members. Make it good, make it uplifting, make it valuable, and make my job easier!

**NJAIHA  
OFFICERS**

President  
Marc Vargas.

President-Elect  
Richard A. Lynch  
Lynch CIH & IAQ  
Consultants, LLC  
609-694-4539

Past-President  
Brian Feury  
Langan Engineering  
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609-462-2705

Director of  
Administration  
Brian Feury  
Langan Engineering  
and Environmental  
Services, Inc.  
973-560-4857

Director of  
Publications  
Vince Daliessio, Jr.  
Pennoni  
856-656-2862

Executive Secretary  
Ronnie Tutty

Historian  
Tim Rice  
908-782-2102

Webmaster  
Jack Zybura  
LSG&A  
908-955-7763

Outreach  
Coordinator  
Dan Preisler  
TRC Companies  
973-714-9849

The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



**March 2023 –In-Person Meeting**

**NJ American Society of Safety Professionals and NJAIHA Dinner Meeting**

**March 16, 2023**

**Registration Fee: \$45**

**PLACE: The Stage House Tavern, SOMERSET, NJ**

**1719 Amwell Road, Somerset, NJ 08873**

(Please note this event is **NOT** at the Stage House Tavern in Mountainside, NJ where we were having the 2022 dinner meetings. )



**AGENDA:**

**3:30 p.m.** AIHA, NJ Section, Inc. - Executive Committee Meeting

**5:00 p.m.** Registration/Networking/Cash Bar

**5:30 p.m.** Before-Dinner Speaker Session

**6:30 p.m.** Buffet Dinner

**7:15 p.m.** After-Dinner Speaker Session

**8:15 pm – 9 pm** – After session discussion, wrap- up, and conclusion.



## **AGENDA (Cont'd)**

### **5:30 p.m. Before-Dinner Speaker Session**

#### **Topic: “The Revised 2022 ANSI/ASSP Z9.5 Laboratory Ventilation Standard”**

**Speaker:** Alex Ruiz, MS, CIH, CSP, CHMM, CIT, SMS, CHST, Rutgers University

Alex has been a friend and fixture and colleague in our environmental, health and safety community for years. He has been with Rutgers University Environmental, Health and Safety since 2002 working as a health safety specialist, biosafety, safety officer, for 22 years. He now runs the program as Executive Director, where he oversees the operation and program development of health & safety programs, and staff, on multiple campuses & research stations at Rutgers, NJ's major State University. He also serves on EHS related state, regional, national and consensus standard committees, and has been adjunct professor in Safety Engineering at Rutgers for 10 years.

Alex will provide a review of what is changing and develop a new understanding about what the revised standard will mean for laboratory organizations that apply it. We will discuss the similarities and differences between other consensus standards.

### **7:15 p.m. After-Dinner Speaker Session:**

#### **Topic: “Occupational Health and Safety Hazards in Emergency Veterinary Hospitals”**

**Speaker:** Christine Seminerio, CVT, B.S., Veterinary Safety Consultants

Christine Seminerio is the CEO of Veterinary Safety Consultants (VSC), offering services including comprehensive safety programs, audits, inspections, and training. She has worked as a licensed veterinary nurse for more than 27 years. Throughout her entire career, Christine has been dedicated to safety and health in veterinary medicine and emergency and critical care, and served as the OSHA Compliance Director for multiple veterinary hospitals.

Prior to VSC, Christine served as the Director of Safety and Health for one of the largest veterinary corporations in the nation, Compassion First Pet Hospitals, formerly Red Bank Veterinary, managing 48 hospitals across the country. The creation and management of a Safety and Health system included: regulatory compliance, new acquisitions, audits, medical surveillance programs, hazardous materials, industrial hygiene, radiation safety, and ergonomics. Christine has additional education and experience in safety related areas including disaster preparedness and response,



infectious disease management, and workplace injury. She has worked closely with many regulatory agencies including OSHA, DEA, DEP, and the NRC, and have participated on state DEP boards for the creation of veterinary radiology regulations. Her clinical experience and management skills combined with the responsibility of regulatory compliance has given her a distinct perspective on how to apply regulations and implement safety in the veterinary profession.

