

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

Volume 23, Issue 4

December 2023

As we delve into the brisk December air, I'm excited to share the incredible success we've enjoyed with our last three monthly dinner meetings. The energy, enthusiasm, and knowledge-sharing at these events have been truly inspiring, and they serve as a testament to the strength of our NJAIHA community. Below are just a few recent successful events .

• November 16th, 2023: We hosted two speakers, Bernard L. Fontaine, Jr, CIH, CSP, FAIHA speaking on *Respirable Crystalline Silica and Asbestos Exposures in Manmade and Natural Disasters*, and Mark Drozdov, MS, SSM, CUSP, CES, EnvSP, speaking on *Using Leading Safety Indicators To Improve Safety and Health Outcomes*. Our meetings are not just opportunities to network and connect with fellow professionals but also valuable sources of knowledge and insights into the ever-evolving field of industrial hygiene. See related photos on pages 14-15.

• November 30th, 2023: we virtually hosted our Professional Development Conference (PDC), a day filled with valuable workshops and presentations to help you enhance your skills and knowledge. It was another excellent opportunity for professional growth. See related photos on page 14.

• December 1st, 2023: the 2023 Northeast Industrial Hygiene Conference & Exposition (NEIHce) was held at the Hyatt Regency Princeton on December 1st. The response was overwhelming, with the host, Metro NY AIHA scrambling to accommodate extra attendees to the sold-out event. This conference was a remarkable gathering of professionals, featuring cutting-edge presentations, networking opportunities, and the chance to discover the latest trends in industrial hygiene.

In closing, I want to emphasize that your involvement in NJAIHA is what makes our association thrive. Your expertise, your camaraderie, and your passion for industrial hygiene are what drive us forward. I'm looking forward to seeing you at our virtual and in-person meetings in the New Year.

Thank you for being a part of this dynamic community, and I can't wait to celebrate our shared successes and aspirations in the coming weeks.

Richard A. Lynch President, NJAIHA <u>Richard@LynchCIHIAQ.com</u>

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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 an NJAIHA member in good standing, you will have access to the designated AIHA eLearning programs at no charge to you.

<u>NEW!</u> 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 courses are still available until 1/1/2024. The 2024 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 (<u>rtutty@ptd.net</u>) 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 <u>https://www.aiha.org/education/elearning</u>, and click "View Online Classroom" to get started.



The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



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

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

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 (<u>koshyko@sph.rutgers.edu</u>)

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 meetings, 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.

OUR LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS 2023-2024

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Outreach Coordinator	Eric Shwartsman		eshwartsman1@gmail.com

The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



Protecting New Jersey Worker Health

RISK ENGINEERING





Crum & Forster Contact: Louise Vallee, CSP CIH CPE | VP, Risk Engineering 305 Madison Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960 t +1.973.490.6682 | m +1.862.258.5264 Louise.Vallee@cfins.com | www.cfins.com

Risk Engineering

Dedicated Partnership Focusing on Your Risk Management Priorities

We understand your business and are at your service.

Crum & Forster's consultative risk engineers partner with our customers to provide a full portfolio of casualty and property loss mitigation services that align with your company's risk management goals and culture. Our Risk Engineers, located throughout the U. S., have the experience, training and professionalism to provide risk management solutions to meet your business needs and contribute to your success. They bring a welcome "can do" attitude, collaborating with you on services ranging from simple training or resource provision requests to customized service plans, benchmarking success with both, short and long term objectives.

Your assigned Risk Engineer contact or multi-location services coordinator becomes an active and contributing member of your team, working closely with your team to understand the business and safety culture in order to contribute in the most effective manner. We are adept at the detailed analysis of loss trends, safety programs, and facility "best practices" to target risk improvement areas and then work with you on innovative program development that achieve results. We've developed an "all lines" portfolio of services that offers something for everyone, delivering services that improve business results by protecting essential human and physical assets. We employ practical, solution-oriented approaches that specifically target your loss sources and protect your brand.

