

It's been a great 2022 - 2023 for NJAIHA! This is the first year since the pandemic that we have had five in-person technical dinner meetings and two virtual meetings. Our speakers include;

- Dr. Michael Jayjock speaking on Risk Assessments
- Wayne Baruch, formerly from Forest Electric, presenting on the psychology of bad excuses
- Richard Lynch, CIH presenting on the excitement of industrial hygiene consulting
- Alex Ruiz presenting on the Revised 2022 ANSI/ASSP Z9.5 Laboratory Ventilation Standard
- Christine Seminerio presenting on Safety and Industrial Hygiene challenges of Emergency Veterinary Hospitals .

(See photos from the January, February, and March meetings later in this issue).

NJAIHA also hosted the annual virtual Professional Development Courses (PDCs) and the full day in person Northeast Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition (NEIHce) in December 2022.

The ballots for the President Elect and Director of Membership have been distributed to you our current members , with a deadline of June 19 for your vote on the nominees announced. There is no dinner meeting in May, because of the National AIHce , but we will be reviewing the NJAIHA Student Scholarship applicants, and planning our annual June meeting, to be held in person at Stage House Tavern in Somerset, NJ, that includes the presentation of this year's Student Scholarships to the outstanding recipients that are studying curricula and pursuing careers in industrial hygiene and related fields.

We will also recognize the outgoing officers, and announce the new officers that you voted for. Details of this year's June meeting, to be held June 15, at the Stage House Tavern in Somerset, NJ will be posted on our website: www.njaiha.org .

Every summer, NJAIHA offers a comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review Course. This summer is no exception, and registration is currently open with classes beginning June 13. All classes will be presented virtually via Zoom or pre-recorded presentations, except for the 8/15/2023 class which will be held in-person (venue TBD). Access to the presentations and recordings will be available until December 2023. You can sign up for one course for \$50, but all 16 courses are \$150 that is an amazing bargain and service that we provide our members , registrants, and the professional Industrial Hygiene and EHS community. Here's the registration link: <http://www.njaiha.org/events/njaiha-summer-review-course/>

We have so many potential speakers and topics. What Industrial Hygiene related Dinner Meeting topics would you , our members, like to see and attend ? Please let us know , don't hesitate to share your thoughts and preferences at our questions and contact page, <http://www.njaiha.org/contact/>

Lastly, If you would like to become a more active member by participating in our subcommittee groups, please reach out to our president elect, Richard Lynch by email : Richard@LynchCIHIAQ.com. We would appreciate you participation.

Happy Spring into Summer all, and see you at our in person Scholarship Dinner in June !

Marc Vargas CIH MPH
NJAIHA President
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) 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.

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 “eLearning” (cont’d)

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

- 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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The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



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)

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!

Please address comments or questions to info@njaiha.org.

2023 Summer Industrial Hygiene Review Course

Starting June 13, 2023, The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (NJAIHA) is offering a comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review Course. This course consists of a series of educational lectures given by leading industry professionals. The course is designed to provide basic training in some critical areas of industrial hygiene and will likely be beneficial for those entering the field as well as those who are just looking to sharpen their skills in certain technical areas.

Many of the people who have attended the course have found it to be very helpful in preparing for the CIH examination. Certified Industrial Hygienists have the opportunity to obtain CM points per lecture (0.167 points per contact hour). Participants are welcome to attend any or all of the lecture sessions, depending on their individual training needs. Course registration is currently open, and also accessible via our website. Here's the registration link:

<http://www.njaiha.org/events/njaiha-summer-review-course/>

All classes will be presented virtually via Zoom or pre-recorded presentations, except for the 8/15/2023 class which will be held in-person (venue TBD). Participants will be provided with the schedule and Zoom login information before the first class. Classes will begin on **June 13th**, and are scheduled from 6pm-9pm. Access to the presentations and recordings will be available until December 2023.

Courses include

- Air Sampling
- Basic Science
- Biosafety, Epidemiology / Biostatistics
- Ergonomics
- Hazard Communication / Risk Assessment
- Industrial Hygiene History
- IH Management
- Industrial Processes
- Industrial Ventilation
- Ionizing and Non-Ionizing Radiation
- PPE
- Noise
- Respiratory Protection / Thermal Stress
- Toxicology.