Christine has a passion for safety with veterinary workers and is dedicated to promoting a positive safety culture in the veterinary industry. She has also published safety newsletters, and has given training and lectures across the country, and has also taught a college level certification course. She has been honored with induction to the New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association Hall of Fame twice. The first honor for running a co-located emergency shelter for owners and their pets during Hurricane Sandy, and the second for her creation of an Animal Handling and Bite Prevention Training program for clinical staff and education of veterinary students.

*Please RSVP / register by emailing Ronnie Tutty at [njaiha@ptd.net](mailto:njaiha@ptd.net), or register online at:*

<http://www.njaiha.org/event/march-2023-dinner-meeting/>

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The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



# NJAIHA Members in the News

## Recent NJAIHA Activities with Pictures

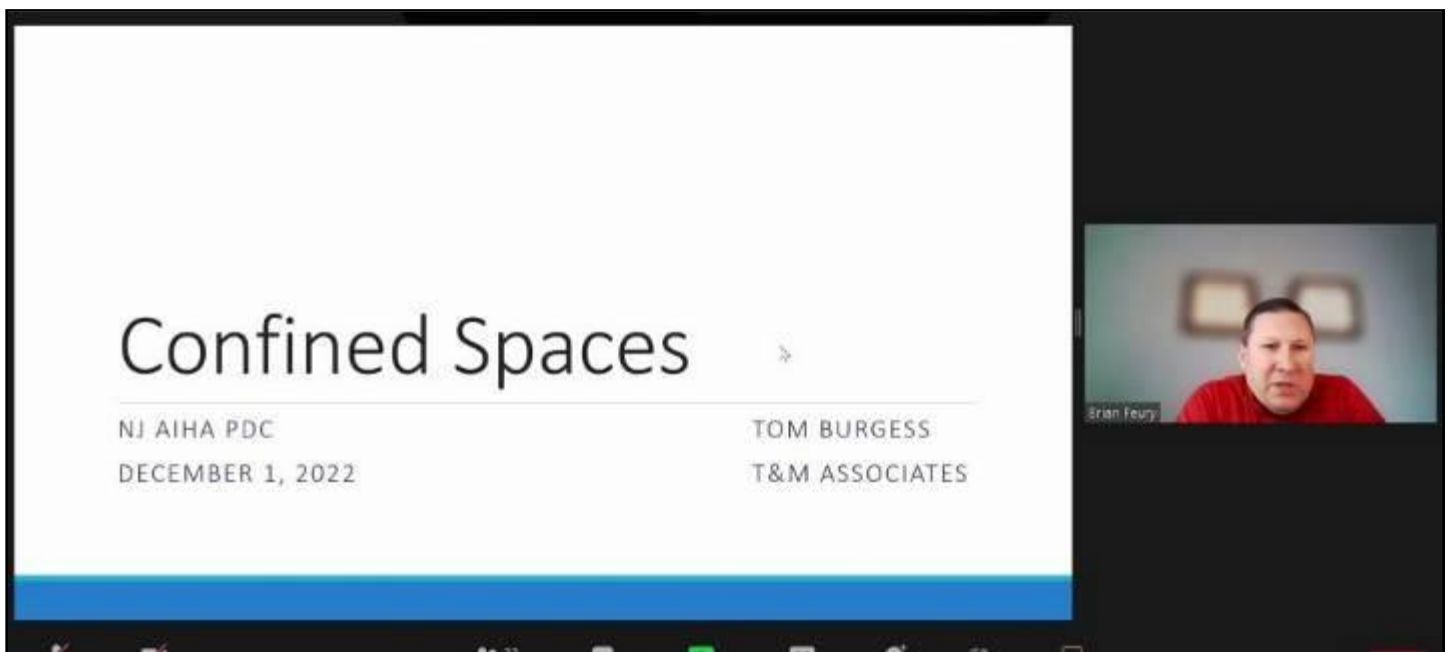
Tim Rice, NJAIHA Historian



### NJAIHA Fall Professional Development Courses (PDCs) - December 1, 2022

On Friday December 1, 2022, NJAIHA once again held its annual Fall Professional Development Courses (PDCs). Again, as last year, the PDCs were held virtually. This year two courses were given. A morning PDC, “*Confined Spaces*” was presented by **Tom Burgess**, CIH, CSP, MS, of T&M Associates, Bloomfield, NJ. An afternoon PDC, “*Recognizing, understanding and resolving ethical dilemmas*”, was presented by **Nancy Orr**, CSP, FAIHA, Principal, Sage Health and Safety, LLC, New York, NY and Executive Committee Member of Safety for Nonprofits, New York, NY. Both courses were well attended, with 38 individuals attending the morning course and 34 individuals attending the afternoon course. All of us at NJAIHA would like to extend our gratitude to Tom and Nancy for once again making our Fall PDCs a successful event.

Following are some screenshots taken during the PDCs by yours truly.



**Brian Feury**, NJAIHA Past-president, introduces our morning PDC presenter, **Tom Burgess**, CIH, CSP, MS, of T&M Associates, Bloomfield, NJ.

## Permit-Required Confined Spaces

Different configuration and hazards

- Same permit?