NJAIHA - WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

Member	Date Joined
Alana Jimenez	11/2023
Stephen Seuling	12/2023

The New Jersey Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association



Protecting New Jersey Worker Health

Publications Director's Note

This issue sees an EPA proposal to replace all lead pipes by 2034, a federal appeals court case challenging the legality of OSHA rules, and ASHRAE is publishing a standard on Controls for Infectious Aerosols in Indoor Spaces.

EPA Proposal Would Require Replacement of All Lead Pipes by 2034

A proposed rule published December 6th in the Federal Register would require nearly all water systems in the United States to replace lead service lines within 10 years. EPA estimates there are approximately 9.2 million lead service lines in use across the nation... The American Water Works Association issued a statement strongly supporting the EPA rule, although AWWA noted the cost of replacing a single lead service line is more than \$10,000 and that the total cost of the rule could exceed \$90 billion.

https://www.aiha.org/news/231207-epa-proposal-would-require-replacement-of-all-leadpipes-by-2034?utm_campaign=sweekly23&utm_content=epa-leadproposal&utm_medium=email&utm_source=aiha

Future of OSHA Safety Rules Winds Up in Appeals Court Tussle

The future of OSHA's ability to regulate workplace safety is now in a federal appeals court's hands. If the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit rules against the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, hundreds of safety requirements could be stricken, and Congress and courts would be left to write safety regulations...Construction company Allstates Refractory Contractors...(argued) that when Congress created OSHA in 1970, it delegated too much authority to the agency to decide how to regulate workplace safety. https://news.bloomberglaw.com/safety/parker-1

ASHRAE Approves Standard on Controls for Infectious Aerosols in Indoor Spaces

ASHRAE has approved for publication a new standard intended to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19, influenza, and other airborne diseases in indoor spaces... Standard 241 was not developed under rules approved by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) because ASHRAE wanted to make it available for use as soon as possible. <u>https://www.aiha.org/news/230629-ashrae-approves-standard-on-controls-for-infectious-aerosols-in-indoor-spaces?utm_campaign=sweekly23&utm_content=ashrae-infectious-aerosols&utm_medium=email&utm_source=aiha</u>

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 January 18, 2024 – Virtual Meeting

<u>President</u> Richard A. Lynch Lynch CIH & IAQ Consultants, LLC 609-694-4539

<u>President-Elect</u> Bill Pockels Port Authority NY/NJ 908-514-2160

<u>Past-President</u> Marc Vargas 917-273-7838

<u>Treasurer</u> Barbara Woodhull 908-268-5603

<u>Secretary</u> Jack Zybura LSG&A 908-955-7763

<u>Director of</u> <u>Membership</u> Candice Kowalewski All American Poly 732-695-4880

<u>Director of</u> <u>Administration</u> Brian Feury Langan 973-560-4857

<u>Director of</u> <u>Publications</u> Vince Daliessio, Jr. Pennoni 856-656-2862

Executive Secretary Ronnie Tutty

<u>Historian</u> Tim Rice 908-782-2102

<u>Webmaster</u> Jack Zybura LSG&A 908-955-7763

<u>Outreach</u> <u>Coordinator</u> Eric Shwartsman Department of Labor 732-372-8787 Date:January 18, 2024Place:Virtual MeetingCost:Free

Agenda:

5 pm Presentation:

Topic: Mold Clearance Testing: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly *Speaker*: Jack Springston, MS, CIH, CSP, FAIHA

Biography:

Jack Springston has over 36 years' experience in industrial hygiene and occupational health. He has been a Certified Industrial Hygienist (**CIH**) since 1993 and is one of less than 50 active CIHs who also hold a sub-specialty certificate in Indoor Environmental Quality (**IEQ**). He has also been a Certified Safety Professional since 1999. Jack currently works as a technical consultant for Atlas Technical Consultants in New York City and Long Island.

Jack has a BS Degree in Environmental Biology and a MS Degree in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences. He is a Fellow of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (**AIHA**) and past-Chair of AIHA's Indoor Environmental Quality, Biosafety & Environmental Microbiology, and Continuing Education committees. Jack currently serves as the Chair of American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists' (**ACGIH's**) Bioaerosols Committee and is one of the primary editors of, as well as author/co-author of several individual chapters, of ACGIH's new publication *Bioaerosols Assessment and Control, 2nd edition*.

