SDC to Sponsor Forum at Safety 2008
ASSE’s Standards Development Committee (SDC) will sponsor a forum during Safety 2008 in Las Vegas, NV. The forum will be held on Thursday, June 12, 2008 from 9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

C. Gary Lopez, SDC Chair, will serve as the forum’s facilitator. Forum panelists will include Steve DiPilla, SDC Vice Chair, and SDC members Rixio Medina and Robb Potts.

ASSE members routinely ask for technical information, updates and status reports on voluntary national consensus standards. The forum will explore how members can effectively implement these standards to advance the SH&E profession.

For more information on the forum, contact Tim Fisher at tfisher@asse.org.

A10 ASC to Meet in July 2008
The ANSI/ASSE A10 Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) for Construction and Demolition Operations will meet on July 15, 2008 from 12:30 p.m. until conclusion at IBEW in Washington, DC. The Liaison Committee will meet that morning from 8:30 a.m. until noon. Lunch will be held from noon to 12:30 p.m.

For more information, contact Tim Fisher at tfisher@asse.org.

U.S. TAG for Risk Management to Meet in August 2008
ASSE serves as the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) Administrator for the ISO 31000 Risk Management Standard.

The ISO 31000 TAG will meet on August 5, 2008 at ASSE headquarters in Des Plaines, Illinois (Chicago) from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Meeting attendees will review comments on the ISO 31000 Standard for Risk Management and will achieve consensus for comments and a voting recommendation to ANSI on the draft standard. Attendance will be limited to no more than 45 members and observers due to space limitations and safety concerns.

For more information, contact Tim Fisher at tfisher@asse.org.

Z359 ASC to Meet in October 2008
The Z359 Accredited Standards Committee (ASC) for Fall Arrest/Protection will meet at ASSE headquarters in Des Plaines, IL from October 7-9, 2008.

Subgroup meetings will take place during October 7 and 8. The full committee meeting will begin the afternoon of October 8 and will conclude on October 9.

Meetings will run from 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. the first two days. On October 9, the meeting will start at 7:30 a.m. and will conclude no later than 2:30 p.m.

Due to space limitations and safety concerns, attendance is limited to no more than 55 members and observers.

For more information, contact Tim Fisher at tfisher@asse.org.

A10.19 Standard Receives Final ANSI Approval
On March 24, 2008, the standard, “Safety Requirements for Pile Installation and Extraction Operations” (ANSI/ASSE A10.19-2008), received final ANSI approval. ASSE is preparing the standard for publication and will notify members once it is available for purchase.
ASSE to Create Compendium of Slip & Fall Prevention Standards
ASSE plans to create a compendium, which will include the following slip and fall prevention standards:

ANSI/ASSE A1264.1-2007: Safety Requirements for Workplace Walking/Working Surfaces and Their Access; Workplace, Floor, Wall and Roof Openings; Stairs and Guardrails Systems


ANSI/ASSE A10.18-2007: Safety Requirements for Temporary Roof and Floor Holes, Wall Openings, Stairways and Other Unprotected Edges in Construction and Demolition Operations

ASTM F1637-07: Standard Practice for Safe Walking Surfaces


ASSE will notify members once this compendium becomes available.

Save the Date for Construction Symposium
ASSE plans to hold a Construction Symposium from November 20-21, 2008 in Scottsdale, AZ.

Presentations during this symposium will address hazards and exposures in the construction and demolition industry as well as use of the A10 standards. A call for speakers and additional information will follow later this year.

ASSE Member Appointed Chair of E06.51 Skylight Human Impact Resistance Task Force WK 17797
ASTM has announced the appointment of ASSE member J. Nigel Ellis as Chair of the E06.51 Skylight Human Impact Resistance Task Force WK 17797. The committee’s purpose is to establish a uniform standard for testing skylights of all kinds for commercial applications.

Skylights are a known source of death and serious injury. The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported 36 deaths in 2006 for private establishments alone and 50 serious injuries in that year. Without guidance to manufacturers of the forces that a fall onto a skylight create, the minimum standards currently employed will cause further death and suffering long into the future to one- and two-person construction and maintenance crews. The benefits of this proposed standard will permit OSHA and ANSI standards committees to reference a realistic test for safety of future skylights.

For further information, contact Stephen Mawn at smawn@astm.org.

Visit ASSE’s Online Forums!

- Find the answers you need
- Add new contacts to your professional network
- Stay connected with your fellow ASSE members

Log in to the Members Only section of www.asse.org and click on “Forums” under “Networking.”
We Asked, You Answered

In the last issue of CoPS SH&E Report, we asked readers what their companies’ “green” plans were for 2008. Public Sector Practice Specialty Administrator Fred Fanning provides his response below…

“At the U.S. Department of Commerce (DOC), our main focus this year is to execute an Electronic Stewardship Implementation Plan to develop and promote common strategies for using environmentally sustainable technologies and practices to improve the quality, performance and environmental management of federal electronic assets throughout their lifecycle. The following business objectives have been defined:

**Acquisition Phase**: 95% of electronic products purchased are Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool-registered

**Use Phase**: ENERGY STAR® features are available and enabled on 100% of computers and monitors

**Use Phase**: 100% of agencies/facilities have policies and programs to extend the useful lifetime of electronic equipment

**End-of-Life Phase**: 100% of non-usable electronic products are reused, donated, sold or recycled using environmentally sound management

DOC’s environmental and personal property managers will guide the implementation effort that will establish DOC-wide policy, guidance and procedures to encourage and promote electronic stewardship. In addition, elements of DOC will participate in the Federal Electronics Challenge. The Federal Electronics Challenge is a voluntary partnership program sponsored by the Federal Environmental Executive and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to empower federal agencies to manage their electronics in an environmentally sound manner during all three lifecycle phases. Participation in the Federal Electronics Challenge will enhance our ability to execute the implementation plan and will allow us to demonstrate a leading role in electronic stewardship.

Project deliverables will include:

**Gap Analysis**: Conduct an analysis of the existing policies and procedures and document the gaps. Complete a gap analysis report and develop a strategy to close the gaps. This deliverable will be considered complete when the project sponsor approves the report.

**Departmental Policies**: If necessary, develop or update existing policies to incorporate the electronic stewardship requirements of Executive Order 13423: Strengthening Federal Environmental, Energy and Transportation Management (signed January 26, 2007) and Instructions for Implementing Executive Order 13423 (signed March 29, 2007).

**Energy Stewardship Training Courses**: Evaluate the current training courses and determine if the requirements of the Executive Order are met. If necessary, develop or update existing training to include the new requirements for the acquisition of Electronic Product Environmental Assessment Tool products, enabling of ENERGY STAR® features, electronic property tracking and reporting and final disposition actions. These deliverables will be considered complete when the training courses are finalized and implemented.

**Tracking & Reporting System**: An electronic property tracking and reporting system will be implemented that tracks and reports the status and specifications of electronic property. The existing personal property tracking and reporting system (Sunflower) may be modified to include the electronic stewardship requirements of the Electronic Stewardship Implementation Plan.

