

Safety Insider

May 2012

Bay Area Environmental Safety Group

Meeting Time and Location

Wednesday, May 16, 2012

12:00 – 1:00 PM

Registration starts at 11:30 AM

Hilton Santa Clara

4949 Great America Parkway
Santa Clara, CA
(408) 330 – 0001

For directions go to

www.baesg.org

RSVP at

baesreservation@aol.com

MAY MEETING TOPIC

Mobile Application for EHS

Presented By Andrew Peterson

Is there an EHS App for that? Mr. Andrew Peterson explores the rise of mobile applications and their functionality for environmental health and safety. In his presentation Andrew shows applications that are currently on the market, and areas where new applications could be developed to aid EHS professionals in their day to day duties. From inspections to emergency management, mobile applications may be the solution to efficiency in the future.

Mr. Peterson is EHS assurance manager at a large government agency and a consultant for Simple But Needed. Mr. Peterson is a certified industrial hygienist with over 13 years of experience in the environment, health and safety field. He has developed, implemented and maintained a variety of EHS programs, achieved certification to ISO14001 and OHSAS18001 for a semi-conductor manufacturing company in San Jose, and participated in numerous EHS audits, many of which influenced his passion for finding useful and innovative tools for EHS professionals in the field.

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Presidents Corner

Hope all of you are having a great spring and enjoying early Summer weather! We had a very good attendance at the April BAESG meeting of over 40 people. Victoria Oster, ERM and Matt Lentz, AMEC presented a very informative presentation and created a lively discussion on their Update on the Industrial Storm Water Permit. Their presentation is on the Members Only link.

As you are probably aware, the Hilton Santa Clara has significantly raised our rates for the monthly meetings. As a result, BAESG has actually been recording a financial loss for each of our monthly meetings in 2012. The loss is manageable for the short term; however, we have proposed rate increases in the 2012 ballot so that we can continue to operate in the positive. You should have received the BAESG 2012 Board Member ballot along with a member survey e-mail. Please take the time to complete this very short, but important survey. We are requesting your input on increasing the BAESG membership rates, which have remained for many years at only \$25 per year. A great bargain for all the information, training and net working provided ! In the survey, we are requesting your input on the costs of the member lunches and about alternate venues for lunch meetings.

We are planning to again to have our annual Professional Development Conference (PDC) this fall. The survey has some questions regarding the 2012 PDC. If you are knowledgeable and willing to present on certain topics, please let Paula Lewis, our PDC Coordinator or any Board member know.

Looking forward to seeing you at future meetings. Thanks for your continued support of the BAESG. -Mark Gordon, BAESG President

MEETING LOCATION

**HILTON SANTA CLARA HOTEL
4949 GREAT AMERICA PKWY
Santa Clara, CA**

**At the INTERSECTION OF TASMAN
(ACROSS FROM THE SANTA CLARA CONVENTION CENTER)
408.330.0001**

**Lunch will feature a sumptuous Chef's Choice Menu.
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Advertising in Newsletter

Your ad placed in the BAESG Membership Newsletter, will be seen by EH&S decision makers at companies throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. Advertising cycles will run from January through December. The cost is \$120 per year, and includes a business card size ad in the BAESG Newsletter. Ad space is limited, so get your requests in now. Contact Joe Moulton, at joem@du-all.com or 510-651-8289 for more information.

Tailgate Meeting Topic

Symptoms of Illnesses

Courtesy of Valley Transportation Authority

You may never know when an illness can occur with you or a co-worker. If you notice any of these symptoms or if unsure, call 911 or OCC to activate emergency medical response personnel. Knowing what signs to look for could help a fellow worker's condition from getting worse. Be prepared to assist in any emergency. The following are some general warning signs of a serious illness:

- Altered level of consciousness – such as a person does not act or speak like he/she normally does, does not seem to be able to concentrate well, appears confused, etc.
- Pain, severe pressure or discomfort in the chest
- Breathing difficulty and/or shortness of breath
- Severe abdominal pains

Some of the more common illnesses which could happen at work are Seizures, Stroke, Heart Attack and Diabetic Shock. Medic First Aid booklet (typically issued by First Aid/CPR instructors) lists the following warning signs to watch for in each of these illnesses:

Seizures

- Body suddenly stiffening and/or falling
- Jerking movements
- Irregular breathing
- Vomiting
- Look for medical alert bracelet or necklace on person

Strokes

- Person collapses, not responsive or is confused
- Difficulty breathing
- Weakness or numbness on one side of the body
- Ask 3 Questions: (1) Ask person to smile; (2) Ask them to talk or speak a simple sentence; and (3) Ask them to raise both hands (Smile, Talk and Raise – STR). If they have difficulty with any one of these tasks, it could indicate a Stroke.