- Same precautions?



Tom Burgess, MS, CSP, CIH  
Client Manager - Industrial Hygiene and Safety at T&M Associates  
Tom Burgess, MS, CSP, CIH

Tom Burgess

Tom Burgess

**Tom Burgess**, CIH, CSP, MS, Client Manager, Industrial Hygiene and Safety, T&M Associates, Bloomfield, NJ, was our morning PDC speaker. Here Tom discusses configurations and hazards of permit-required confined spaces during his presentation, *"Confined Spaces"*.

## Are either of these Codes of Ethics?

"Neither rain nor snow nor heat  
nor gloom of night stays these  
couriers from the swift completion  
of their appointed rounds."



"A cadet will not lie, cheat or steal-  
nor tolerate those who do."



**Nancy Orr**, CSP, FAIHA, Principal, Sage Health and Safety, LLC, New York, NY and Executive Committee Member of Safety for Nonprofits, New York, NY, was once again back with us as a Fall PDC instructor. Here Nancy examines Codes of Ethics with attendees during the afternoon PDC, *"Recognizing, understanding and resolving ethical dilemmas"*.

## **2022 Northeast Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition (NEIHce)** **Princeton Marriott at Forrestal, Princeton, NJ - 12/2/22**

After two years of virtual NEIHce's, the 76<sup>th</sup> annual Northeast Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition (NEIHce) returned to being an in person event and was held at the Princeton Marriott Forrestal, Princeton, NJ on December 2, 2022. This year's NEIHce was coordinated and presented by the New Jersey AIHA Local Section, with support from the Philadelphia and Metro New York AIHA Local Sections. Here is a selection of photos from the day's activities. A complete collection of photos taken during the event will be found posted on the NJAIHA website in [NJAIHA's photo gallery](#).



(left to right) **Barbara Woodhull**, NEIHce Planning Committee Chair/NJAIHA Treasurer, **Jill Asch**, Planning Committee Member, and **Jack Zybura**, Planning Committee Member/NJAIHA Secretary and Webmaster at the registration table after checking in all attendees and distributing 2022 Conference badges and final programs.



**Marc Vargas**, NJAIHA President and Conference co-ecmee, welcomes attendees to the 2022 NEIHce and reviews the day's activities during his opening remarks and acknowledgements.