These include:

- Enable tracking of specific electronic equipment
- Identify EPEAT and ENERGY STAR® products
- Final disposition actions
- Expected property life

This deliverable will be considered complete when the electronic tracking system is in place and a report is generated detailing electronic stewardship tracking information.

**Lifecycle Phases & Goals Reporting System**: Provide a reporting system that will enable DOC to track progress toward meeting the goals of the Executive Order and the Electronic Stewardship Implementation Plan. This may be accomplished by developing a new tracking system or by modifying a current resource. This deliverable will be considered complete when a system is in place and a progress report is produced.

In addition to the work in electronic stewardship, DOC also plans to complete the following deliverables in 2008:

- Procure a DOC-wide environmental management system
- Revise the departmental environmental management manual
For more information, contact Jana Brooks at jbrooks@doc.gov or at (202) 482-6212.”

Fred Fanning
Director for Administrative Services
Office of the Chief Financial Officer & Assistant Secretary for Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce

2008 Webinar Schedule

May 21, 2008
Title: Managed Fall Protection
Speaker: Randall Wingfield

May 28, 2008
Title: Cultural Safety: 4 Clues That Your Organization is Out of Balance
Speaker: Rodney Grieve

June 18, 2008
Title: Methods for Auditing Health & Safety Programs: The Onsite Audit Process
Speaker: Paul Esposito

July 9, 2008
Title: Methods for Auditing Health & Safety Programs: The Audit Report
Speaker: Paul Esposito

July 16, 2008
Title: Web 2.0 & the SH&E Professional: Using Second Life to Create Immersive Learning Experiences
Speakers: Rameshsharma Ramloll

July 30, 2008
Title: Using Tabletop Exercises to Improve Your Organization’s Emergency Response Preparedness
Speakers: Larry Holloway

For more information or to register, contact ASSE’s Customer Service Department at (847) 699-2929.
RM/ I Industry’s Role in Managing Nanotechnology Risks

George Pearson is President of and Principal Consultant for Pearson Safety Management Consulting, Inc. (PSM Consulting) and a longtime member of ASSE’s Risk Management/Insurance (RM/I) Practice Specialty. He is also the incoming Vice President of ASSE’s Council on Practices and Standards (CoPS).

Pearson recently wrote two whitepapers on nanotechnology risks and their costs. In this interview, he describes how he developed these whitepapers and explains why it is important for the RM/I industry to evaluate and understand the risks of nanotechnology.

Please provide a brief description of your professional background and of PSM Consulting.

PSM Consulting is a safety and risk control consultancy that has provided services to governments and the private sector since 2001. I formed this organization to serve as a platform to reach out to organizations with health, safety and loss control support. I have held top-level safety management positions in manufacturing, insurance services, international chemical processing, and most recently, wireless telecommunications.

A main interest of mine is advanced technology. I have worked for technology companies for the past 26 years, and I am interested in new and exciting state-of-the-art products, systems and processes. I worked with the introduction of robots to the workplace in the 1980s, was involved in implementing process safety compliance programs in the 1990s, and for the past nine years, have worked in wireless telecommunications. In just a few years, wireless telecommunications has experienced rapid growth and tremendous advances in technology. The industry has achieved more bandwidth, faster connectivity and smaller, more functional phones. Technology advancements have brought us many good things, but experience has taught me that we must take care to fully understand their risks.

You have written two whitepapers on nanotechnology risks and their costs. How did you conduct your research for these whitepapers? Did you encounter any challenges or make any new discoveries?

At the time, I was Administrator of ASSE’s RM/I Practice Specialty, and we wanted to investigate nanotechnology for the benefit of RM/I members. There were three driving factors—responding to a need to know, building on the body of knowledge and my own natural curiosity.

It was tough to reach a point where our team’s thoughts would crystallize, and it could have become a more drawn-out process. However, the RM/I Practice Specialty was committed to producing a piece that not only highlighted the issue, but also provided guidance.

I believe this differentiated the whitepapers from others. Most nanotechnology articles addressed only the unknown health and safety effects, and they all seemed to call for more research. Millions of workers currently help produce prod-
ucts, research applications and handle waste streams containing nanoengineered materials, and they are the ones exposed to the hazards now. We wanted to give the RM/I Practice Specialty members useful and tangible guidance.

The flux of technology was another factor—new products and processes are added everyday. We needed a freeze-frame or snapshot of nanotechnology to write about it.

I organized a detailed outline based on five steps: state the issue, describe why it is an issue, list the alternative courses of future actions, make recommendations and state a vision for the future—a benchmark to measure success in the future, if you will. This idea came to me when I was stuck at O’Hare International Airport in Chicago, IL thanks to a canceled flight. The delay gave me plenty of time to think and organize my thoughts to begin filling in the outline.

During this process, I discovered that the key to resolving our conundrum was to work with my colleagues, brainstorm with team members and talk things through. I took advantage of networking opportunities rather than work alone, which helped move the project forward. This illustrated the value of benchmarking and networking found in an affiliation with an ASSE practice specialty.

Why is it important for the RM/I industry to have risk evaluation guidelines for nanotechnology?

In 2004 and 2006, Swiss Re and Allianz produced two major insurance industry reports, respectively. Both of these major European-based insurance conglomerates called for further research to learn more about the risks of nanotechnology. On the surface, it appeared that the insurance industry would take a wait-and-see approach concerning expected claims and underwriting strategy. In fact, that advice was specifically contained in both industry reports. This meant insurance for nanotechnology risks could be difficult to obtain and/or become expensive at best because insurers could not foresee the risk.

Further, I learned that domestic U.S. insurers are conducting their own research. They seem to be more or less pragmatic but willing to take prudent risks into areas in which they are familiar and to present themselves as a viable risk financing facility. They will rely heavily on their own internal risk control expertise and will probably be very selective with which risks they choose to insure. These companies and their own in-house loss control professionals will need guidance. Who better than the RM/I Practice Specialty leadership to provide it?

Has the RM/I industry established any official protocol or process for assessing nanotechnology risks? Why or why not?

I do not think so, not yet. My whitepaper has contributed to the body of knowledge in this regard. I believe the RM/I industries are generally tentative, prudent and pragmatic.

Some enlightened organizations could have guidelines that mimic workplace controls based on conventional engineering and work practice solutions. These might include improved exhaust ventilation using HEPA filtrations systems and the use of N-95 particulate respirators, as NIOSH recommends for today’s nanotechnology risks. The problem comes as technology advances and particle size decreases. Today’s controls may not be effective tomorrow.

As uncertainty looms, we may find ourselves with an overly conservative wait-and-see insurance market strategy. This could also make it difficult to develop a sustainable risk control protocol, particularly without the data research can provide.

How does the RM/I industry track nanotechnology developments? How does it stay abreast of the latest nanotechnology research?

The RM/I Practice Specialty has a diverse Advisory Committee that gathers input from RM/I Practice Specialty members who work for insurers, brokers and organizations with risk and insurance interests. NIOSH is the lead federal agency, which makes for a good source of information and research developments. These are excellent resources, but nanotechnology is a moving target that is hard to keep nailed down.

