



Safety Insider

June 2007

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June Meeting Announcement:

“Ergo To Go:” – Facing the New Ergonomic Challenges of the Mobile Workforce

*Presented by Vivienne Fleischer,
President and Co-Founder of Performance Based Ergonomics*

This month’s presentation directly addresses the ever growing ergonomic concerns and issues facing the modern day worker. More and more employees in today’s workforce are turning to convenient portable laptops as either an adjunct to their workstation or as an alternative to their desk top computer. Employees find themselves using laptops and hand held devices in various environments including their workstation, home offices, hotels and even Starbucks.

Vivienne Fleischer received music degrees in "Piano Performance" from the Oberlin Conservatory of Music and the Julliard School of Music. In the early 1980's, she suffered from RSI resulting from improper performance techniques at both the piano and computer. After many years of piano retraining, she began to correlate awkward movements at the piano with similar faulty and potentially injurious movements at the computer keyboard. Her desire to help other injured performers inspired her to develop her pain-free computing techniques.

Come and get information on “Ergo to Go” and network with your friends in the Bay Area Environmental Safety Group!

We hope to see you there!

Meeting Time and Location:

Wednesday June 20th, 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Meetings are held at Arthur’s Restaurant. This South Bay land-mark is located at 2875 Lakeview Dr, Santa Clara.

From US 101 take the Bowers Ave /Great America Parkway Exit and head south on Bowers. Turn right on Augustine Dr. (approx. one block from freeway) and then take another right on Lakeview Dr.

Registration begins at 11:30 and the Presentation will run from noon to 1:00 pm, with an opportunity for networking in between.

Lunch features a sumptuous Buffet featuring a variety of choices, including vegetarian entrees.

Cost is \$20.00 for members with reservation and \$25 for non-members. Walk-ins are charged a \$5.00 handling charge.

Monthly Musings

Newsletter Editor, Rebecca Anderson

There are many everyday stresses that can prompt us to feel anxiety: making sure we get to that meeting on time, ensuring that report is turned in and the permit work filed, paying bills and fitting in time with friends & family. Sometimes these everyday stresses can build up enough to cause anxiety attacks- paralyzing us with fear of “not getting X done”.

Now researchers are saying there is a new type of everyday stress: eco-anxiety. The article on page 4 of this month's newsletter discusses eco-anxiety, or the stress we can feel over climate change and other environmental factors. Some attribute a big cause of this stress toward a lack of good communication on solutions we can each act on to help protect our environment- and I have to agree.

In a national survey conducted this fall by the Stanford University's Woods Institute for the Environment, they found that most Americans are pessimistic about the state of the environment- 55% in fact stated that they expect the world's natural environment to be in worse shape in 10 years than it is now! (See <http://news-service.stanford.edu/news/2006/april5/abc-040506.html> for more information)

I don't know about you, but I have enough anxiety already! To tackle this eco-anxiety problem, try handing out helpful sustainability tips and optimistic insights on the environment (like, reusing chopsticks! See page four of the newsletter) to your employees, family and friends.

Growing up in the 80's I still have it drilled in to me that “one man can make a difference”- lets take that sentence to heart and help everyone make a difference to tackle safety (see home safety month) and environment.

Mark your Calendars! PDC scheduled for Oct 17th

5th Annual Professional Development Conference: Wednesday, Oct. 17th at Mission College

The 5th annual PDC is coming soon! Potential topics include:

- Fire code Update
- OSHA Update (including information on Heat, Chromium, Dig & Damage)
- Arc Flash
- Hazmat/Hazcom (GHS & DOT)

If you see yourself as a potential speaker on one of these topics OR have a different topic to suggest, email baesgnews@gmail.com with your ideas!

We look forward to seeing you in October for the PDC!

News and Updates

Home Safety Month

June 1, 2007 – Josh Cable, Occupational Hazards

According to research from the nonprofit Home Safety Council (HSC), home injuries result in nearly 21 million medical visits and 20,000 deaths on average each year. To increase home safety awareness among families across the nation, HSC in June plans to unveil its annual “Hands on Home Safety” campaign during Home Safety Month.