You can sign up for one course for \$50, but all 16 courses are \$150. That is an amazing bargain and service that we provide our members, registrants, and the professional Industrial Hygiene and EHS community.

OUR LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS

2022-2023

| <u>Office</u> | <u>Name</u> | <u>Phone</u> | <u>Email Address</u> |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--------------|--|
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| <i>Outreach Coordinator</i> | (VACANT) | | |

The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



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Contact: Brian Feury, CIH | President, NJAIHA
Senior Project Manager, Langan | 201.417.2666 | bfeury@langan.com

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NJAIHA - WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

| Member | Date Joined |
|------------------|-------------|
| Derrick Cooper | 4/2023 |
| Daniel Inman | 4/2023 |
| Christian Cody | 4/2023 |
| Ava-Gay Blagrove | 4/2023 |

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Publications Director's Note

This issue sees the CDC catch up to what many of us have been doing in practice for the last three years, a major blastomycosis outbreak resolves without pinpointing the source, and CalOSHA discovers that cutting quartz countertops without controls causes silicosis (HT The Synergist).

CDC Issues Building Ventilation Guidance to Guard Against Respiratory Infections

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) last week published guidance for improving building ventilation to help protect people from respiratory infections, with a goal of at least five air changes each hour and an upgrade to MERV-13 filters. Deploying multiple infection prevention and control strategies can optimize the overall effectiveness of ventilation interventions, the CDC said. <https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/misc-emerging-topics/cdc-issues-building-ventilation-guidance-guard-against-respiratory-infections>

U.P. Paper Mill Tied to Fungal Outbreak to Reopen

The Upper Peninsula paper mill linked to a rare fungal infection that left one worker dead and affected more than hundred others has moved toward reopening, officials said. The Escanaba Billerud Paper Mill "initiated resumption of operations" as of Monday following a deep cleaning, the company said in a statement. The source of the infection has not been identified. <https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2023/05/09/u-p-paper-mill-tied-to-fungal-outbreak-to-reopen/70201344007/>

California Regulators Drafting Emergency Rule to Combat Deadly Lung Disease

Workplace regulators in California are drafting an emergency rule to address an epidemic of silicosis — a deadly, preventable lung disease — among fabricators of artificial-stone countertops. In December, Public Health Watch, LAist and Univision revealed what's believed to be the nation's biggest cluster of the disease, in the Los Angeles area. The news outlets' stories — and a petition citing them — triggered a burst of activity by California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health, known as Cal/OSHA. One of the men featured in the stories, Juan Gonzalez Morin, died last month. He had just turned 37. Since 2019, the California Department of Public Health has identified 69 cases of silicosis among fabrication workers — "likely an underestimate," the department said in a statement this week.

<https://publichealthwatch.org/2023/05/10/california-regulators-drafting-emergency-rule-to-combat-deadly-lung-disease/>

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
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Outreach
Coordinator
(VACANT)



June Dinner Meeting – Scholarship Awards

DATE: June 15, 2023

PLACE: The Stage House Tavern, SOMERSET

1719 Amwell Road, Somerset, NJ 08873

Registration Fee: \$45

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



AGENDA:

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

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

- President's Message "NJAIHA Year in Review" – Brian Feury, CIH
- Treasurer's Annual Report – Barbara Woodhull, CIH, CSP
- Presentation of 2022 Student Scholarship Awards – Candice Kowalewski, MPH

- Recognition of Outgoing Officers – Brian Feury, CIH

6:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner

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

Topic: Respond to and Mitigate the Unthinkable

Speaker: Steve Yeretzian

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

AGENDA (cont'd)

After-Dinner Speaker Session:

Topic: *Respond to and Mitigate the Unthinkable*

Speaker: **Steve Yeretian**

Steve Yeretian is a graduate of Temple University with a Bachelor of Business Administration where he met his wife. 32 years later, they have three daughters aged 25, 23, and 21. His Primary career focus was previously in property management and quality assurance, but was encouraged to shift to biohazard in December of 2017 through the influence of the owner of AZ Bio in Phoenix. Together they established the BioHelpers brand in New Jersey and Southeastern Pennsylvania. They view the business as a mission-based endeavor in that they serve families who may have lost a loved one. Their aim is to serve through compassion and excellence. Steve is Certified by The National Institute of Decontamination Specialists in the area of biohazard remediation, Certified by the Institute of Inspection, Cleaning, and Restoration Certification (IICRC) in the areas of Applied Microbial Remediation, Applied Structural Drying, Water Restoration, Fire and Smoke Restoration, and Xactimate Estimating. Steve is a Member of the American Bio Recovery Association.

Please RSVP / register by Friday, June 9th, by emailing Ronnie Tutty at njaiha@ptd.net,

or register online at: <http://www.njaiha.org/event/june-2023-dinner-meeting/>

The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



NJAIHA Members in the News

Recent NJAIHA Activities with Pictures

Tim Rice, NJAIHA Historian



March 2023 Joint NJAIHA/NJASSP Dinner Meeting 3/16/23 at the Stage House Tavern, Somerset, NJ

The New Jersey Section AIHA (NJAIHA) held its annual March joint membership meeting with the New Jersey Chapter, American Association of Safety Professionals (NJASSP) on March 16, 2023. This month we were again at another new venue for us, the Stage House Tavern in Somerset, NJ. Following are some photos taken during the evening's activities.



Marc Vargas, NJAIHA President, opens the March 2023 joint meeting with a welcome to attendees and a few announcements prior to introducing the before-dinner speaker.



Richard Lynch, NJAIHA President-elect, and **Marc Vargas** have some fun as they select the lucky winners of our raffle prizes for pre-registered attendees. Congratulations to **Brian Feury** and **Robert Laumbach** who won Dunkin' Donuts gift cards!



Dr. Gail Becker (center) Professor, Department of Natural Sciences, Middlesex College, brought one of her prior students, **Maria Castellanos Alvarez** (left) to our March meeting so Maria could become better acquainted with industrial hygiene/OEHS as a career pathway. Dr. Becker, we thank you as always for your continued efforts to help inspire and create a new generation of industrial hygienists and OEHS professionals. Also present at the table was **Meghna Dhawan** (right), current Secretary of the NJASSP and a NJAIHA member.

March 2023 Joint NJAIHA/NJASSP Dinner Meeting (cont.)



Before-dinner Technical Speaker:

Alejandro "Alex" Ruiz, MS, CIH, CSP, CHMM, CIT, SMS, CHST, Executive Director of EHS and University Safety Officer, Rutgers University. ASSP/ANSI Z9.5 Standards Committee Member

Presentation:

"ASSP/ANSI Z9.5 Update on Laboratory Ventilation Standard"

Alex, thank you sharing with us this thorough review of ANSI/ASSP Z9.5-2022: Laboratory Ventilation which establishes minimum requirements and best practices for laboratory ventilation systems.

Read more at the ANSI Blog: ANSI/ASSP Z9.5-2022: Laboratory Ventilation <https://blog.ansi.org/?p=169703> from all at NJAIHA for taking time from el



After-dinner Technical Speaker:

Christine Seminerio, B.S., CVT, Owner & Principal Compliance Consultant, Veterinary Safety Consultants

Presentation:

"Occupational Safety and Health In Veterinary Hospitals"

(left) During her talk, Christine runs down a list of occupational safety and health hazards that can be found in veterinary hospitals as well as in human hospitals.

Christine, we appreciate your passion for safety with veterinary workers and for promoting a positive safety culture in the veterinary industry, and thank you for sharing your experiences with NJAIHA members and guests.

February 2023 NJAIHA Meeting (Virtual) - 2/16/23

Heat NEP: Heat Program Considerations

- Is there a written program?
- How did the employer monitor ambient temperature(s) and levels of work exertion at the worksite?
- Was there access to water, rest, shade, breaks?
- Did the employer provide time for acclimatization of new and returning workers?
- Was a "buddy" system in place on hot days?
- Were administrative controls used (earlier start times, and employee/job rotation) to limit heat exposures?
- Did the employer provide training on heat illness signs, how to report signs and symptoms, first aid, how to contact emergency personnel, prevention, and the importance of hydration?





OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist and Coordinator
Region 3
Philadelphia Regional Office
Isabel DeOliveira

On Thursday, 2/16/23, NJAIHA held a virtual membership meeting with Isabel Oliveira, OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist and Coordinator, OSHA Philadelphia Regional Office, serving as our technical speaker. Above, Ms. Oliveri reviews facets of OSHA's National Emphasis Program (NEP) for Outdoor and Indoor Heat-Related Hazards during her informative and timely presentation, "OSHA Update and Top 10 Violations".



Isabel DeOliveira
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Marc Vargas

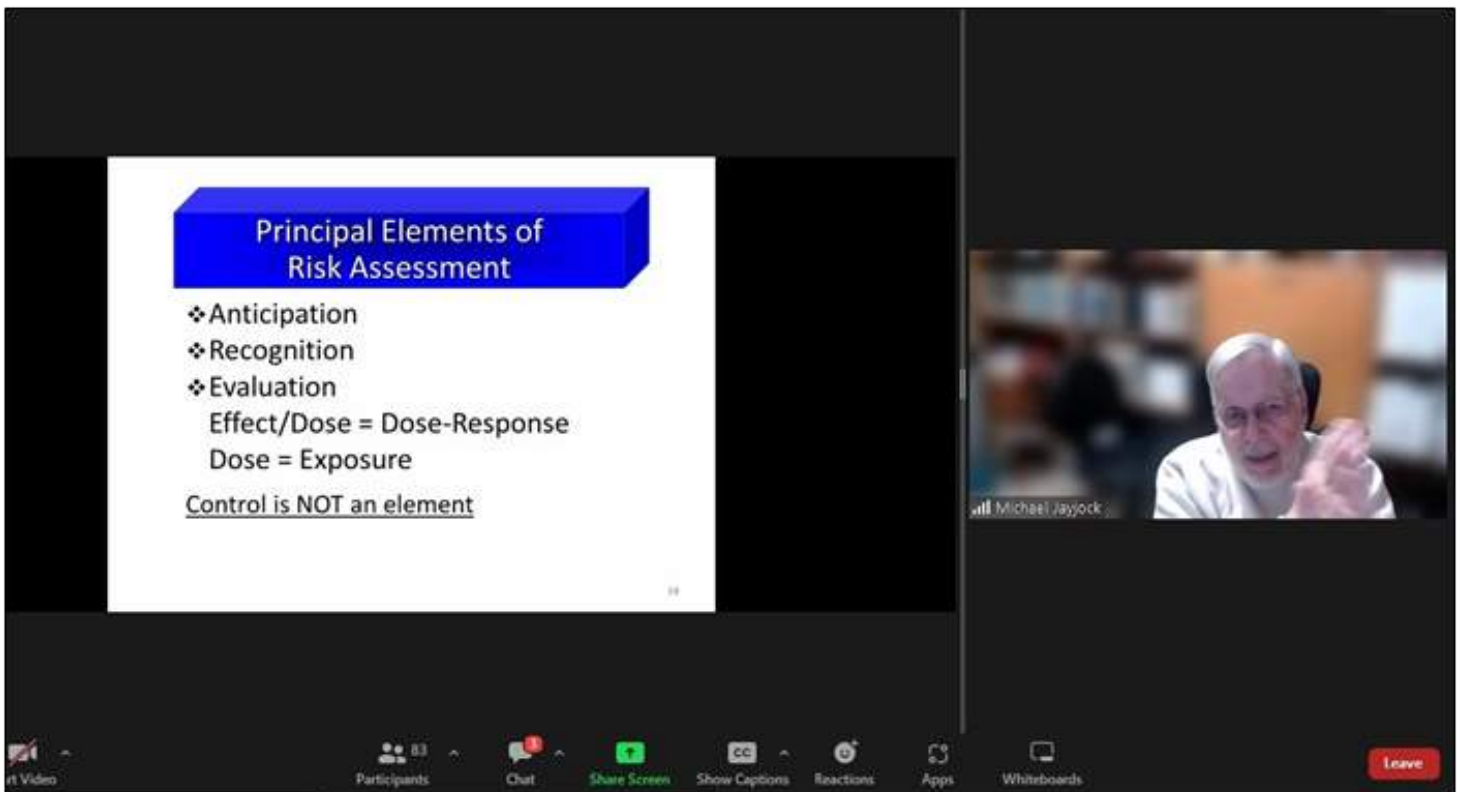
Marc Vargas, NJAIHA President, thanks Isabel Oliveira for taking time out of her busy schedule to participate and speak at our February 2023 meeting, which turned out to be a most well received event with a maximum of 49 attendees listening in and participating on line.