Heart Attack

- Cool, moist, pale skin
- Sweating and difficulty breathing
- Pain or pressure in the chest, which may go through the neck, back or arms
- Person may carry Nitroglycerin

Diabetic Shock

- Pale, moist skin
- Disoriented, aggressive, irritable or unusual behavior
- Fruity or sweet smell on breath
- Provide a sweet juice or candy only if the person is responsive

Go to <http://hsi.com/medicfirstaid/> for more information on Medic First Aid training or to find additional resources on first and CPR.

Featured Articles

CAL/OSHA Confined Space SEP Visit Preparation By Steve Pierre, Du-All Safety, April 30, 2012

An increase of confined space fatalities in California last year has spurred Cal/OSHA to launch a Special Emphasis Program (SEP) to focus on employer's confined space programs.

According to Cal/OSHA SEP coordinator Garrett Brown, "confined space incidents almost always are preventable if the employer is following the law." According to new Cal/OSHA protocol, during every inspection, programmed or not, the inspector will ask the employer if it has confined spaces and if so, will ask to look at these confined spaces and requisite program, documentation, and operational procedures for entries.

There was a 300% increase in confined deaths in California from 2010 and Cal/OSHA has vowed to reduce this number to zero in 2012. As 60% of these confined space fatalities are to would-be rescuers, one primary focus is that of the confined space rescue systems in place during permit-required confined space (PRCS) entries. This will ensure that a rescue team is available on-site at every PRCS entries and that they have the appropriate level of training and equipment ready to perform rescues. "Simply stating that the employer will call 9-1-1 does not comply."

For those clients of Du-All Safety that perform PRCS entries, we recommend that a re-evaluation of the Agency's PRCS entry and rescue procedures be scheduled on the annual Safety Plan of Action. Please contact your Account Manager who can coordinate a specialist to conduct an evaluation to ensure compliance and prepare for a potential OSHA SEP visit.

For more information, please see the new Cal/OSHA Confined Space Hazard Alert posted at:

http://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications/ConfinedSpaceHazardAlert.pdf.

OSHA UPDATE: Exercise Regimen for Treatment of Pain Considered OSHA Recordable

EORM Blog, March 30, 2012

Employers read closely! In May 2011, OSHA posted a standards interpretation letter stating that if an exercise regimen is directed by a Certified Athletic Trainer (CAT) for the relief or treatment of pain/symptoms from a work related injury, the exercise regimen or stretches are considered medical treatment and therefore the case is recordable.

They went on to further clarify that if the stretching/exercise regimen is proactive (e.g., exercise recommended as part of an employee wellness program), then the case would not be recordable. Nor would it be recordable if the treatment was for non-work related discomfort (e.g., discomfort from gardening on the weekend).

Finally, the letter states that OSHA “considers therapeutic exercise as a form of physical therapy and intentionally did not include it on the list of first aid treatments in Section 1904.7(b)(5)(ii).”

From this statement, I think it could also be any practitioner of ergonomics, physical therapist, trainer, etc. who recommends stretching or therapeutic exercise who would then turn the case into an OSHA recordable case.

This helps to clarify the ergonomist’s role in providing evaluations for injured workers. We are there to identify risk factors with the workstation and make recommendations for improvement with a focus on engineering and administrative controls. We are not there to diagnose or provide treatment to relieve symptoms; this should be left to medical professionals and we should continue to strive to reduce ergonomic risk.

You can read the the [full letter on the OSHA website](#).

The Full EORM Blog on ergonomics can be viewed at <http://eorm.com/blog/eorm/category/ergonomics/>.

ASSE: Don't Delay on Addressing GHS Compliance EHS Today, By Laura Walter, March 21, 2012

Now that OSHA has announced its revised hazard communication standard to align it with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) urges EHS professionals to start working on GHS compliance as soon as possible.

The U.N. adopted GHS, a consistent way to globally communicate chemical hazard information, in 1992. [OSHA announced](#) its adoption of GHS on March 20, and the final rule will be published in the *Federal Register* March 26. The standard goes into effect 60 days after that publication date. Companies that work with chemicals are expected to have trained their employees on how to read the new material safety data sheets (MSDS) and labels by June 1, 2013, and to have all employee training completed by June 1, 2016. According to ASSE, EHS professionals are about to be flooded with changes to current MSDS and labels that must be revised, rewritten and republished to comply with new GHS regulations and hazard communication standard. Companies and employees therefore should become familiar with the new globalized product/chemical [hazard identifier symbols](#), which have been redesigned to include a red border.

Understanding the Hazards

Risks associated with exposure to chemicals are broad and can range from burning of the skin or eyes, damage to the body's respiratory or neurological system, birth defects or deadly diseases including cancer. In today's world of global trade, it has become necessary to have a harmonized system for the classification and labeling of chemicals to help employees around the world understand the hazards of certain substances they come into contact with and to take the necessary precautions to stay safe on the job, ASSE said.

Differences in chemical regulations, classifications and labeling of chemicals in various countries have led to problems in communicating the dangers of hazardous materials, ASSE added. In addition, compliance with multiple regulations can be costly and time consuming for corporations and the burdens currently can make it difficult for them to compete internationally.