Please register online at: http://www.njaiha.org/event/january-2024-virtual-meeting/



NJAIHA OFFICERS February 15, 2024 – Virtual Meeting

<u>President</u> Richard A. Lynch Lynch CIH & IAQ Consultants, LLC 609-694-4539

<u>President-Elect</u> Bill Pockels Port Authority NY/NJ 908-514-2160

Past-President Marc Vargas 917-273-7838

<u>Treasurer</u> Barbara Woodhull 908-268-5603

<u>Secretary</u> Jack Zybura LSG&A 908-955-7763

<u>Director of</u> <u>Membership</u> Candice Kowalewski All American Poly 732-695-4880

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Executive Secretary Ronnie Tutty

<u>Historian</u> Tim Rice 908-782-2102

<u>Webmaster</u> Jack Zybura LSG&A 908-955-7763

<u>Outreach</u> <u>Coordinator</u> Eric Shwartsman Department of Labor 732-372-8787 Date:February 15, 2024Place:Virtual MeetingCost:Free

Agenda:

11 am

Presentation:

Topic: Shining a Light on Occupational Exposure Limit Uncertainty *Speaker*: Dr. Michael Jayjock, PhD CIH

Biography:

Dr. Michael Jayjock is the Sole Proprietor of Jayjock Associates, LLC; a for-profit consultancy (<u>http://www.jayjock-associates.com</u>). Previously he was a Senior Research and Environmental Health and Safety Fellow and Manager for Risk Assessment at the Rohm and Haas Company. He had been working with that company for 35 years. In this position, he was responsible for the determination of human health risks and the development of tools for the evaluation of human exposure to chemicals. He is a Fellow of the AIHA and holds a CIH.

His professional activities include exposure modeling research, human exposure/risk assessment to environmental pollutants, and uncertainty analysis. He has published extensively in peerreviewed journals and has made numerous technical presentations, including at annual AIHA and International Society of Exposure Assessment Conferences. His service on advisory committees includes the EPA Board of Scientific Councilors, the EPA Science Advisory Board, and the National Research Council - National Academy of Sciences.

Please register online at: http://www.njaiha.org/event/february-2024-virtual-meeting/

NJAIHA Members in the News

Recent NJAIHA Activities in Pictures Tim Rice, NJAIHA Historian

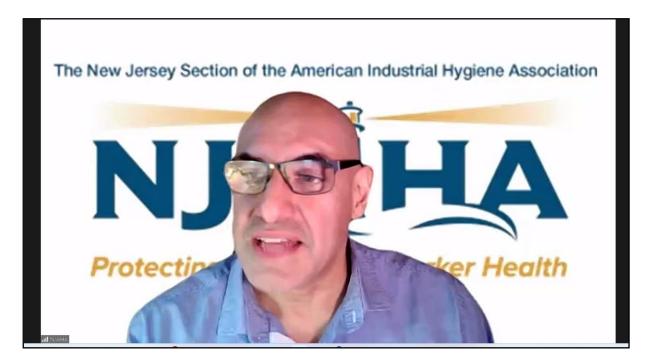


NJAIHA Fall Professional Development Courses (PDCs) - November 30, 2023

On Friday November 30, 2023, 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, *"Process Safety Management: Making the IH Connection"* was presented by **Lydia Trainor**, CSP, and **Andrew Reed**, CSP, both of OSHA's Enforcement Programs Group, Region 2, New York Regional Office.

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 very well attended, with 71 individuals attending the morning course and 66 individuals attending the afternoon course. All of us at NJAIHA would like to extend our gratitude to Lydia, Andrew and Nancy for once again making our Fall PDCs a successful event.

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



<u>Marc Vargas</u>, NJAIHA Past-President, welcomes registrants to the annual Fall NJAIHA Professional Development Courses, this year held on November 30, 2023. Attendance was excellent with 71 individuals attending the morning course and 67 individuals attending the afternoon course.

