ASSF Urges President Bush to Fill Top Positions at OSHA, MSHA
In a letter to President George W. Bush, ASSF has urged the administration to appoint heads for OSHA and MSHA. “This is a critical issue that we need to address,” said ASSF President Jack Dobson. “We believe that the appointments should be made with a focus on ensuring that these agencies are able to effectively address the many challenges they face in protecting the health and safety of America’s workers.”

Immigration Sting Damages OSHA’s Efforts, ASSF Says
During a recent sting operation in North Carolina, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents posed as OSHA trainers and arrested dozens of immigrant workers who they said were attending mandatory safety training. OSHA has been criticized in its efforts to force workers to know that the agency was not involved in the sting, which was designed to target illegal immigration and workplace safety. ICE agents have said that their actions were necessary to protect the safety of workers.

Oil & Gas Demand Straining Oil Field Safety
U.S. oil field operators are facing increased demand for oil and gas production, which is putting pressure on safety efforts. ASSF and other industry groups have long been advocating for increased funding for safety programs, but the current demand is putting even more pressure on the industry to ensure that safety is a priority.

Hospitality Branch Offers Tips for Staying Safe at Amusement Parks
ASSF’s Hospitality Branch has prepared a list of 12 tips aimed at increasing safety for amusement parks, fair, carnival and water park visitors:

- Always read and observe posted signage.
- Know where the exits are.
- Watch young children closely.
- Do not hesitate to ask questions during your visit.
- Look out for your fellow guests.
- Do not leave personal items unattended.
- Wear sunscreen and reapply it throughout the day.
- Stay hydrated.
- Wear appropriate footwear.
- Wear comfortable clothing and choose fabrics that wick moisture away from the skin.
- Instruct children what to do if separated from your group.
- Limit the amount that you carry during your visit.

“Although there is no one-size-fits-all solution for all families when it comes to vacation safety,” the Hospitality Branch explains, “these tips are a good first step.” Click here for more details on each tip.

September Is National Preparedness Month
National Preparedness Month is a nationwide effort designed to encourage Americans to take simple steps to prepare for emergencies in their homes, businesses and schools. The effort is supported by the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security and American Red Cross and is supported by a coalition group that includes ASSF. In addition to urging members to visit www.ready.gov for preparation tips, ASSF is offering six resources: Business Resumption and Disaster Safety Checklist; National Preparedness Month; Preparedness and Response Resources; HazMat Emergency Safety Information; HazMat Emergency Response Resources; and Homeland Security Dept. Preparedness Quiz.

ASSEF to Offer More Than $90,000 in Scholarships & Grants
This year’s ASSF Foundation will award more than $90,000 in undergraduate and graduate scholarships and professional development grants. Scholarship applications and guidelines for the 35 scholarship programs and Telly Professional Development Grant are now available. The deadline for all applications is Dec. 1, 2005.

Manufacturing Safety Symposium
Nov. 17-18 In Atlanta
The manufacturing sector continues to be among the highest producers of injury and illness cases-accounting for 21 percent of injury cases and 42 percent of all newly reported occupational illnesses in 2003 according to BLS. What can be done to improve safety and health outcomes? Join ASSF Nov. 17-18 in Atlanta for the Manufacturing Safety Symposium to learn effective strategies for assessing and reducing risk, increasing employee participation, managing controls, and documenting the results of improvements.

Member & Chapter News
Middle Tennessee, Arizona Chapters Create Foundation Scholarships
ASSF Middle Tennessee and Arizona Chapters recently created new scholarships through the ASSE Foundation (ASSEF). The Middle Tennessee Chapter donated $40,700 to establish the Harold F. Bolton Scholarship. Under the provisions of the scholarship, each year an undergraduate or graduate student pursuing a degree in the occupational safety, health and environmental profession. The fund honors Harold F. Bolton, P.E., CSP, who has been an active ASSF member for more than 50 years and has volunteered for the chapter.

The Arizona Chapter recently donated $23,000 to ASSEF to establish a scholarship for undergraduates and graduates pursuing an occupational safety and health degree. One $1,000 scholarship will be awarded each year.

Get to Know the Member and Region Affairs Staff
To help members and region affairs staff locate the person who best meets their needs, the website includes a list of all members of the Region Affairs Staff. We might need to call about a specific question—we’re launching a new section on the ASSE website called “ASSE Staff Resources.” In your first installment, we’ll meet the staff of ASSE’s Member/Region Affairs Dept. and learn more about what they do and how they benefit our members.