For example, over 609 consumer products contain nanoengineered materials to date, according to the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies at the Woodrow Wilson Internal Center for Scholars. Last June, there were less than 400. They report that this list grows by three to four products per day. I think ASSE should form a cross-functional taskforce to keep on top of nanotechnology. A list of resources is given at the end of this interview, which can be used for additional research.

You are a past Administrator of ASSE’S RM/I Practice Specialty and a longtime RM/I Practice Specialty member. What nanotechnology issues do you find are most important to the RM/I membership?
I think the central issue for the RM/I Practice Specialty membership is keeping up with nanotechnology. It is a highly dynamic area, and the challenge is to integrate what we learn from research and to put it into practice. There are constant changes, new applications and new products.

Another key issue is how business and the public will react to the developing information. The International Council on Nanotechnology is a consortium of experts from the public and private sectors that includes Consumer Union. In 2006, they released a survey of 64 nanomaterial manufacturers and labs. The results revealed that about 38% believed their nanomaterials posed no special risks, and another 22% did not know if they did. If they do not know, how can they act?

At a 2006 congressional hearing, one consumer products executive said, “You won’t hear us talking about nanotech or advertising it in any way. That’s our strategy for dealing with potential negative publicity.” The challenge for RM/I and for other practice specialties is to increase awareness and to overcome ignorance and apathy. We can do this by increasing the body of knowledge on the risks and controls concerning nanotechnology.

In your opinion, what must be done to ensure that the RM/I industry is continually informed of potential nanotechnology risks?

We must keep up with the work underway in the private and governmental sectors. We should not compartmentalize the issue of nanotechnology as solely an RM/I issue. Thirteen practice specialties make up CoPS, and several have or should have interest here. The RM/I Practice Specialty should team with other practice specialties to keep members apprised of new developments, and ASSE should establish a cross-functional taskforce to address emerging technologies.

ASSE’s Standards Development Committee has also expressed interest in my whitepapers and sees a need for an ANSI standard in nanotechnology.

ASSE Nanotechnology Resources

Articles & Reports
“Nanotechnology: The Next Industrial Revolution?” Michael Weeks, Fred W. Boelter & Catherine Simmons

“Workplace Exposure to Nanomaterials and the Question of Will Nano be the Next Asbestos”

“Emerging Nanotechnologies for Site Remediation and Wastewater Treatment,” August 2005


“Nanomaterials in the Workplace Policy and Planning Workshop on Occupational Safety and Health,” James T. Bartis, Eric Landree Prepared for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, provided by the RAND Corporation

“EPA Considers Pilot Program Approach to Nanoscale Materials,” Adele Abrams

“Nanotechnologies: What are They and What are the Hazards that Safety Professionals Will Need to Assess, Evaluate and Control?” Burt Aftanski

“Overview of Nanotechnology: Risks, Initiatives and Standardization,” Jolinda Cappello

“Small Sizes that Matter: Opportunities and Risks of Nanotechnologies,” Allianz

“Small Matter, Many Unknowns,” Swiss Re, 2004

Government Resources
National NanoTechnology Initiative
NIOSH NanoTechnology Website
Final Report from the First International Symposium on Occupational Health Implications of Nanomaterials, Sponsored by NIOSH and the U.K. Health & Safety Executive
NIOSH Update: Focus On Nanotechnology: Web Newsletter Reports New NIOSH Research Developments
NIOSH: Nanotechnology and Occupational Safety and Health Research Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
NIOSH Position Statement on Nanotechnology: Advancing Research on Occupational Health Implications and Applications

National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
Food and Drug Administration Nanotechnology Website
FDA Nanotechnology PowerPoint Presentation
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies
News You Can Use

New ASTM Guide Available

A new ASTM International standard provides guidance for using data generated by ASTM standards in testing for asbestos in surface dust. ASTM D 7390, Guide for Evaluating Asbestos in Dust on Surfaces by Comparison Between Two Environments, was approved by ASTM International Committee D22 on Air Quality, part of Subcommittee D22.07 on Sampling and Analysis of Asbestos.

D 7390 can be used to help define the extent of asbestos contamination in a building after the asbestos has been measured using one of the following ASTM standards:

- D 5755, Test Method for Microvacuum Sampling and Indirect Analysis of Dust by Transmission Electron Microscopy for Asbestos Structure Number Surface Loading
- D 5756, Test Method for Microvacuum Sampling and Indirect Analysis of Dust by Transmission Electron Microscopy for Asbestos Mass Concentration
- D 6480, Test Method for Wipe Sampling of Surfaces, Indirect Preparation and Analysis for Asbestos Structure Number Concentration by Transmission Electron Microscopy


CSB Report Calls for New Fire Protection Standards & Improved Chemical Info for Emergency Planners

In a case study report on the October 2006 hazardous waste fire at the Environmental Quality Company (EQ), the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) calls for a new national fire code for hazardous waste facilities and for improving information provided to community emergency planners about the chemicals those facilities store and handle.

The fire occurred on the night of October 5, 2006 at the EQ hazardous waste transfer facility on Investment Boulevard in Apex, NC. The facility was not staffed or monitored after hours, and no EQ employees were present at the time of the fire. Emergency responders did not have access to specific information on the hazardous chemicals stored at the site and ordered the precautionary evacuation of thousands of Apex residents. The evacuation order remained in place for two days until the fire had subsided.

The CSB investigation found that a small fire originated in the facility’s oxidizer storage bay, one of six storage bays where different wastes were consolidated, stored and prepared for transfer offsite to treatment and disposal facilities. Within the oxidizer bay were a number of chemical oxygen generators, which had earlier been removed from aircraft during routine maintenance at a facility in Mobile, AL. However, they had not been safely activated and discharged before entering the waste stream. Solid chlorine-based pool chemicals were stacked on top of the box containing still functional oxygen generators.

Apex firefighters initially responded to a 911 emergency call from a resident driving past the facility, who reported observing a haze with a “strong chlorine smell.” When firefighters arrived, they discovered what was still a small “sofa-size” fire. But that fire spread quickly, most likely as the aircraft oxygen generators discharged and accelerated the blaze.

The facility was destroyed in the ensuing fire and explosions. About 30 people, including one firefighter and 12 police officers, required medical evaluation at local hospitals for respiratory distress and other symptoms that occurred as a plume from the fire drifted across the area.

Hazardous waste facilities like EQ’s are regulated under the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). The investigation noted that EPA-developed RCRA regulations require facilities to have “fire control equipment” but do not specify what equipment and systems should be in place. In addition, no national fire code defines good fire protection practices for hazardous waste facilities.

The CSB investigation identified 22 other hazardous waste fires, explosions and releases that have occurred at U.S. hazardous waste facilities in the past five years. More than one-third had adverse community impacts such as evacuations, orders to shelter and transportation disruptions.

Federal RCRA regulations require operators to “familiarize” local responders in advance concerning facility hazards but do not describe what specific information must be shared about stored chemicals or define the frequency of communications. Similarly, EPA regulations under the 1986 Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act do not require facilities to share information about hazardous wastes with local agencies since those wastes are generally exempt from U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) rules requiring preparation of material safety data sheets (MSDSs).
The investigation found that EQ had had limited contact with the Apex Fire Department prior to the October 2006 fire.