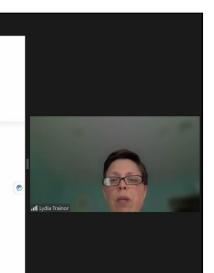
NJAIHA Fall Professional Development Courses (PDCs) - November 30, 2023 (continued)

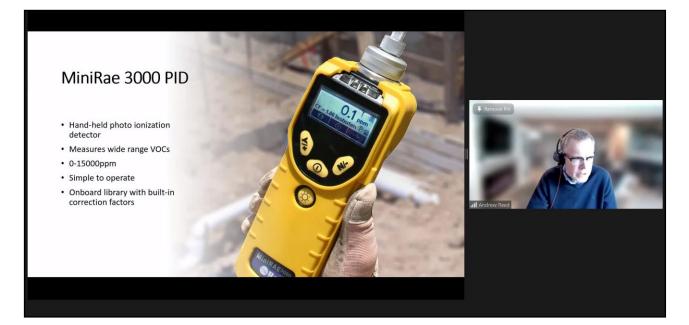


Mechanical Integrity

Process for maintaining, inspecting/testing of process equipment:

- Equipment is properly maintained
- RAGAGEP
- Development of ITM criteria, calibration SOPs, maintenance SOPs, documentation of results
- Calibration of instrumentation, recordkeeping, documentation of test results, etc.
- Exposures during repairs/service challenging since this can be non-routine or unexpected





(top) Lydia Trainor, CSP, of the OSHA Enforcement Programs Group, Region 2, NY Regional Office, reviews requirements of the mechanical integrity (MI) provision of OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.119, Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals, during her segment of the course *"Process Safety Management: Making the IH Connection"*

(bottom) Andrew Reed, CSP, also of OSHA's Enforcement Programs Group, Region 2, NY Regional Office, describes the MiniRae 3000 PID and its use during his case study segment of the morning course. Mr. Reed's segment was entitled *"Case Study – Methyl Vinyl Ketone Exposure During API Manufacturing."*

NJAIHA Fall Professional Development Courses (PDCs) - November 30, 2023 (continued)

Ethics and legality

- Ethical norms tend to be broader and more informal than laws. Laws rarely "inspire". Ethics may.
- Ethics are self-regulated, largely voluntary, often adaptive.
- Laws function as social constraints, protecting us from someone or something. When something is illegal it is often unethical.
- But, conforming to laws does not necessarily mean it is ethical.
- This is especially true in OHS when being "legal" is particularly poor practice because so many known hazards do not have regulatory limits.

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 reviews the distinctions between the concepts of ethics and legality during the afternoon PDC, *"Recognizing, understanding and resolving ethical dilemmas"*.

November 2023 NJAIHA Meeting - 11/16/23 Stage House Tavern, Somerset, NJ

The New Jersey Section AIHA (NJAIHA) held its November 2023 membership dinner meeting again at the Stage House Tavern in Somerset, NJ. Following are some photos taken during the evening's activities.





(left) <u>Richard Lynch</u>, NJAIHA President, opens the November 2023 dinner meeting with a welcome to attendees prior to introducing the before-dinner speaker. (right) <u>Scott Ross</u> leads attendees in a discussion in between the two technical presentations.



Before-dinner Technical Speaker:

Bernard L. Fontaine, Jr., M.Sc., CIH, CSP, FAIHA, Managing Partner, The Windsor Consulting Group; NJAIHA Past-President (2016-17) Presentation:

(left) Bernard Fontaine provides examples of potential asbestos exposures to vulnerable global populations of workers and the public and (right) shares data on buildings damaged by wildfires during his talk "Respirable Crystalline Silica and Asbestos Exposures in Natural and Manmade Disasters".

Thank you, Bernard, for sharing your illuminating presentation with us.

November 2023 NJAIHA Meeting (cont.)



After-dinner Technical Speaker:

<u>Mark Drozdov</u>, MS, SSM, CUSO, CES, EnvSP, Cooper Union, Stevens, and Rutgers University

Presentation:

(top) Mark Drozdov begins his talk *"Using* Leading Safety Indicators to Improve Safety and Health Outcomes".

(bottom) Mark reviews with attendees the steps for using leading indicators with the framework of an occupational health and safety management system (OHSMS) standard, such as ANSI/ASSP Z10-2019.