Throughout the month of June, HSC will offer an expanded suite of resources and educational opportunities that encourage the public to take action and follow a few simple steps to create a safer home environment from the five leading causes of injury – falls, poisonings, fires and burns, choking/suffocation and drowning.

“Issues like falls and home fires can affect any family. This year's 'Hands on Home Safety' campaign is focused on the key actions families need to take to protect against the most common home safety hazards,” HSC President Meri-K Appy

said. "The Home Safety Council urges families to make a few simple changes now to create a safer home environment and reduce serious injury risks year-round."

To learn more about the "Hands on Home Safety" campaign and ways to stay safe in and around your home, visit <http://www.homesafetycouncil.org/homesafetymonth>.

Study: Work Culture Determines Drinking Habits

Katherine Torres, Occupational Hazards

A study published in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine* suggests that companies that don't allow drinking in the workplace help curb employees' overall drinking habits.

The study polled more than 5,000 employees and managers of 16 different organizations, representing a range of different sectors, to put a finger on the pulse of their drinking behaviors and attitudes toward drinking. They were asked to reveal whether they thought alcohol boosted workplace morale, was good for business, alleviated boredom, improved health, was harmful or set a bad example. Their responses were tied in with those of their supervisors and managers, who also were quizzed about the drinking culture in their respective divisions.

Heavy drinkers who drank four or more drinks outside of work in a day represented 19 percent of those questioned. Some 8 percent had some alcohol on 5 or more days of the week outside of work, and 11 percent drank at work.

Overall, female employees who often attended religious services and those who cohabited were less likely to drink. Younger workers and smokers were more likely to imbibe.

Separate studies have indicated that heavy beer consumption – mostly seen among workers in blue-collar jobs – is strongly correlated with the fatality rate within occupations.

Stress, Hazardous Environments Could Impact Alcohol Consumption

According to the researchers, stress factors – such as having more than one job or working in a hazardous environment – also could have an impact on the amount of alcohol an employee consumes.

The researchers note that rates of heavy, frequent and workplace drinking were significantly lower in organizations that discouraged social drinking than in those that most tolerated it. Workers in organizations that discouraged social drinking were 45 percent less likely to be heavy drinkers than those in workplaces with a more relaxed attitude towards drinking. They also were 59 percent less likely to be frequent drinkers and 69 percent less likely to drink during the workday.

The study's authors conclude that the workplace drinking culture is crucial for changing drinking patterns and preventing alcohol problems, and should be included in public health initiatives.

Industry Offers Framework for Electronics Recycling Legislation

Environmental Protection

On May 24, the Electronic Industries Alliance (EIA) released a framework for federal legislation to establish a national program for recycling household TVs and information technology (IT) products such as computers and computer monitors.

The board of EIA's Environmental Issues Council, which includes companies such as HP, Lenovo, Panasonic and Sharp, approved the plan, and EIA officials have delivered copies to the Bush administration, Congress, state officials, industry stakeholders and environmental advocacy organizations.

"This agreement among consumer electronics and information technology manufacturers marks a watershed event for proactively addressing the electronics waste management issue," said David A. Thompson, director of the corporate environmental department for Panasonic Corp. of North America. "By recognizing the unique product distribution channels and customer usage patterns, EIA's agreement will facilitate greater electronic product recycling in an environmentally prudent and cost effective manner."

Matt Krupnick, public policy counsel for Dell, stated that the proposal is an important step forward in achieving industry consensus. "We will continue to work with policymakers to promote innovation, drive efficiency and create effective IT collection methods."

The framework, available at <http://www.eia.org>, calls for a bifurcated financing approach, separating TVs from desktop computers, laptops and computer monitors to reflect their divergent business models, market composition and consumer base. TV collection and recycling would be primarily conducted by an industry-sponsored third party organization and initially supported by a nominal fee paid by consumers at the point of purchase. The fee would eventually expire, once a significant number of so-called "legacy" sets are recovered.