The CSB report recommended the EPA require that permitted hazardous waste facilities periodically provide specific, written information to state and local response officials on the type, approximate quantities and location of hazardous materials.

CSB called on the Environmental Technology Council to develop standardized guidance on waste handling and storage to prevent releases and fires. CSB also recommended that the council petition the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) to develop a specific fire protection standard for the hazardous waste industry. The new standard should address fire prevention, detection, control and suppression. Similar NFPA standards already exist for other industries such as wastewater treatment.

In June 2007, CSB issued a safety advisory and urgent recommendations designed to ensure that chemical oxygen generators are safely activated and discharged prior to transportation and disposal.


EPA Seeks Data on Nanoscale Materials

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Nanoscale Materials Stewardship Program (NMSP) will examine the human health and environmental risks and benefits of nanoscale chemical products. Engineered nanoscale materials range in size from 1-100 nanometers (nm) and may have very different properties than the same materials at a larger scale.

The program calls on manufacturers, importers, processors and users of engineered nanoscale materials to report to EPA key information about these materials within six months. The agency will evaluate the information to help ensure the safe manufacture and use of these nanoscale materials.

EPA will also work with manufacturers, importers, processors and users of nanoscale materials to develop test data to provide a scientific basis for assessing the hazards, exposures and risks of nanoscale materials. NMSP will complement and support EPA’s new and existing chemical programs under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

NMSP includes, but is not limited to, existing chemical nanoscale materials manufactured or imported for commercial purposes as defined by TSCA.

EPA encourages manufacturers and importers of new chemical nanoscale materials, which are subject to TSCA reporting requirements prior to manufacture, as well as researchers to consider reporting under NMSP. NMSP will help provide a firmer scientific foundation for regulatory decisions by encouraging the development of key scientific information and use of risk management practices in developing and commercializing nanoscale materials.


EPA Funds New Research on Nanotechnology’s Environmental Impact

EPA has awarded 21 grants totaling $7.34 million to universities to investigate potential adverse health and environmental effects of manufactured nanomaterials.

The grants were awarded through EPA’s Science to Achieve Results (STAR) research grants program in partnership with the National Science Foundations (NSF), National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), which awarded another eight grants for a total of 29. Nine of the grants focus on potential toxicity, and 12 grants study the fate and transport of nanomaterials in the environment.

EPA further works with agencies in other countries on nanotechnology health and safety research. The agency is part of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development’s (OECD) effort to promote international cooperation in health and environmental safety-related aspects of manufactured nanomaterials.


European Good Practices to Reduce MSDs

Nine organizations have received European Good Practice Awards for helping to prevent musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs), the most common form of work-related illness in Europe. Across the European Union (EU), 25% of workers complain of back pain and 23% report muscular pains. Winners were announced at the closing event of the “Lighten the Load” campaign organized by the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA). The agency also
presented a new report on MSDs.

The “Lighten the Load” campaign promoted an integrated approach to tackling MSDs while helping those affected by them. This campaign complemented EU’s new strategy for health and safety at work (2007–2012), which targets occupational illness and aims to cut work-related accidents by one-quarter across the EU.

More than 500 delegates, including EU policymakers, social partners and leading safety and health experts, gathered at the Euskalduna Conference Centre in Bilbao, Spain on February 26, 2008. The summit was the culmination of the “Lighten the Load” campaign.

During the summit, delegates attended three parallel workshops on statistics, MSD prevention in the workplace and reintegration of workers with MSDs. After the summit, nine organizations from six EU member states received European Good Practice Awards, and an additional 11 entries were commended.

Winners’ projects addressed such topics as:

- Eliminating MSD problems experienced by handling heavy wooden pallets
- Developing an ergonomically designed sewing workstation
- Introducing a load-moving system to reduce manual handling in a greenhouse


ISO to Develop New Management System Standard for Improving Road Safety Globally

The International Organization for Standardization (ISO) has approved the creation of a new project committee to develop an international standard for road traffic safety management systems.

The secretariat of the project committee, ISO/PC 241, Road Safety Management, has been assigned to SIS Swedish Standards Institute. Its first meeting is expected to be held in Stockholm in June.

ISO/PC 241 will bring together stakeholders, including representatives of organizations responsible for road traffic infrastructure, public authorities, government departments, the transport sector, manufacturers, emergency services, health services and those associations concerned with aspects of road safety.

The committee will develop a standard following the generic management system approach pioneered by ISO 9001:2000 for quality management.

The future standard will apply to all actors with influence on road safety, including companies and organizations involved in:

- The design, building and maintenance of roads and streets
- The design and production of cars, lorries and other road vehicles, including parts and equipment
- Transport of goods and people
- Generating significant flows of goods and people
- Having personnel working in road transport systems
- Responding to road traffic accidents

Potential users of the standard include transport and haulage companies, rental car companies and local government organizations responsible for the transport of goods and people.

The standard will provide a holistic approach to road traffic safety. It intends to help organizations:

- Improve their performance in relation to road safety
- Contribute to reducing accidents
- Better meet regulatory requirements and societal expectations regarding road safety
- Employ a process approach, including the Plan-Do-Check-Act cycle and continual improvement, to set and achieve road safety objectives

In addition, the standard may provide an internationally harmonized tool for organizations involved in:

- Auditing the effectiveness of road safety programs
- Analyzing accidents
- Providing funding or awarding prizes for road safety

ISO/PC 241 will work in the area of management system standards only. It will not encroach on regulatory responsibilities but seek to be complementary to the road safety work of intergovernmental organizations such as the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe and the World Health Organization. It will work in close collaboration with the United Nations Road Safety Collaboration, of which ISO is a member.

MSHA Approves First Wireless Tracking System

The U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) has issued its first official approval of a wireless tracking system for use in underground mines. The approval was issued by MSHA’s Approval and Certification Center to Venture Design Services Inc. for the MineTracer Miner Location Monitoring System.*

The system components normally will be interconnected with low-voltage DC power cables; however, in the event of an emergency, the power cables become de-energized, and the system will resort to battery power and can remain operational wirelessly. Although not yet incorporated in the design, Venture Design intends to add text messaging and gas detection to the system in the future.

Since 2006, MSHA has issued 36 new or revised approvals for communications and tracking systems, including a handheld portable radio, several leaky feeder systems and several radio frequency identification (RFID) tracking system components. MSHA currently is examining 41 additional communications and tracking approval applications, including several wireless communications and tracking systems.

The Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act of 2006 requires that each mine evacuation plan include provisions for tracking the pre-accident location of all underground miners. Furthermore, the MINER Act requires that mine operators adopt wireless communications and electronic tracking systems by June 2009.

MSHA’s Approval and Certification Center tests a wide range of mining equipment, components, instruments and materials to ensure that they meet government standards for safe design and construction. This work helps ensure that the various products will not contribute to an explosion, fire, electrical failure, vehicle crash or other accident. The center houses laboratories, explosion galleries and offices that perform administrative work and recordkeeping.