Experts strongly urge those affected by GHS to begin implementation and employee training as soon as possible so they are not mired with compliance requirements at the last minute. ASSE urges employers to begin a dialogue with their workers to ensure that they understand the changes. They also should talk to their chemical suppliers to find out their plans to transition to GHS.

So don't delay – by starting to address GHS as soon as possible, companies can make a difficult, lengthy task more manageable, ASSE stressed.

EPA Fines Violators of Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule

Release Date: 4/5/2012, EPA Contact: Stacy Kika, kika.stacy@epa.gov

WASHINGTON - The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced three enforcement actions for violations of the Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting Rule (RRP) and other lead rules. The RRP rule requires the use of lead-safe work practices to ensure that common renovation activities like sanding, cutting and demolition, which can create hazardous lead dust, are conducted properly by trained and certified contractors or individuals. EPA finalized the RRP rule in 2008 and the rule took effect on April 22, 2010.

“Exposure to lead can cause serious health problems and affects our most vulnerable population, our children,” said Cynthia Giles, assistant administrator for EPA’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. “By taking action to enforce lead rules we are protecting people’s health and ensuring that businesses that follow the rules have a level playing field.”

On March 21, 2012, Colin Wentworth, a rental property owner who was responsible for building operation and maintenance, agreed to pay \$10,000 to resolve violations of the RRP rule. The complaint alleged that Mr. Wentworth’s workers violated the rule by improperly using power equipment to remove paint from the exterior surface of an 1850’s apartment building he owns in Rockland, Maine. The complaint also alleged that the workers had not received any training under the rule and that Mr. Wentworth had failed to apply for firm certification with the EPA. Because the lead dust had not been properly contained, residents were potentially exposed and the dust could have also contaminated the ground surrounding the apartment building. Two of the four units in the building were rented to recipients of U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Section 8 vouchers and there were at least four children under the age of 18, including one under the age of six, living in the units. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) also responded to the alleged violations.

On March 20, 2012, Valiant Home Remodelers, a New Jersey window and siding company, agreed to pay \$1,500 to resolve violations from failing to follow the RRP rule during a window and siding replacement project at a home in Edison, N.J. Valiant Home Remodelers failed to contain renovation dust, contain waste, and train workers on lead-safe work practices.

On February 21, 2012, Johnson Sash and Door, a home repair company located in Omaha, Neb., agreed to pay a \$5,558 penalty for failing to provide the owners or occupants of housing built prior to 1978 with an EPA-approved lead hazard information pamphlet or to obtain a written acknowledgement prior to commencement of renovation activities at five homes. The complaint also alleged that Johnson failed to obtain initial certification prior to performing renovations at these residences.

As required by the law, a company or individual’s ability to pay a penalty is evaluated and penalties are adjusted accordingly. These recent actions are part of EPA’s effort to ensure that contractors and individuals follow the RRP requirements and other lead rules to protect people’s health from exposure to lead. Lead exposure can cause a range of health effects, from behavioral problems and learning disabilities to seizures and death, putting young children at the greatest risk because their nervous systems are still developing.

More information of the renovation, repair, and painting rule is available at <http://www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.htm>.

Upcoming Events

UC Santa Cruz Extension has the following training courses/seminars coming up in Cupertino (For more information see: <http://www.ucsc-extension.edu/>)

June 8, 2012 - **8-hour Annual HAZWOPER Refresher**, 8:00 AM, Santa Clara - \$265
June 15 - 23, 2012 - **Toxicology, Principles**, 8:30 AM, Santa Clara, meets four days - \$625
July 10-31, 2012 - **Safety Management, Introduction**, 8:00 AM, Santa Clara, meets four days - \$625
August 6-10, 2012 – 40 hour HazWoper, 8:00 AM, Santa Clara - \$795

Environmental Training Center has the following training courses/seminars coming up at Mission College (For more information see: <http://www.envtraining.org/>)

May 4, 2012 - **DOT 49 CFR Hazardous Materials Transportation**, 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM - \$110
May 4, 2012 – **CHMM Exam Preparation, 8:00 – 3:30** - \$185
May 11, 2012 – **International Air Transportation Dangerous Goods Regulations**, 8:00 AM to 12 - \$130
May 18, 2012 – **Aboveground Petroleum Storage**, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM, \$185
May 22, 2012 – **Bloodborne Pathogen Program**, 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM, \$75

Peninsula Industrial and Business Association Presents

TBD – GHS Webinar

TBD – LEED Training & Exam Prep

TBD – DOT/IATA Training

January 2013 09th Annual Regulator Conference

For more information or to register for the workshop, go to: <http://piba.org/Events.html>

Please email Joe Moulton, Newsletter Editor at joem@du-all.com if you have an event that you would like posted on our upcoming events page. All notices are subject to BAESG Board member approval.

BAESG MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please use your browser's PRINT command to print this membership application form. Please complete the form and attach 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** and return with this application to:

Membership Director
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