Mark, thanks so much for coming out from NYC to give us this practical presentation on how to use leading safety indicators to improve the effectiveness of our occupational health and safety programs.



The New Jersey Section AIHA (NJAIHA) held both its first and second membership dinner meetings of the 2023-2024 year at the Stage House Tavern in Somerset, NJ. Following are some photos taken during both evening's activities.



October 2023 NJAIHA Meeting - 10/19/23 Stage House Tavern, Somerset, NJ



<u>Richard Lynch</u>, NJAIHA President, opens the October 2023 dinner meeting with a welcome to attendees prior to introducing the beforedinner speaker.

Before-dinner Technical Speaker:

<u>Frank Ehrenfeld</u>, Laboratory Director-Vice President, International Asbestos Testing Laboratories (iATL)

Presentation:

"USEPA Proposed Rule: Reconsideration of the Dust-Lead Hazard Standards and Dust-Lead Post-Abatement Clearance Levels"



Richard Lynch provides Frank Ehrenfeld with a token of appreciation from all at NJAIHA for taking time out of his schedule to make this excellent presentation to us on aspects of USEPA's proposed rule to update dust-lead hazard standards (DLHS) and dust-lead clearance levels (DLCL), possible consequences of the rule, and how it could impact the local IH community. Thanks again, Frank!

October 2023 NJAIHA Meeting (cont.)





NJAIHA was so pleased to have a surprise guest speaker at the October dinner meeting. Here, <u>Matias Reinoso</u>, a current student at Ocean County College (OCC), gives an overview of the benefits of having an effective occupational safety and health program. Matias is enrolled in the 17 credit Industrial Hygiene/Hazardous Materials Management, Certificate of Completion program offered at OCC. NJAIHA President Richard Lynch is currently an instructor in that excellent program.

Congratulations, Matias, on giving such a professional level presentation to our members and best of luck to you in all your future career endeavors. After-dinner Technical Speaker:

Vince Daliessio, CIH, Senior Industrial Hygienist, Pennoni Associates; NJAIHA Director of Publications

Presentation:

"Practical Strategies for Assessing and Reducing Firefighter Exposure to Carcinogens and Other Hazardous Chemicals"

Vince reviewed key findings from United States Fire Administration (USFA) and NIOSH multi-year studies examining the potential for increased risk of cancer among firefighters due to exposures from smoke, soot, and other contaminants in the line of duty, and tied in where the IH elements of anticipation, recognition, evaluation and control are applied to these studies. Vince concluded with description of a fire station air sampling case study performed to evaluate whether controls implemented were effective in mitigating measurable exposures, or if further control measures were necessary.



Vince thanks Richard Lynch for the token of appreciation he received for giving an enlightening presentation to members and guests on government entities efforts to study and reduce firefighter exposures to carcinogens and other hazardous chemicals. Thanks again, Vince!

September 2023 NJAIHA Meeting - 9/21/23 Stage House Tavern, Somerset, NJ



(left to right) <u>Jack Zybura</u>, NJAIHA Secretary and Webmaster, <u>Bill Pockels</u>, NJAIHA President-Elect, and <u>Richard Lynch</u>, NJAIHA President, kick off the September 2023 dinner meeting with a welcome to attendees and a few announcements, prior to President Lynch introducing our before-dinner speaker.



Before-dinner Technical Speaker:

<u>Robert DeMalo</u>, M.Sc., Vice President and Partner, Indoor Environmental Concepts, LLC (IEC), Runnemede, NJ.

Presentation:

"Evaluating Mold Air Sampling Results Relative to Active Mold Growth in an Indoor Space"

<u>Robert DeMalo</u> starts his presentation, "Evaluating Mold Air Sampling Results Relative to Active Mold Growth in an Indoor Space" with a review of the factors and considerations that go into establishing how many samples to take and where to take those samples as part of the development of a bioaerosols sampling plan.



After-dinner Technical Speaker:

<u>Steve Yeretzian</u>, Owner, Restoration Specialist, Columbus, NJ.