*MSHA’s approval and certification of a product for use in underground coal mines is neither an endorsement of the product nor a guarantee of effective performance or reliability.


MSHA Publishes Final Mine Rescue Teams Rule

MSHA published a final rule that revises existing standards for mine rescue teams for underground coal mines. This final rule implements Section 4 of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act of 2006 to improve overall mine rescue capability, mine emergency response time and mine rescue team effectiveness. It also calls for increased quantity and quality of mine rescue team training.

Among the requirements of the mine rescue teams rule are the following:

- Requires that a person knowledgeable in mine emergency response be present at each mine on each shift and receive annual emergency response training using an MSHA-prescribed course
- Requires two certified mine rescue teams for each mine and includes criteria for certifying the qualifications of a mine rescue team
- Requires that mine rescue team members be available at the mine within one hour from the mine rescue station
- Requires team members to participate in training at each mine serviced by the team (a portion of which must be conducted underground) and to be familiar with the operations and ventilation of the mine
- Requires team members to participate annually in two local mine rescue contests
- Provides for four types of mine rescue teams: mine-site, composite, contract and state-sponsored
- Requires annual training in smoke, simulated smoke or an equivalent environment
- Increases required training from 40 to 96 hours annually


MSHA Publishes Final Rule on Seals in Underground Coal Mines

MSHA published a final rule to increase protections for miners who work in underground coal mines with sealed-off abandoned areas. The final rule, which replaces the Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) that went into effect in May 2007, increases the pounds per square inch (psi) pressure that seals must be able to withstand in the event of an explosion and adds other important safeguards to protect miners.

The final rule also includes the following protections:

- Air sampling behind seals that are less than 120 psi and withdrawal of miners when a dangerous condition is discovered
- Removal of potential ignition sources from sealed areas
- The same three-tiered approach as in the ETS, which
A team of representatives from all three organizations will meet to develop an action plan, determine working procedures and identify the participants’ roles and responsibilities. The team will meet at least three times per year to track and share information on activities and results in achieving the agreement’s goals.

The agreement supports NIOSH’s strategic research program for preventing work-related hearing loss. Approximately 30 million workers are exposed to hazardous noise on the job and an additional nine million are at risk for hearing loss from other agents such as solvents and metals. Work-related hearing loss can significantly degrade a worker’s quality of life, potentially leading to disability.


NIOSH, OSHA & NHCA Establish Alliance on Workplace Hearing Loss Prevention

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) signed an agreement February 21, 2008 with the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Hearing Conservation Association (NHCA) for outreach and resources to help prevent work-related hearing loss.

These three organizations pledged to work together to:

• Provide expertise in developing information for recognizing and preventing occupational hearing loss and in developing ways to communicate such information to employers and employees
• Speak, exhibit or appear at partner-sponsored conferences, local meetings and national conferences such as the annual NCHA conference
• Share information among OSHA and NIOSH personnel and industry safety and health professionals regarding NHCA-recommended best practices or effective approaches. Also to publicize results through materials prepared by the partners, training programs, workshops, seminars, lectures or other appropriate forums
• Work with others on specific issues and projects that are addressed and developed through the alliance
• Convene or participate in forums, roundtable discussions or stakeholder meetings on workplace hearing loss prevention to help forge innovative solutions or to provide input on worker safety and health issues

A team of representatives from all three organizations will meet to develop an action plan, determine working procedures and identify the participants’ roles and responsibilities. The team will meet at least three times per year to track and share information on activities and results in achieving the agreement’s goals.

The agreement supports NIOSH’s strategic research program for preventing work-related hearing loss. Approximately 30 million workers are exposed to hazardous noise on the job and an additional nine million are at risk for hearing loss from other agents such as solvents and metals. Work-related hearing loss can significantly degrade a worker’s quality of life, potentially leading to disability.


OSHA Establishes New NEP on Silica

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has announced a new National Emphasis Program (NEP) to target worksites where employees are at risk for developing silicosis.

The NEP compliance directive builds on policies and procedures instituted in the 1996 Special Emphasis Program and includes:

• An updated list of industries commonly known to have overexposures to silica
• Detailed information on potential hazards linked to silica and on current research regarding silica exposure hazards
• Guidance on calculating the Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) for dust containing respirable crystalline silica in the construction and maritime industries
• Guidance on conducting silica-related inspections

Two additional elements included in the directive are an evaluation procedure for recording reductions of employee exposures to silica as well as information on outreach programs, partnerships and alliances with employers to share resources and training to reduce employee exposures.

Silicosis is a disabling, nonreversible and sometimes fatal lung disease caused by breathing in a large amount of crystalline silica.
New OSHA Combustible Dust Safety & Health Topics Webpage Available

OSHA’s new Combustible Dust Safety and Health Topics webpage (http://www.osha.gov/dsg/combustibledust/index.html) helps employers address hazardous combustible dust and provides recommendations to prevent and control these hazards.

Certain combustible substances, when divided into a dust-like form and suspended in air, can become explosive. Industries that have combustible dust include food (for example, candy, sugar, spice, starch, flour and feed), grain, tobacco, plastics, wood, paper, pulp, rubber, furniture, textiles, pesticides, pharmaceuticals, dyes, coal, metals (for example, aluminum, chromium, iron, magnesium and zinc) and fossil fuel power generation. Combustible dust may have been a cause of an explosion at a Georgia sugar refinery plant.

The new webpage also features a link to the NEP on Combustible Dust, which provides information on compliance with existing standards, an understanding of the hazard and methods of abatement and collection of data for analysis. The new page also incorporates information on directives as well as OSHA and national census standards.

Informal Public Hearing to be Held on Proposed OSHA Rule

OSHA will hold an informal public hearing to receive testimony and documentary evidence on the proposed rule for Confined Spaces in Construction. The hearing will take place on July 22, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. at the U.S. Department of Labor’s Frances Perkins Building in Washington, DC. If a second or third day is necessary, the hearing will begin at 9:00 a.m. on those days.

OSHA published the proposed Confined Spaces in Construction Standard on November 28, 2007 (72 FR 67351) and the public was given until February 28, 2008 to submit comments. Those who intend to present testimony at the hearing must notify OSHA in writing of their intention to do so no later than May 21, 2008. Parties who request more than ten minutes for their presentations at the hearing and those who will present documentary evidence must provide the agency with copies of their full testimony and all documentary evidence no later than June 20, 2008.