Thanks again, Isabel, from all at NJAIHA!

January 2023 NJAIHA Meeting (Virtual) - 1/19/23



On Thursday, 1/19/23, NJAIHA held a virtual membership meeting with **Michael Jaycock**, PhD, CIH, FAIHA, Sole Proprietor, Jaycock Associates, LLC, serving as our technical speaker. Here Dr. Jaycock is introduced to all attendees by **Marc Vargas**, NJAIHA President. We had an excellent turnout for this virtual meeting with Dr. Jaycock as a maximum of 83 attendees were listening in and participating on line.



Above, Dr. Jaycock describes the principal elements of risk assessment during his enlightening presentation, "*Human Health Risk Assessment Process*". Thank you, Dr. Jaycock, from all at NJAIHA for being our guest speaker and sharing your time at our January 2023 NJAIHA meeting!

First Ocean County College Environmental Science Technical Conference

Ocean County College - 3/30/23



On March 30, 2023, three NJAIHA members participated at an industrial hygiene/OEHS outreach activity at the First Ocean County College Environmental Science Technical Conference held at Ocean County College, Toms River, NJ.

(top, right) Richard Lynch, NJAIHA President-elect, and Barbara Woodhull, NJAIHA Treasurer, staff the NJAIHA booth at the Conference in an effort to raise the level of awareness of students and other attendees to the industrial hygiene profession and occupational and environmental health and safety (OEHS) profession as potential career field choices.

(top left) Jack Zyburka, NJAIHA Secretary and Associate Principal at Lewis S. Goodfriend & Associates, staffs his consulting firm's booth where he conversed with students about opportunities in the acoustical engineering field, which includes industrial noise evaluation and noise control engineering.

(right) Richard Lynch, NJAIHA President-elect and Owner/CEO of Lynch CIH & IAQ Consultants, gave a presentation to students and members of the professional community in attendance on his experiences in the industrial hygiene/indoor air quality (IAQ) consulting fields. Richard provided recommendations on how individuals entering the industrial hygiene/OEHS profession, and those already in it, can make a greater impact.

Richard, Barbara, and Jack, thank you again from all at NJAIHA for taking a day of your time to perform this valuable outreach activity. (Photo Credit – Jack Zyburka)

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: May 2023

Federal:

US Department of Labor announces more than \$12M in grant funding available for worker safety, health training grants

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor today announced the [availability of more than \\$12.7 million](#) in funding to make [more good jobs available to the U.S. workforce](#) by supporting training initiatives designed to promote safe and healthy in the nation's workplaces.

Administered by the department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the [Susan Harwood Training Grant Program](#) includes funding opportunities for Targeted Topic Training, Training and Educational Materials Development, and new Capacity Building training grants for nonprofit organizations. Grants will support recipients' efforts to provide instructor-led remote and in-person hands-on training for workers and employers in small businesses; industries with high injury, illness and fatality rates; and vulnerable workers, who are underserved, have limited English proficiency, or are temporary workers.

Specifically, the [Harwood grants](#) will fund training and education on how to recognize, avoid and control hazards, and inform workers of their rights and employers of their responsibilities under the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Funding will be available in the following categories:

- Targeted Topic Training: Supporting educational programs that identify and prevent workplace hazards. Applicants must conduct training on OSHA-designated workplace safety and health hazards.
- Training and Educational Materials Development: Supporting the development of quality classroom-ready training and educational materials that identify and prevent workplace hazards.
- Capacity Building: Supporting organizations in developing new training programs to assess needs and plan for full-scale safety and health education programs, expanding their capacity to provide workplace safety and health training, education and related assistance to workers and employers.
-

Applicants must register with grants.gov and SAM.gov to apply for a grant opportunity. Submit applications at www.grants.gov by 11:59 p.m. EDT on July 7, 2023.