## Conference Speakers



**Speaker:** Donna Heidel, MS, CIH, FAIHA, President AIHA,  
Worldwide Principal Industrial Hygienist, Amazon

**Presentation: “AIHA National Update”**



**Speaker:** Mark Ames, Director, Government Relations AIHA, Falls Church, VA

**Presentation:** *"Policy Changes and Updates in Washington".*



## Impacts of Heat in the Workplace - Panel

**(left to right): Mitchel Rosen**, PhD - Panel Moderator; **Margaret Morrissey**, PhD - Panelist, **Mark Ames** - Panelist; **Lisa DeLugo** - Panelist; **Bryan Cranston** - Panelist



## Conference Speakers (continued)



**Impacts of Heat in the Workplace - Panelist:** Margaret Morrissey, PhD, President, Heat Safety & Performance Coalition; Director of Occupational & Military Safety, Korey Stringer Institute, University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

**Presentation:** "Heat Safety in the Workplace: Reducing Risk of Heat-related Injuries".



**Impacts of Heat in the Workplace - Panelist:** Byran Cranston, OSHA Assistant Area Director, Health, Region 2, Avenel, NJ Area Office

**Presentation:** "Heat Stress Case Study - Roof Construction"



**Impacts of Heat in the Workplace - Panelist:** Lisa DeLugo, Safety Specialist, New York State Electric and Gas, Albany, NY

**Presentation:** "Managing Hot Working"



**Impacts of Heat in the Workplace - Panelist:** Mark Ames, Director Government Relations, AIHA, Falls Church, VA

**Presentation:** "AIHA Workplace Heat Advocacy".

**Right - Mitchel Rosen**, PhD (at podium), **Associate Professor**, Rutgers School of Public Health, Urban-Global Public Health Department and **Director**, Center for Public Health Workforce Development, School of Public Health, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ, moderates the Impacts of Heat in the Workplace Panel discussion.



## Conference Speakers (continued)



**Richard A. Lynch**, NJAIHA President-elect and Conference co-emcee, introduces our first afternoon speaker, **Dr. Emanuele Cauda**.



**Speaker: Emanuele Cauda**, PhD, co-Director, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) Center for Direct Reading and Sensor Technologies; Senior Research Engineer, NIOSH, Pittsburgh, PA

**Presentation:** *"The Adoption of Sensor Technologies in the Frame of Industrial Hygiene 4.0: NIOSH Vision and Future Directions".*



**Speaker: Georgia Michlig**, PhD, Assistant Scientist, Department of International Health, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD

**Presentation:** *"From Precarious Work to 'the Great Resignation': An International Perspective on Workplace*



**Speaker: Craig Doolittle**, PE, CSP, Team Leader, Environmental Management, Safety and Sustainability Business Unit, TRC Environmental Corporation, Philadelphia, PA

**Presentation:** *"Industrial Hygiene Issues in the Construction Industry".*



## Exposition, Breaks and Networking



Attendees get a chance to network, visit the vendors, and enjoy the inviting food/beverage set-up during a break in the technical presentations.



(left to right) **Ralph Coppola**, Metro New York AIHA Local Section President, and **Marc Vargas**, NJAIHA President, were able to gather during networking time for a photo. Philadelphia AIHA Local Section President-elect, **Steve Siegel**, was also on hand for a quick photo.



An Italian lunch buffet was served and enjoyed by all!



Thanks once again to all our 2022 Conference vendors! Vendor participation at each year's NEIHce helps to defray operating and presentation costs.

## **Exposition, Breaks and Networking (cont.) - Corporate Sponsors with Booths**



\$2,000 Platinum Level - EMSL Analytical, Inc



\$1000 Gold Level - Colden Corporation



\$1000 Gold Level - Trinity Consultants  
SafeBridge Regulatory & Life Sciences Group



\$500 Silver Level - First Onsite



\$250 Bronze Level - Pennoni Associates, Inc.

**Additional Corporate Sponsor (without booth) - \$1,000 Gold Level - Hillman Consulting, LLC**

**Thanks to all our Corporate Sponsors for the 2022 NEIHce!**



## Door Prizes

The drawing of door prizes at the close of each year's Conference is an established tradition. These prizes are donated by the local sections, selected vendors/corporate sponsors, companies, and other organizations.

For the 2022 NEIHce, door prizes were generously donated by the Metro New York AIHA Local Section, the New Jersey AIHA Local Section, the Philadelphia AIHA Local Section, the Rutgers School of Public Health, Estee Lauder, the Colden Corporation, and the Mayo Performing Arts Center.