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Visit ASSE’s homepage at www.asse.org to update your information or contact Customer Service at (847) 699-2929.
Links:

New ASTM Guide Available

CSB Report Calls for New Fire Protection Standards & Improved Chemical Info for Emergency Planners

EPA Seeks Data on Nanoscale Materials
http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/dc57b08b5acd42bc852573c90044a9c4/f4d3db985d9e2d52852573de0055614f?OpenDocument&Highlight=2,nanoscale

EPA Funds New Research on Nanotechnology's Environmental Impact
http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/dc57b08b5acd42bc852573c90044a9c4/7acfb14b11808efb852573de006b3f4b?OpenDocument&Highlight=2,nanoscale

European Good Practices to Reduce MSDs

ISO to Develop New Management System Standard for Improving Road Safety Globally
http://www.iso.org/iso/pressrelease.htm?refid=Ref1113

MSHA Approves First Wireless Tracking System

MSHA Publishes Final Mine Rescue Teams Rule

MSHA Publishes Final Rule on Seals in Underground Coal Mines

NIOSH, OSHA & NHCA Establish Alliance on Workplace Hearing Loss Prevention
http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/updates/upd-03-24-08.html

OSHA Establishes New NEP on Silica

New OSHA Combustible Dust Safety & Health Topics Webpage Available

OSHA Confirms Effective Date of Direct Final Rule

Informal Public Hearing to be Held on Proposed OSHA Rule
Improving Safety Through Simulation-Based Driver Training

Andre Luongo, is Vice President of Operations for Virtual Driver Interactive (VDI), a driver training company that uses simulation technology in its training methods. In this interview, Luongo provides background on VDI and its course offerings and explains the benefits of simulation-based driver training.

Please provide a brief history of your company and a description of your role and responsibilities as Vice President of Operations for Virtual Driver Interactive (VDI).

VDI was the brainchild of Bob Davis, our current President and CEO. Bob’s own experiences and a recent near-miss on a California highway led him to think, “How do you train individuals to prepare for and survive hazardous driving situations without actually putting them in danger?” Simulation was the answer.

A partnership with Raydon Corporation, a Florida-based simulation company with over 20 years’ experience working with military simulators, eventually led to Raydon’s purchase of VDI.

I was there during VDI’s formation, and now as Vice President of Operations, I manage marketing, product development and other company operations.

What safety and health or industry issues, needs or events led to VDI’s development? Does your company strategy target a particular business sector?

Although the original plan was to train novice drivers, even before VDI was founded, Bob and I recognized the financial impact automobile crashes have on corporations and government agencies. The costs of these crashes are staggering according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA):

- Average cost is $24,500 per crash
- Average cost is $128,00 per injury
- Average cost is $3,810,000 per fatality

These statistics include only on-the-job crashes, and in most cases, off-the-job-crashes have an even deeper cost.

What training courses does VDI offer? Do you partner with any other company or trade associations? What are the cost and learning benefits of simulator training versus more traditional behind-the-wheel driver training?

VDI offers two primary courses, a novice course developed in conjunction with the American Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association (ADTSEA) and a defensive driving course co-developed with the National Safety Council (NSC). For less than $100 per person, a student or employee can receive over five hours of driver training. But more importantly is the impact, relevance and efficiency that can only be achieved by simulation. In a simulated environment, a driver can train in those areas most important to that driver or organization. We can also train that individual in dangerous situations—situations you could not or would not want to do in traditional behind-the-wheel training.

VDI’s parent company, Raydon Corporation, has developed and delivered simulation-based training for the military for over 16 years. How has this partnership helped improve and streamline each company’s courses, technology and product line?

Since 1988, Raydon has provided industry-leading technology to address our military’s training needs. Raydon prides itself in its commitment to research and development and has the financial backing to continue to stay ahead of the technology curve. VDI directly benefits from Raydon’s technology, engineering resources and instructional design team, which allows VDI to take the same technology designed for the military and to apply it to commercial applications.

Which areas of the transportation industry are making the most use of simulator training and why? How do you plan to improve on your clients’ and other companies’ current use of simulation?

The transportation industry has long used large-truck simulators to address the training needs of long-haul trucking. However, this training tends to be expensive and
How does VDI develop the graphics used in its simulation training? Is the available technology based on passenger vehicles only or does it also include vans and light trucks?

VDI uses a combination of the latest graphics technology with a proprietary development environment. The simulation engine allows VDI to accurately create vehicle dynamics for all size vehicles. Currently, the product offers a passenger vehicle and a 10,000-lb package truck option.

Have VDI clients proposed any new or unexplored simulation training topics based on their own on-the-road experiences? Do the available scenarios include international situations (e.g., UK “right-side” consoles, etc.)?

We have learned much from our customers about the top driving issues they face. It is surprising how consistent these issues are. Industries that tend to have a less mature workforce inherit the fact that driver training is virtually nonexistent in public education. Clients also have unique environments, like airports, off-road or violent weather conditions. VDI’s international clients span from Canada to the Middle East, and at times, we have adjusted the simulation program specifically for a particular region.

What are VDI’s plans to introduce additional enhancements to its current technology and other programs for this year and beyond?

VDI is currently working on enhancements to all software titles that will debut this year. We are also redesigning both the full-cab and desktop trainers. Those should debut in the fourth quarter of 2008 or in early 2009. Without revealing too much, expect an even more realistic driving experience and additional functionality that will allow us to test and train a wider range of driving functions.

Does VDI address the unique training needs of both younger drivers (<25 years old) and older drivers (>60 years old)? Both of these demographics represent an increasing percentage of the U.S. workforce.

VDI offers two primary courses, a novice course developed in conjunction with ADTSEA and a defensive driving course co-developed with NSC. The novice driving course teaches the basics of driving and is used often by organizations that have a younger workforce with no formal driver training. The defensive driving course is the next step that benefits drivers of all ages, as it addresses more complex and often dangerous situations and instructs them on techniques that help mitigate the risks we all face when driving.
Rules & Regulations

Mine Safety & Health Administration (MSHA)

30 CFR Parts 49 & 75
RIN 1219-AB53

MSHA Issues Final Rule
The final rule revises MSHA’s existing standards for mine rescue teams for underground coal mines. Effective February 8, 2008, this final rule implements Section 4 of the Mine Improvement and New Emergency Response (MINER) Act of 2006 to improve overall mine rescue capability, improve mine emergency response time and mine rescue team effectiveness and increase the quantity and quality of mine rescue team training.

30 CFR Parts 56, 57 & 71
RIN 1219-AB24

MSHA Proposes to Revise Standard
MSHA proposes to amend the current standard for the quantity and location of firefighting equipment and materials underground to ensure that they are readily available to quickly extinguish a fire. In lieu of the current requirements for rock dust and other firefighting materials, this proposed rule would allow the use of portable fire extinguishers in working sections of underground anthracite coal mines that have no electrical equipment at the face and produce less than 300 tons of coal per shift. The rule also would require an additional fire extinguisher in lieu of rock dust at temporary electrical installations in all underground coal mines.

MSHA Issues Revised Asbestos Exposure Standards
MSHA is revising its existing health standards for asbestos exposure at metal and nonmetal mines, surface coal mines and surface areas of underground coal mines. This final rule reduces the permissible exposure limits for airborne asbestos fibers and makes clarifying changes to the existing standards. Exposure to asbestos has been associated with lung cancer, mesothelioma and other cancers as well as asbestosis and other nonmalignant respiratory diseases. This final rule will help improve health protection for miners who work in an environment where asbestos is present and lower the risk that miners will suffer material impairment of health or functional capacity over their working lifetime.

30 CFR Part 75
RIN 1219-AB40

Would you like to see your name in print?
Do you have fresh and exciting news items or technical articles that you want to submit to the Practice Specialty/Branch newsletters or to CoPS SH&E Report?
Do you know someone who would make a compelling interview candidate? Is that someone you?