Producers of IT equipment would implement a program to collect and recycle its products in a manner that is convenient for household consumers and at no cost to them. IT manufacturers would have to offer such a program as a condition of conducting business.

"Across the board, manufacturers made concessions to produce this consensus agreement," said Rick Goss, EIA's vice president of environmental affairs. "We sincerely hope that other stakeholders will be motivated by the same spirit of compromise as we seek a uniform recycling program that our country wants and needs."

Another provision calls for meeting the materials restrictions established by the European Union's Restriction on Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive and a similar California statute. "Our companies design, manufacture and sell these products in the global marketplace and strongly support one consistent set of requirements," Goss said.

Bring Your Own Chopsticks Movement Gains Traction in Asia

Jacob Gordon, Nashville, TN

www.treehugger.com

A recent article in the China Post tells the story of "young yuppy" from Taiwan who refuses the disposable bamboo chopsticks that are ubiquitously handed out to customers at cafeteria eateries. He packs his own sticks—and apparently it's part of a growing movement in Asia. He is one of "tens of thousands of chopstick-carrying customers" who not only bring their own, but are getting rewarded for it: usually in the form of a discount, a free bowl of soup, or some other goodies. China even entertained the idea of legislation that would compensate restaurants for rewards they give customers who bring their own.

A Chinese Blog claims that 45 billion pairs of disposable chopsticks are tossed out yearly in China, contributing to deforestation and mounds of unnecessary waste. The blog also claims that Japan has outlawed the cutting of bamboo for disposable chopsticks, so China has begun exporting large amounts to Japan. Stimuli for the spreading movement of bring-your-own culture is coming from different directions. One company boss even introduced a rule that all employees must bring their own sticks to the office—fining them if they don't.

Eco-anxiety: Something else to worry about

April 9, 2007

Story by Justin Nobel, Columbia News Service

NEW YORK - Theo Colborn is renowned for her research on endocrine disrupters - tiny, mostly manufactured chemicals found in pesticides like DDT as well as everyday objects like plastic water bottles. She believes they are behind the rise in autism, ADHD, and some birth defects.

"This is a pandemic," she says. "Something is happening, and these systems aren't functioning properly."

Concerns generated by her own research led Colborn, 80, to make lifestyle changes. The environmental health analyst and co-author of the 1996 book *Our Stolen Future* avoids Tupperware and Saran Wrap; leftovers go in mason jars and empty peanut butter containers. In 1987, fearing a coming energy crisis, she bought a 900-square-foot cottage, no air-conditioning, within walking distance of the small town of Paonia, Colo.

While scientists like Colborn are making environmentally sound lifestyle choices based on their own study, a growing number of people have literally worried themselves sick over a range of doomsday scenarios.

Their worry has a name: eco-anxiety.

And the latest report on climate change - a United Nations panel warned Friday of increased hunger, water shortages, massive floods, avalanches, and species extinctions in various parts of the world unless nations take major action - is not likely to help.

Melissa Pickett, an eco-therapist with a practice in Santa Fe, says she sees between 40 to 80 eco-anxious patients a month.

They complain of panic attacks, loss of appetite, irritability and unexplained bouts of weakness, sleeplessness and "buzzing," described as an eerie feeling that their cells are twitching. Pickett's remedies include telling patients to carry natural objects, like certain minerals, for a period of weeks. Making environmentally friendly lifestyle changes can also prove therapeutic, she says.

The fears of the eco-anxious are fueled by abundant media coverage of crises like global warming, collapsed fisheries and food shortages. A slew of eco-disaster movies are on Hollywood's drawing boards. Is the end actually nigh? If anyone can answer that question it should be the scientists. But they don't always make the best spokespeople.

"Scientists are very bad at communicating with the public about risk," says Benny Peiser, a social anthropologist at John Moores University in Liverpool, England, who studies the effects of catastrophes on society. "Unfortunately, a lot of low probability risks are blown out of proportion."