OSHA will host a webinar, "How to Prepare a Competitive Susan Harwood Training Grant Application," to assist organizations in preparing grant applications on May 25, 2023, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. EDT. [Register for the webinar](#).

OSHA awards grants to nonprofit organizations, including community, faith-based, grassroots organizations, employer associations, labor unions, joint labor/management associations, Indian tribes, and public/state colleges and universities to provide free workplace safety and health training.

OSHA encourages stakeholders to share feedback on effectiveness of leading indicators to improve, develop resource tool

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration is asking for stakeholder input on their current use of leading indicators and their impact on managing their safety and health management systems.

Leading indicators are proactive and preventive measures that can provide insight on the effectiveness of safety and health activities and reveal potential problems. They are vital in reducing worker fatalities, injuries, illnesses, and financial impacts.

State & Federal Government Relations Update (cont'd)

As OSHA considers developing a Leading Indicators Resource, the agency welcomes stakeholders to share their experience and expertise and provide detailed feedback on how/where they are used at their workplace. OSHA is interested in various perspectives on stakeholders' answers to questions, such as the following:

- What leading indicators do you use?
- What lagging indicators do you use (OSHA incident rates, for example)?
- What leading indicators are, or could be, commonly used in your industry?
- What metrics do you share with top management?
- How do you determine the effectiveness of your leading indicators?
- Do you link your leading indicators to outcome data, such as OSHA incident rates to evaluate results?
- How could employers be encouraged to use leading indicators in addition to lagging indicators to improve safety management systems?
- What barriers and challenges, if any, have you encountered to using leading indicators?

[Read the full list of OSHA's questions.](#) Submit comments through [regulations.gov](#) (Docket No. [OSHA-2023-0006](#)) by July 17, 2023.

[Learn more about OSHA](#) and [Leading Indicators](#).

US Department of Labor places New Jersey manufacturer in Severe Violator Enforcement Program after worker suffers serious, preventable amputation

United Hospital Supply Corp. faces \$498K in penalties after November 2022 incident

BURLINGTON, NJ – An employee's first day of work at a southern New Jersey manufacturing facility ended tragically when he suffered the amputation of three fingers while operating a press brake without required safety guards, similar to violations cited by federal safety investigators at the facility in 2010 and 2015.

After the incident prompted a complaint to the U.S. Department of Labor, investigators with the department's [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) began two investigations at United Hospital Supply Corp. in Burlington in November 2022.

OSHA [cited the company](#), which produces metal products for hospitals, laboratories and schools, for a willful violation because supervisors and employees deliberately bypassed the press brake's light curtain, which led to the amputation. The agency also cited United Hospital Supply for willfully failing to remove and repair an inoperable forklift and to provide hazard communication training for chemicals used in the facility. OSHA has cited the company for the forklift and chemical training violations in its inspections dating back to 2010.

The agency also found the company exposed workers to welding fumes above the permissible exposure levels, did not provide respirators when needed, failed to develop a lockout/tagout program to prevent accidental machine startup and did not provide lockout/tagout training.

Following the November inspections, OSHA cited United Hospital Supply Corp. for three willful violations, 17 serious violations and one other-than-serious violation and proposed \$498,464 in penalties. For the company's intentional disregard and willful violations, the agency has placed United Hospital Supply in OSHA's [Severe Violator Enforcement Program](#).

"Despite previous citations and penalties, United Hospital Supply Corp. has ignored its responsibility for protecting the safety and health of its employees," said OSHA Area Director Paula Dixon-Roderick in Marlton, New Jersey. "Machine guarding is a basic safety measure for reducing dangerous hazards

State & Federal Government Relations Update (cont'd)

for machine operators which, in this case, could have prevented a new employee from suffering a traumatic life-changing injury."