Door prizes for the 2022 NEIHce totaled over \$1,500 in value!



NJAIHA President **Marc Vargas** (left) and NJAIHA President-elect **Richard Lynch** select and announce a lucky door prize winner.



Door Prize winners had a chance to participate in the process and pick the next lucky winner.



## November 2022 NJAIHA Meeting - 11/17/22; Stage House Tavern, Mountainside, NJ



**Marc Vargas**, NJAIHA President, opens the 2022 November meeting with a welcome to attendees and a few announcements.



**Richard Lynch**, NJAIHA President-elect, introduces our before-dinner speaker, **Wayne Baruch**.



### Before-dinner Technical Speaker:

**Wayne Baruch**, recently retired Director of Safety, Forest Electric Company, Edson, NJ

### Presentation:

*"The Psychology of Bad Excuses and What to do About Them"*

Wayne, thank you from all at NJAIHA for taking time from your retirement to discuss this topic as it relates to the safety and health field.

### (right) After-dinner Technical Speaker:

**James P. Klyza**, PhD, MSPH, CIH, Industrial Hygienist, OSHA Directorate of Enforcement Programs, Washington, DC

### Presentation: "COVID 19 Macro"

Dr. Klyza, thanks from all at NJAIHA for sharing with us this interesting talk on a statistical method of estimating COVID-19 risk at the workplace.

**Vince Daliessio** (left) and **Bill Kerbel**, were the happy winners of our prize raffle for pre-registered attendees. Guys, enjoy your Dunkin' Donuts gift cards!



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## Job Postings and Website Links

There are many job postings on our web site. If you are looking or just curious check them out.

<http://www.njaiha.org/resources/job-postings/>

There are several job postings on these other organization web sites as well:

<http://nj.assp.org/current-openings/>

<http://www.philaaiha.com/Employment.htm>

### AIHA Legislative Connection

Interested in what's going on in the Federal and State Governments? Follow the link below:

[Government Relations & Advocacy](#)

### Visit NJAIHA On-line

NJAIHA is continuously posting relevant information on industrial hygiene principles and practice on these webpages. Feel free to find out current events which may affect your business or industry and continue the conversation on a regional, national, and international level.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/njaiha/>.

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/3675325>

# State & Federal Government Relations Update:

## March 2023

### **Federal:**

#### **US Department of Labor, American Society of Safety Professionals in East Texas partner for better safety, health in the workplace**

*Alliance promotes workplace rights, responsibilities of members, employees*

**Participants:** U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
American Society of Safety Professionals, East Texas Chapter

**Alliance description:** OSHA's Dallas and Fort Worth Area offices and the ASSP East Texas Chapter have signed a [two-year alliance](#) to educate employers and member on work hazards. OSHA and ASSP East Texas Chapter will continue emphasis on construction, general industry and oil and gas employers, providing information, guidance and training resources that will help protect the health and safety of workers. The alliance is also focused on helping members understand the rights of workers and the responsibilities of employers under the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Through the alliance, the organizations will continue to address hazards that are inherent to the work force.

**Background:** [OSHA's Alliance Program](#) works with groups committed to worker safety and health to prevent workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses. These groups include unions, consulates, trade or professional organizations, businesses, faith-based and community organizations and educational institutions. OSHA and the groups work together to develop compliance assistance tools and resources, share information with workers and employers and educate workers and employers about their rights and responsibilities.

**Quote:** "Great things happen when OSHA partners with a great organization of professionals and students," explained OSHA Area Director Basil Singh in Dallas.

"ASSP East Texas Chapter provides many training opportunities for its members in order for them to implement better safety processes," added OSHA Area Director Timothy Minor in Fort Worth.