Presentation:

"Respond to Mitigate the Unthinkable"

Steve provided members and guest with an overview of the stringent procedures and precautions that must be followed when encountering potential exposure to various biohazards stemming from a violent crime, suicide, unattended death or other traumatic experience, and stressed the importance of decontamination and advanced cleaning of these events to reduce and eliminate the risk of infection from exposure. Steve also discussed working relationships with other groups/agencies responding to these events and of the need to interact compassionately in follow-up activities with family members who may have lost a loved one.

September 2023 NJAIHA Meeting (cont.)



Richard Lynch introduced <u>Eric Shwartsman</u> to members and guest. Eric, who is an OSHA industrial hygienist/compliance officer and a student in the Graduate Program at the Rutgers School of Public Health, has been appointed by the Executive Board to the position of NJAIHA Outreach Coordinator. One of the activities that Eric will be engaged with in this role is helping NJAIHA in its effort to raise the level of awareness of students at all levels to the industrial hygiene profession and the occupational and environmental health and safety (OEHS) profession as potential career field choices. We all wish Eric the best of luck in this increasingly important position.





Richard presents tokens of appreciation to our two technical dinner meeting speakers, Robert DeMalo (left) and Steve Yeretzian (right). Thank you, Richard and Steve, from all at NJAIHA for sharing your evening and expertise with us!

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:

December 2023

<u>NOTE:</u> The New Jersey and Pennsylvania legislatures are not in session, so there are no new bills this month.

State:

US Department of Labor finds New Jersey trade show display manufacturer exposing employees to dozens of workplace safety, health hazards

<u>OAKLAND, NJ</u> – A U.S. Department of Labor inspection in June 2023 at an Oakland manufacturing company — that followed reports of two workers being injured — found employees exposed to dozens of serious safety and health hazards.

The department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration opened its inspection at FB International Inc., which designs, manufactures and installs trade show displays, after being notified about one employee's eye injury and another's foot injury. OSHA's inspection led to citations for 32 serious violations and an assessment of \$256,931 in proposed penalties for the company.

OSHA inspectors found FB International failed to do the following:

- Make sure to keep walking-working surfaces free of hazards and install guardrails at the proper height.
- Keep exit routes free and unobstructed and post exit signs correctly.
- Properly train workers and make sure they used personal protective equipment.
- Provide machine guards, make sure electrical equipment was used properly.
- Store flammable liquids safely.
- Perform a workplace hazard assessment.
- Establish written hazard communication and respiratory programs.
- Provide a medical evaluation to determine if an employee could use a respirator safely.
- Maintain a safety data sheet for each hazardous chemical used. https://www.dol.gov/newsroom/releases/osha/osha20231226

Federal:

OSHA announces switch from traditional hard hats to safety helmets to protect agency employees from head injuries better

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced that the agency is replacing traditional hard hats used by its employees with more modern safety helmets to protect them better when they are on inspection sites.

In 2020, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reports head injuries accounted for nearly 6 percent of non-fatal occupational injuries involving days away from work. Almost half of those injuries occurred when workers came in contact with an object or equipment while about 20 percent were caused by slips, trips and falls.

Dating back to the 1960s, traditional hard hats protect the top of a worker's head but have minimal side impact protection and also lack chin straps. Without the straps, traditional hard hats can fall off a worker's head if they slip or trip, leaving them unprotected. In addition, traditional hard hats lacked vents and trapped heat inside.

On Nov. 22, 2023, OSHA published a Safety and Health Information Bulletin detailing key differences between traditional hard hats and more modern safety helmets and the advancements in design, materials and other features that help protect workers' entire heads better. Today's safety helmets may also offer face shields or goggles to protect against projectiles, dust and chemical splashes. Others offer built-in hearing protection and/or communication systems to enable clear communication in noisy environments.

The agency recommends safety helmets be used by people working at construction industry and the oil and gas industry; in high-temperature, specialized work and low-risk environments; performing tasks involving electrical work and working from heights; and when required by regulations or industry standards.

OSHA wants employers to make safety and health a core value in their workplaces and is committed to doing the same by leading by example and embracing the evolution of head protection.

https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/trade/12112023

Thanks to Volunteers