CoPS Wants Your Content!

For information on submitting editorial content to any of the CoPS publications, e-mail Jolinda Cappello at jcappello@asse.org.
Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA)

29 CFR Part 1910
[Docket No. OSHA-2007-0006]
RIN 1218-AC29

OSHA Proposes to Include Protocol in Respiratory Protection Standard
OSHA proposes to include the protocol for the abbreviated Bitrex\textsuperscript{supreg} qualitative fit test (“ABQLFT”) in its Respiratory Protection Standard. The proposed protocol would apply to employers in general industry, shipyard employment and the construction industry.

The proposed ABQLFT protocol consists of seven exercises described in the existing Bitrex\textsuperscript{supreg} qualitative fit-testing protocol specified in OSHA’s Respiratory Protection Standard. However, each of the exercises in the proposed ABQLFT protocol lasts 15 seconds, compared to 60 seconds for exercises in the existing Bitrex\textsuperscript{supreg} qualitative fit-testing protocol. This proposal describes the test sensitivity, predictive value of a pass, test specificity and predictive value of a fail for the ABQLFT protocol and requests the public to comment on whether this evidence supports OSHA including the ABQLFT in the Respiratory Protection Standard.

29 CFR Parts 1910 & 1915
[Docket No. OSHA-S049-2006-0675]
RIN 1218-AB50

OSHA Proposes to Revise Shipyard Employment Standards
OSHA proposes to revise the standards on general working conditions in shipyard employment. The proposed revisions would update existing requirements to reflect advances in industry practices and technology. The proposal would also cross-reference general industry standards that already apply to shipyard employment or that OSHA intends to apply. In addition, OSHA proposes to add provisions that would provide protection from hazards not addressed by existing standards, including provisions for the control of hazardous energy (lockout/tagout).

Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA)

49 CFR Part 172
[Docket No. PHMSA-2006-28711 (HM-145N)]
RIN 2137-AE24

PHMSA Amends HMR
PHMSA amends the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) by revising the list of hazardous substances and reportable quantities (RQs) and by correcting editorial errors to the list of hazardous substances and RQs. Superfund (i.e., CERCLA) requires PHMSA to list and regulate all hazardous substances designated by EPA. This final rule enables shippers and carriers to identify the affected hazardous substances, comply with all applicable regulatory requirements and make the required notifications if the release of a hazardous substance occurs.

Links:
- MSHA Issues Final Rule
  http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/08-551.htm
- MSHA Issues Revised Asbestos Exposure Standards
  http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/E8-3828.htm
- MSHA Proposes to Revise Standard
- OSHA Proposes to Include Protocol in Respiratory Protection Standard
- OSHA Proposes to Revise Shipyard Employment Standards
- PHMSA Amends HMR
  http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2008/07-6297.htm
Standards Update

Acoustical Society of America (ASA)

ASA Standard Under Revision
ASA’s (ASC S12) standard, “Criteria for Evaluating Room Noise” (BSR/ASA S12.2-200x), is under revision. This standard provides three primary methods for evaluating room noise: a survey method that employs the A-weighted sound level, an engineering method that employs expanded noise criteria (NC) curves and a method for evaluating low-frequency fluctuating noise using room noise criterion (RNC) curves.

American Chemistry Council (ACC)

ACC Standard Proposed
ACC’s proposed standard, “Labeling and MSDS Formatting for Hazardous Industrial Chemicals” (BSR/ACC Z400.1/ Z129.1-200x), combines the scopes of the current Z400.1 and Z129.1 standards to align the documents with international standards such as GHS. It will present basic information on how to develop and write MSDSs that are complete, clear and consistent and will establish sound principles and guidelines for the preparation of precautionary labeling for hazardous industrial chemicals.

American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)

AIHA Standard Under Revision
AIHA’s standard, “Exhaust Systems for Grinding, Polishing and Buffing” (BSR/AIHA Z9.6-200x), is under revision. This standard represents the minimum criteria intended to protect the health of personnel engaged in and working in the vicinity of grinding, polishing and buffing operations and to control contaminants generated by those operations.

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating & Air Conditioning Engineers, Inc. (ASHRAE)

New ASHRAE Standard in Development
ASHRAE’s new draft “Standard for High-Performance Green Buildings Except Low-Rise Residential Buildings” (BSR/ASHRAE/USGBC/IESNA Standard 189.1P-200x) is in development.

This standard provides minimum criteria that:

- Apply to the following elements of building projects:
  --new buildings and their systems
  --new portions of buildings and their systems
  --new systems and equipment in existing buildings

CoPS Wants to Know...

What areas of SH&E do you believe require new or additional standards?

E-mail your responses to jcappello@asse.org by July 18, 2008.

Responses will be published in the next issue of CoPS SH&E Report.
• Address site sustainability, water use efficiency, energy efficiency, indoor environmental quality (IEQ) and the building’s impact on the atmosphere, materials and resources

American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)

ASME Standards Under Revision

ASME’s “Safety Standard for Platform Lifts and Stairway Chairlifts” (BSR/ASME A18.1-200x) is under revision. This standard covers the design, construction, installation, operation, inspection, testing, maintenance and repair of inclined stairway chairlifts and inclined and vertical platform lifts intended for transportation of a mobility-impaired person only.

ASME’s standard, “Safety Requirements for Powered Platforms and Traveling Ladders and Gantry for Building Maintenance” (BSR/ASME A120.1-200x), is under revision. This standard establishes safety requirements for powered platforms (scaffolds) for buildings where window cleaning and related services are accomplished by means of suspended equipment at heights in excess of 35 ft (11 m) above a safe surface (e.g., grade, street, floor or roof level). It also outlines safety requirements for permanent traveling ladders and gantries (TLGs).

ASME’s standard, “Safety Code for Existing Elevators and Escalators” (BSR/ASME A17.3-200x), is under revision. This standard covers the requirements for existing elevators, escalators and their hoistways.

American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE)

ASSE Standard Under Revision

ASSE’s (ASC Z490) standard, “Criteria for Accepted Practices in Safety, Health and Environmental Training” (BSR/ASSE Z490.1-200x), is under revision. This standard establishes criteria for safety, health and environmental training programs, including development, delivery, evaluation and program management.

Reaffirmation of ASSE Standard in Progress

Reaffirmation of ASSE’s (ASC Z244) standard, “Control of Hazardous Energy—Lockout/Tagout and Alternative Methods” (BSR Z244.1-2003 (R200x)) is in progress. This standard establishes requirements for the control of hazardous energy associated with machines, equipment or processes that could cause injury to personnel.

Association for Manufacturing Technology (AMT)

AMT Standard Under Revision

AMT’s (ASC B11) standard, “Safety Requirements for Mechanical Power Presses” (BSR B11.1-200x), is under revision. This standard applies only to those mechanically powered machines, including transfer presses, commonly referred to as mechanical power presses, which transmit force mechanically to cut, form or assemble metal or other materials by means of tools or dies attached to or operated by slides.