# # #

### **Media Contacts:**

Juan J. Rodríguez, 972-850-4709, [rodriguez.juan@dol.gov](mailto:rodriguez.juan@dol.gov)  
Chauntra Rideaux, 972-850-4710, [rideaux.chauntra.d@dol.gov](mailto:rideaux.chauntra.d@dol.gov)

Release Number: 23-408-DAL March 2, 2023

#### **Administrative law judge affirms citations; Alabama automotive parts supplier to pay \$1.3M in penalties after 20-year-old worker's 2016 death**

*Hyundai, Kia parts maker, Joon LLC failed to protect workers from crushing, other hazards*

**CUSSETA, AL** – The independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission has affirmed citations issued by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration to a global auto parts supplier after the 2016 death of a 20-year-old machine operator at an Alabama manufacturing facility.

The decision comes after Joon LLC – operating as AJIN USA – contested OSHA citations after an investigation of how an employee at its Cusseta facility suffered fatal crushing injuries in June 2016 in a robotic machine. OSHA inspectors learned that the machine operator and three co-workers entered a robotic cell on the assembly line to clear a sensor fault when a robot inside the cell restarted abruptly, crushing a young woman inside.

Its inspection led OSHA to cite AJIN USA for 51 safety violations, including 48 willful violations. On Feb. 10, 2023, an administrative law judge upheld the majority of the violations that OSHA issued. AJIN USA will pay more than \$1.3 million in penalties to address the violations.

"No violation or penalty can recover a life lost needlessly. This case's resolution serves as a stark reminder to all employers that the U.S. Department of Labor will exhaust all available resources and actions to hold them accountable when they fail to meet federal requirements to protect the safety and health of their employees," said U.S. Department of Labor Regional Solicitor Tremelle Howard in Atlanta.

In a September 2020 criminal case, the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of Alabama, Eastern Division, ordered AJIN USA to pay a \$500,000 fine and \$1 million in restitution to the deceased woman's estate after the company pled guilty to a charge of a willful violation of an OSHA standard.

"Failing to lock out equipment causes far too many serious injuries and deaths," explained OSHA Regional Administrator Kurt Petermeyer in Atlanta. "In this case, a young woman lost her life because her employer took shortcuts to minimize downtime and maintain production."

Based in Korea, AJIN USA is a global supplier of parts to Hyundai and Kia with manufacturing plants in the U.S., South Korea, China and Vietnam. At the time of the 2016 incident, the manufacturer employed approximately 700 workers at the Cusseta facility.

[Visit OSHA's website for information on developing a workplace safety and health program.](#) Employers can also contact the agency [for information about OSHA's compliance assistance resources and for free help on complying with OSHA standards.](#)

#### **Media Contacts:**

Eric R. Lucero, 678-237-0630, [lucero.eric.r@dol.gov](mailto:lucero.eric.r@dol.gov)  
Erika B. Ruthman, 678-237-0630, [ruthman.erika.b@dol.gov](mailto:ruthman.erika.b@dol.gov)

Release Number: 23-322-NAT March 8 2023

### **Low-cost, higher risk: Dollar General inspections in Florida, Georgia find employees exposed to blocked emergency exits, other dangers**

*National discount retailer faces an additional \$1M in penalties, \$15M since 2017*

**ATLANTA** – While it portrays its store chain as "America's neighborhood general store," Dollar General Corp. and Dolgencorp LLC – one of the nation's largest discount retailers – continues to expose workers to unsafe conditions, this time at four Florida and Georgia stores.

The U.S. Department of Labor's [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) inspected stores in Ocala, Florida, and Columbus, Georgia, and catalogued many of the same violations Dollar General has refused to correct at its stores throughout the nation.

Since 2017, OSHA has issued more than \$15 million in fines and cited Dollar General Corp. and Dolgencorp in more than 180 inspections nationwide for numerous willful, repeat and serious workplace safety violations related to unsafe conditions

In Ocala, federal workplace inspectors opened inspections at stores on 58th Avenue and Marion Oaks Manor in late August and September 2022. They found merchandise obstructing exit routes, exposing workers to fire and entrapment hazards. OSHA also discovered merchandise blocking fire extinguishers and an automatic sliding door disabled and locked. The agency [cited the company for five repeat violations and proposed \\$710,974 in penalties](#) for these inspections.