Peiser used to worry that an asteroid half the length of a football field would explode over New York or London, as one did in Siberia in 1908, burning miles of forest to a crisp. And there are the 10-kilometer asteroids, like the one known as Minor Planet (7107) Peiser - named after Peiser himself because of his "particular research interest in neocatastrophism and its implications for human, societal and cultural evolution," according to a NASA Web site. Were Minor Planet (7107) Peiser to hit earth, it would cause an "extinction-level event," wiping out most life on the planet. Fortunately, Peiser says scientists now are much better at detecting these mega-asteroids, and his fears about smaller asteroids have also been allayed somewhat. Recent research suggests that explosions like the one over Siberia probably happen once every 1,000 years.

Some feared hazards may be manufactured out of whole cloth. Robert Hale, a marine scientist at William & Mary's Virginia Institute of Marine Science, who studies the effects of PCBs and pesticides on sea life, blames journalists for the public's misinformation and subsequent eco-anxiety.

Hale refers to a 1997 episode known as "Pfiesteria hysteria." He says many writers attributed a spate of human illnesses in Mid-Atlantic states to a flesh-eating microbe found in the Chesapeake based largely on one researcher's views.

Gavin Schmidt, who studies climate variability at NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies in Manhattan, is concerned about carbon dioxide emissions unnaturally warming the planet, but he hasn't succumbed to eco-anxiety. He attributes the rise in environmental angst to a naive public.

"The fact that people don't have a good grasp of how science thinking works," Schmidt says, "means they don't have a good grasp of what they should be skeptical about." Schmidt cofounded the blog realclimate.org to correct misinformation on climate change.

"There's a scientific reason to be concerned and there's a scientific reason to push for action," he says, "but there's no scientific reason to despair."

Upcoming Events

If you'd like to see your events advertised in this space, and on our website, email your announcement to: Rebecca Anderson, baesgnews@gmail.com

AIHA Meetings

June 2, 2007- June 7, 2007 AIHA Conference and Expo, Pennsylvania Convention Center Philadelphia, PA <http://www.aiha.org/Content/CE/aihce/aihce.htm>

2007 AIHA Future Leaders Institute, September 13-16th in Chicago. The Application is now online: <http://www.aiha.org/Content/AboutAIHA/FLI.htm> Download and submit your completed application by June 18, with references to aogradey@aiha.org.

Biotech Job Fair!

There will be a biotech job fair in Burlingame on Monday June 18th (Biotech Bay Life Science Career Fair, Airport Marriott). The link for more information is <http://careers.biospace.com/jobs/>

American Society of Safety Engineers

San Jose Chapter Meeting, Tuesday June 12th at 12pm. Speaker: Wally Vahlstrom, Director of Technical Services, Electrical Reliability Services, Inc. Topic: NFPA 70E Arc-Flash Requirements; visit www.assesj.org for details

Bay Area Rebrac

All courses at Mission College in Santa Clara; for more information visit: <http://www.bayrebrac.org>

UC Santa Cruz Extension

All courses will be held in Cupertino, California; for more detailed information visit: <http://www.ucsc-extension.edu>

Job and Career Opportunities

*The following positions were collected from a variety of internet job listings and/or postings received directly by the BAESG Jobs Coordinator. BAESG has not verified the informational content of all of these ads. *

Want to receive Job updates in your inbox? Email the BAESG [Jobs Coordinator](#) and join the distribution list!

Want to see your job posting here and sent to the Jobs distribution list? Email the BAESG [Jobs Coordinator](#)

EHS Manager with Garratt - Callahan

Winefield Technical Solutions, Inc. (WTS)

Winefield Technical Solutions, Inc. (WTS) is searching for a Project Manager for a company that handles hazardous waste at various facilities for their clients in the South Bay area. Candidate must have industrial/manufacturing experience. WTS's client is a national provider of hazardous waste management services. Extremely competitive salary and benefits. Please contact Jimi at 562-293-4880 and forward resume to jimi@wtsnetworking.com

Job Summary

- * Responsible for supervising a team(s) of field employees in providing services to clients that result in the safe disposal of hazardous waste materials in accordance with regulations.
- * Coordinate subcontractors and field supervisory personnel functions in overseeing the project completion.
- * Provide guidance and training to all field service employees on complex matters.
- * Prepare project estimates in proposal and contract preparation for approval on existing and potential accounts of significant revenue size.
- * Increase efficiency of waste disposal by ensuring adequate supplies, billing, correctness of paperwork, etc. resulting in cost effective measures and desirable profit/loss ratios at site(s).