United Hospital Supply Corp. manufactures steel cabinets, lockers, laboratory hoods and other metal products for hospitals, laboratories and schools. Founded in 1976, the company employs about 100 employees represented by Local 19 of the Sheet Metal Workers Union in Philadelphia.

The company has 15 business days from receipt of 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](#), [lockout/tagout procedures](#) and [machine guarding standards](#).

New Jersey:

NJ Labor Department Highlights Surfboat and Lightning Safety in Advance of Summer Season *May 23, 2023*

TRENTON – As the unofficial start of summer approaches this Memorial Day weekend, the New Jersey Department of Labor and Workforce Development (NJDOLE) is bringing attention to two [Safety Alerts](#) issued regarding surfboats and lightning exposure.

The NJDOLE's Office of Public Employees Occupational Safety and Health (PEOSH) posted the alerts to ensure public employers and employees, particularly our beach patrols, are aware of the risks involved when operating a [surfboat](#) or in a situation of increased risk of [lightning strike](#). Each alert details the possible hazards involved, as well as steps to mitigate worker injury or death.

"The Jersey Shore is a premier family-fun destination for locals and visitors alike, and our beach patrols are crucial to ensuring everyone stays safe while having a memorable visit," said Labor Commissioner Robert Asaro-Angelo. "NJDOLE is proud to be part of our state's signature tradition by protecting these workers so they can safely perform their essential duty."

In 2022, PEOSH, which is responsible for inspecting, investigating, and educating workers and employers on workplace safety matters to ensure the safety and health of employees, performed a total of 58 [inspections of beach patrols](#) employing public employees in Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, and Cape May counties. Compliance officers found violations relating to boat hazard assessments, boat hazard assessment certifications, lightning policies, and record keeping. The expansive effort was prompted by the August 2021 tragic deaths of two young lifeguards, 16-year-old Norman Inferrera III, whose surfboat capsized at Cape May's Reading Avenue Beach, and 19-year-old Keith Pinto, who was struck by lightning while stationed on a lookout tower at White Sands Beach in Berkeley Township.

PEOSH compliance officers were deployed to the Cape May and Berkeley Township beaches following each incident to investigate associated safety concerns. After learning of the potential boat- and lightning-related hazards faced by beach workers, PEOSH initiated the large-scale inspection project to spread knowledge and awareness of these dangers in an effort to prevent future tragedies.

PEOSH periodically posts Health and Safety Alerts as prevalent hazards are identified. To learn more about PEOSH, and to view all Health and Safety Alerts, click [here](#). For more information on NJDOLE's Division of Public Safety and Occupational Safety and Health, and to find out how your workplace can get a free on-site health and safety consultation and training, click [here](#).

State & Federal Government Relations Update (cont'd)

AIHA:

Mark Ames to Join Board of Directors of [Re]Build America's School Infrastructure Coalition

FALLS CHURCH, Va. (October 3, 2022)—AIHA is proud to announce that Mark Ames, the association's director of government relations, has joined the board of directors of the [Re]Build America's Schools Infrastructure Coalition's (BASIC). This non-partisan coalition of civic, public sector, labor, and industry associations aims to secure federal funding to help under-served public school districts modernize and build K-12 public school facilities. Ames first got involved with BASIC in 2021. Since then, he has been involved with the coalition's federal advocacy, safety and design, strategic planning, and membership growth activities.

According to Ames, students, teachers, principals, and other school personnel confront complex hazards, decisions, and funding challenges every day, which directly impact learning and working conditions in the nation's schools. "The BASIC coalition is one of the leading national organizations focused on improving school infrastructure, and I'm honored to join its board of directors," said Ames. "I look forward to applying my nearly 20 years of workforce development and infrastructure government relations experience to help improve the lives of students, school personnel, and communities nationwide."

BASIC was formed in late 2016, under the leadership of the 21st Century School Fund, the National Council on School Facilities, the Center for Cities + Schools at UC Berkeley, and the Center for Green Schools at the U.S. Green Building Council.

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.

State & Federal Government Relations Update (cont'd)

(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

Thanks to Volunteers