OSHA's investigation in Columbus found Dollar General's Victory Drive location also exposed workers to fire and entrapment hazards by locking an emergency exit door. The location had boxes and merchandise stored in an unsafe manner, exposing workers to struck-by hazards. OSHA issued [citations for two repeat violations with \\$221,001 in proposed penalties](#).

At the retailer's 13th Avenue location, OSHA found boxes of merchandise, shopping carts and other items blocking walkways, exposing employees to trip hazards. OSHA [cited Dollar General with one repeat violation and \\$98,219 in proposed penalties](#).

"Exposing employees and others to these hazards can be dangerous, especially in an emergency," said OSHA Regional Administrator Kurt Petermeyer in Atlanta. "Dollar General is well aware of federal requirements, but they continue to ignore their legal responsibilities to protect their employees at stores throughout the nation."

In Alabama, Florida and Georgia, OSHA has issued citations in 23 Dollar General store inspections from Feb. 1, 2022 through Jan 31, 2023, with a total of nearly \$7.5 million in penalties.

Based in Goodlettsville, Tennessee, Dollar General Corp. and Dolgencorp LLC operate about 19,000 stores and 28 distribution centers in 47 states and employ more than 173,000 workers. In fiscal year 2022, the organization's net sales were more than \$9 billion.

Dollar General has 15 business days from receipt of its citations and penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director, or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

[Learn more about OSHA.](#)

#### **Media Contacts:**

Erika Ruthman, 678-237-0630, [ruthman.erika.b@dol.gov](mailto:ruthman.erika.b@dol.gov)

Eric R. Lucero, 678-237-0630, [lucero.eric.r@dol.gov](mailto:lucero.eric.r@dol.gov)

Release Number: 23-402-NA March 13, 2023

#### **New Jersey:**

##### **Lead-Based Paint Inspections in Rental Dwelling Units**

This program implements the requirements of P.L. 2021, c. 182 for the period inspection of lead-based paint hazards in certain rental single-family, two-family, and multiple dwelling units.

Regulations for P.L. 2021, c. 182 are forthcoming and on July 18, 2022, proposed as [N.J.A.C. 5:28A](#). Public comment period ended September 16, 2022.

The method of inspection for each municipality is available here: [Municipal Listing – Visual and Dust Wipe Inspections](#)

To view the answers to all questions received during the DCA informational webinar series, click [HERE](#).

#### **AIHA:**

##### **Influence Government by Joining AIHA's New Grassroots Advocacy Center**

You know that the actions of legislators and government agencies impact your job, industry, community, and nation. The challenge is staying on top of the more than 140,000 bills, regulations, and other government actions proposed each year. Now, AIHA has a new solution for you—a tool that will make it easier for you to connect with your state and federal government officials: AIHA's new Grassroots Advocacy Center.

In addition to connecting with federal and state officials, the Grassroots Advocacy Center enables you to easily research federal or state legislation, either by bill number or keyword.



However, you don't have to do this on your own. When you sign up for alerts, you'll receive messages containing custom opportunities to connect with policymakers on high-value issues affecting workplace and community health and safety. Our messages to you will say "Action Alert" in the subject line, so keep an eye out for those keywords.

While we can't tell you exactly when each Action Alert will be sent to you, we can tell you that they'll be timed to maximize your influence with policymakers, so it's important that you respond as soon as possible when you see each alert.

Of course, you don't have to wait for an Action Alert. You can take action right now. Here are three steps I recommend for increasing your influence with policymakers:

**[Visit AIHA's Grassroots Advocacy Center.](#)**

Enter your preferred email address and ZIP code into the boxes under "Sign Up for Alerts" on the right-hand side of the page, then click the arrow button and enter your information on the following page.

Send a message to your policymakers. First, you need to refresh the page. You will have two options: either take action on an Action Alert we have set up or enter your ZIP code in the box under "Find Officials," click the arrow button, and select the officials you'd like to contact. (Clicking on their names brings up a window with useful information about each official.) The "Compose Message" button allows you to write an email to your official. You can select the subject and message that's right for you.

**Mark Ames**  
**AIHA**  
**Falls Church VA**

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**Thanks to Volunteers**