Knowledge and Experience

- * Chemistry or related science degree highly desirable.
 - * 5 to 7 years of hazardous waste experience as well as 2 to 3 years of supervisory experience preferred.
 - * Strong Knowledge of DOT/EPA/RCRA regulations.
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Senior Engineer Position-Environmental: (Location Bay Point, CA)

In this role you will conduct the Environmental function to provide day-to-day, hands-on management, planning, administration, direction, and guidance for the environmental programs of the company to assure adherence with established corporate policies and procedures as well as federal, state, and local rules and regulations.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Provide hands-on direction and guidance to assigned Performance Products locations to ensure that locations fully comply with established corporate policies and procedures, as well as federal, state, and local rules and regulations.
- Manage and direct the implementation of the environmental programs.
- Develop recommendations regarding performance objectives, and develop specifications and plans by which objectives are to be achieved. Analyze and assess regulatory requirements for assigned locations, and manage the creation and implementation of programs to assure continual environmental compliance at those locations.
- Develop and manage the implementation of environmental training programs for assigned locations to promote environmental awareness among all employees, including outside contractors, and to assure compliance with established corporate policies and procedures as well as federal, state, and local rules and regulations.
- Lead location NPDES requirements, to include closure and remediation actions.
- Manage and direct the implementation of environmental community right-to-know programs including the preparation and oversight of emergency response plans and drills.
- Manage the preparation and submission of technical reports, permit applications, monitoring data, correspondence, etc., to the appropriate environmental regulatory agencies, as required.
- Maintain liaison with various environmental regulatory agencies at all government levels and participate in key permit negotiations.
- Participate in corporate environmental and other reviews and manage and track the implementation and completion of corrective actions to address review findings.
- Participate in the development of budgets for environmental - related capital expenditures and provide guidance on

environmental implications of all other capital expenditures for assigned locations.

Bachelor's degree in Chemical or Environmental Engineering, Chemistry or other related discipline. Minimum five (5) to ten (10) years relevant industry and regulatory experience required.

Detailed knowledge of environmental laws and regulations are required; experience dealing with regulatory agencies and with regulatory reporting requirements also required. Experience with emergency response, including planning and training are a necessity. Knowledge of regulatory requirements as they relate to RCRA, RMP, PSM, CalArp, ISO, SWPP, NPDES, and BAAQMD is needed.

Engineer Health & Safety: (Location Bay Point, CA)

Duties and Responsibilities

Provide hands-on direction and guidance to assigned Performance Products locations to ensure that locations fully comply with established corporate policies and procedures, as well as federal, state, and local rules and regulations. Manage and direct the implementation of the safety and loss prevention and industrial hygiene programs.

Develop recommendations regarding performance objectives. Track performance against objectives, implementing changes as needed to meet goals, and monitor performance of locations by conducting location H&S reviews.

Analyze and assess regulatory requirements for assigned locations, and manage the creation and implementation of programs to assure continual H&S compliance at those locations.

Develop and manage the implementation of H&S training programs for assigned locations to promote H&S awareness among all employees, including outside contractors, and to assure compliance with established corporate policies and procedures as well as federal, state, and local rules and regulations.

Review injuries/illnesses at assigned locations.

Direct the collection and interpretation of employee industrial hygiene monitoring data and manage the creation and implementation of corrective action programs, if necessary, to assure that employee health matters are addressed in a timely and appropriate manner.

Participate in corporate H&S and other reviews and manage and track the implementation and completion of corrective actions to address review findings.

Position Requirements:

Bachelor's degree in Safety Engineering, Occupational Safety, Industrial Hygiene, or a related discipline. Minimum three (3) to five (5) years relevant industry experience required.

Travel (day trip) to Hollister required as needed.