New AMT Standard in Development

AMT’s (ASC B11) new draft standard, “General Safety Requirements Common to ANSI B11 Machines” (BSR B11-200x), is in development. This standard applies to new, modified or rebuilt power-driven machines, not portable by hand, used to shape and/or form metal or other materials by cutting, impact, pressure, electrical or other processing techniques or a combination of these processes. This can be a single machine, machine tool or a machine tool system(s).

Government Electronics & Information Technology Association (GEIA)

New GEIA Standard Proposed

GEIA’s proposed new “Standard Best Practices for System Safety Program Development and Execution” (BSR/GEIA STD-0010-200x) outlines best practices for the setup, implementation and management of system safety programs. The system safety practice as defined provides a consistent means of evaluating identified risks. Mishap risk must be identified, evaluated and mitigated to a level as low as reasonably practicable. The mishap risk must be accepted by the appropriate authority and compliant with federal (and state where applicable) laws and regulations, executive orders, treaties and agreements.

Industrial Truck Standards Development Foundation, Inc. (ITSDF)

Revisions of ITSDF Standard Proposed

ITSDF proposes to revise its “Safety Standard for Low-Lift and High-Lift Trucks” (BSR/ITSDF B56.1-200x). This standard defines safety requirements related to the elements of design, operation and maintenance of low-lift and high-lift
powered industrial trucks controlled by a riding or walking operator and intended for use on compacted, improved surfaces.

ITSDF plans to revise its “Safety Standard for Guided Industrial Vehicles and Automated Functions of Manned Industrial Vehicles” (BSR/ITSDF B56.5-200x). This standard defines the safety requirements related to the elements of design, operation and maintenance of powered, not mechanically restrained, unmanned automatic guided industrial vehicles and automated functions of manned industrial vehicles. It also applies to vehicles originally designed to operate exclusively in a manned mode but which are subsequently modified to operate in an unmanned, automatic mode or in a semiautomatic, manual or maintenance mode.

ITSDF plans to revise its “Safety Standard for Operator-Controlled Tow Tractors” (BSR/ITSDF B56.9-200x). This standard defines the safety requirements related to the elements of design, operation and maintenance of operator-controlled industrial tow tractors up to and including 15,000 lb (66,750N) maximum-rated drawbar pull.

**New ITSDF Standard Proposed**

ITSDF’s proposed new “Safety Standard for Vehicle-Mounted Forklift Trucks” (BSR/ITSDF B56.14-200x) defines the safety requirements related to the elements of design, operation and maintenance of truck-mounted forklifts controlled by a riding or pedestrian operator and intended for use on:

- Industrial—for use on compacted, improved surfaces or
- Rough terrain—for operation on unimproved natural terrain as well as on the disturbed terrain of construction sites

**Laser Institute of America (LIA)**

**LIA Standard Under Revision**

LIA’s (ASC Z136) standard, “Safe Use of Lasers in Educational Institutions” (BSR Z136.5-200x), is under revision. This standard addresses laser safety concerns and situations characteristic of the educational environment. It is intended for laser-using faculty and students at primary, secondary and college levels of education excluding graduate-level research laboratories. The wavelength range of interest includes the ultraviolet, visible and infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum, specifically the wavelength range from 0.18 micrometer to 1 millimeter.

**Material Handling Industry (MHI)**

**New MHI Standard Proposed**

MHI’s proposed new standard, “Design, Manufacture and Installation of Industrial Steel Work Platforms” (BSR MH28.3-200x), addresses means of egress, guarding, materials, structural design, fabrication and loading for an industrial steel work platform. This standard is intended to be applied to the design, manufacturing, installation and maintenance of such structures. An industrial steel work platform is a prefabricated elevated platform in an industrial environment, pre-designed using a steel framing system. Flooring may include other structural or non-structural elements such as, but not limited to, concrete, steel or engineered wood products.

**National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)**

**NFPA Standards Under Revision**

NFPA’s “Standard for Fire Safety and Emergency Symbols” (BSR/NFPA 170-200x) is under revision. This standard presents symbols used for fire safety, emergency and associated hazards.

NFPA’s “Standard for Safeguarding Construction, Alteration and Demolition Operations” (BSR/NFPA 241-200x) is under revision. This standard applies to structures in the course of construction, alteration or demolition, including those in underground locations.

NFPA’s “Standard for Fire Prevention During Welding, Cutting and Other Hot Work” (BSR/NFPA 51B-200x) is under revision. This standard covers provisions to prevent loss of life and property from fire or explosion as a result of hot work. Installation and operation of arc cutting and welding equipment and operation of gas cutting and welding equipment shall be in accordance with “Safety in Welding, Cutting and Allied Processes” (ANSI Z49.1).

NFPA’s “Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace” (BSR/NFPA 70E-200x) is under revision. This standard addresses those electrical safety requirements for employee workplaces that are necessary for the practical safeguarding of employees in their pursuit of gainful employment. This standard covers the installation of electric conductors, electric equipment, signaling and communications conductors and equipment and raceways for the following:
1. Public and private premises, including buildings, structures, mobile homes, recreational vehicles and floating buildings.
2. Yards, lots, parking lots, carnivals and industrial substations.
3. Installations of conductors and equipment that connect to the supply of electricity.
4. Installations used by the electric utility, such as office buildings, warehouses, garages, machine shops and recreational buildings, that are not an integral part of a generating plant, substation or control center.

NFPA’s “Building Construction and Safety Code®” (BSR/NFPA 5000-200x) is under revision. This standard addresses those construction, protection and occupancy features necessary to minimize danger to life and property.

Revisions to NFPA Standards Proposed
NFPA plans to revise its “Standard for Fire Prevention and Control in Coal Mines” (BSR/NFPA 120-200x). This standard covers minimum requirements for reducing loss of life and property from fire and explosion in the following:

1. Underground bituminous coal mines.
2. Coal preparation plants designed to prepare coal for shipment.
4. Surface coal and lignite mines.

NFPA plans to revise its “Standard for Fire Prevention and Control in Metal/Nonmetal Mining and Metal Mineral Processing Facilities” (BSR/NFPA 122-200x). This standard covers minimum requirements for safeguarding life and property against fire and related hazards associated with metal and nonmetal underground and surface mining and metal mineral processing plants.

Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE)

New SAE Standard in Development
SAE’s new draft standard, “Personnel Protection—Skid Steer Loaders” (BSR/SAE J1388-200x), is in development. This standard provides personnel protection guidelines for skid steer loaders. This document is intended as a guide toward standards practice but may be subject to frequent change to keep pace with experience and technical advances. This should be kept in mind when considering its use. This document provides performance criteria for newly manufactured loaders and is not intended for in-service machines.

Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. (UL)

UL Standard Reaffirmed

UL Standard Under Revision
UL’s “Standard for Safety for Luminaries for Use in Hazardous (Classified) Locations” (BSR/UL 844-200x) is under revision. This standard provides revisions to the existing requirements in ANSI/UL 844, Standard for Safety for Luminaries for Use in Hazardous (Classified) Locations, based on proposals and comments received.

—Adapted from ANSI Standards Action, Volume 38, Numbers 51 & 52 and Volume 39, Numbers 1, 2, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 & 15

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Fall Protection Code

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