TO APPLY: Email resume in MS Word to: CRI_Inc@execpc.com) and salary requirements, you can then view the client company's web page, and decide if you would like to continue your pursuit with this employer.

Respectfully,

Katie Collins, Executive Recruiter since 1994

CRI & Associates

CRI_Inc@execpc.com

Phone: 847-841-8311

Honeywell, Twin Cities Location, Health, Safety & Environ Spec

Job Description

Guidance and leadership in all phases of comprehensive occupational health, safety and environmental processes with an emphasis on best practices. Facilitates the development and implementation of HSE processes utilizing the HSE-management system and six sigma tools. Assure that external regulatory compliance and corporate governance requirements are met. Prepare site specific HSE policies and procedures, manuals, training materials. Work in a team atmosphere, lead as necessary

Qualifications

Basic Qualifications: Certified Safety Professional, Certified Industrial Hygienist or Chemical Hazardous Material credentials preferred. 3 year minimum experience in a safety or environmental position with a semiconductor, high-technical or chemical company

Additional Qualifications: Strong experience in developing HSE management systems involving training, environmental protection, electrical safety, fall protection and flammable liquid handling

Key Success Factors:

Motivated, self directed individual possessing good judgement and problem solving skills. Ability to work well within a team environment and across all levels of an organization. Ability to continue strong performance to company HSE goals in the environmental compliance, safety systems, Strong preference individual has semiconductor experience

Visit here for more details and to apply:

https://honeywell.taleo.net/servlets/CareerSection?art_ip_action=FlowDispatcher&ctx=1&flowTypeNo=13&pageSeq=2&art_servlet_language=en&reqNo=642062&csNo=3

Winefield Technical Solutions, Inc. (WTS) is searching for a Project Manager for a company that handles hazardous waste at various facilities for their clients in the South Bay area. Candidate must have industrial/manufacturing experience. WTS's client is a national provider of hazardous waste management services. Extremely competitive salary and benefits. Please contact Jimi at 562-293-4880 and forward resume to jimi@wtsnetworking.com

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Responsible for supervising a team(s) of field employees in providing services to clients that result in the safe disposal of hazardous waste materials in accordance with regulations.

Coordinate subcontractors and field supervisory personnel functions in overseeing the project completion.

Provide guidance and training to all field service employees on complex matters.

Prepare project estimates in proposal and contract preparation for approval on existing and potential accounts of significant revenue size.

Increase efficiency of waste disposal by ensuring adequate supplies, billing, correctness of paperwork, etc. resulting in cost effective measures and desirable profit/loss ratios at site(s).

BAESG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/ RENEWAL

Your membership is important because it helps keep this organization viable. Membership in BAESG offers a particularly good value. The cost is reasonable, and benefits include: the best rates for our monthly meetings that feature excellent speakers on the topics you are interested in as an EHS professional; access to a membership directory of an exceptional group of fellow EHS professionals; the opportunity to network with fellow EHS professionals, and regular updates to the EHS jobs listing.

Print out this page and fill in the relevant information, or staple a copy of your business card to this form (for inclusion in the membership directory) and attach a check for membership dues. Annual membership dues are \$25.00. (\$12.50 for full-time students and retired EH&S professionals). Make your check payable to **BAESG**.

Mail your completed application form and payment to:

Membership Director
Bay Area Environmental Safety Group
P. O. Box 60363
Sunnyvale, CA 94088-0363

Please complete all the following Personal Information and Company Address for correct listing in the Membership Directory:

Name: _____

Full-time Student? Yes ___ No ___

Certifications (such as CIH, CSP) _____

Job Title (or field of study): _____

Company (or College/University): _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, and ZIP CODE: _____

Daytime Phone (with area code): _____ FAX: _____

Email address: _____

Sponsor: _____

Monthly newsletters will be sent to the above email address.

Areas of Topic Interest for meeting presentations:

Please indicate any areas of special interest that you would like to see covered during the monthly meetings, or topics that you would be interested in presenting.

TOPICS: _____

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN PRESENTING ON THIS TOPIC? Yes ___ No ___