Safety 2001: What’s On Tap in Anaheim

Marking its 40th year, ASSE’s annual Professional Development Conference and Exposition—Safety 2001: Advancing the EH&S Profession—will be held June 8-16, 2001, at the Anaheim (CA) Convention Center. An extensive selection of educational and networking opportunities top the agenda at this year’s PDC, while host city Anaheim features an abundance of recreational and dining attractions.

The Conference

Dynamic Speakers
General and lunch session speakers will include ABC Television chief correspondent Chris Wallace, who will address the Washington perspective and changes that are being realized as the new administration takes shape; John Nance, air safety analyst and flight safety advocate, will speak about the human/machine interface and its relation to safety; and ASSE President-Elect M.E. “Eddie” Greer, CSP, who will discuss the importance of leadership for the safety professional.

Educational Programs & Sessions
Attendees will be able to select from more than 30 pre- and post-conference sessions. In addition, expanded educational programs and concurrent sessions are offered in leadership/management, ergonomics, construction, human behavior and international safety. These programs are designed to help participants improve skills, expand technical knowledge and develop new areas of expertise. The broad scope allows attendees to experience a wide range of cutting-edge topics or focus their attention on one specific area of interest.

Each registrant will receive the complete conference proceedings on CD-ROM, providing a “snapshot” review of current professional safety practices. Also, registrants will receive 1.5 CEUs for attendance at the conference, while attendees of pre- and post-conference seminars can earn up to 2.1 additional CEUs and CM points.

Concurrent Sessions
A variety of concurrent educational sessions will be offered, which provide a wide range of options and allow the safety professional to concentrate in areas of his/her choosing. Three complimentary networking lunches, five refreshment breaks and special California tracks—OSHA and EPA—have been added to the expanded program as well.

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A Letter from the Chair, PDC Planning Committee

Safety 2001: Advancing the EH&S Profession

You are cordially invited to join us at this year’s ASSE Professional Development Conference and Exposition (PDC). The conference offers EH&S professionals the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills needed to be at the forefront of the profession, and provides a forum in which they can contribute to the professional discourse on safety, health and the environment.

This year’s PDC will be held June 10-13, 2001, in Anaheim, CA. Pre-conference education seminars will run June 7 to 10, and post-conference seminars will be held June 13 to 16. This year is our most-dynamic and ambitious conference yet. The program has continued to grow—30 percent more sessions than last year—with 115 education sessions and a wealth of other opportunities in the extensive week of events. Here are some highlights of the educational opportunities and special events this year.

• Dynamic general session speakers, including commentator and investigative journalist Chris Wallace of ABC and aviation safety analyst John Nance.
• Conference education sessions offer a variety of substantial tracks in many areas, including:
  - Safety Management
  - Ergonomics
  - Construction
  - Environment
  - Career Development
  - Engineering
  - Risk Management
  - Health/Industrial Hygiene
  - International Issues
  - Transportation

• With the promulgation of the new OSHA Ergonomics Program Standard this year, the conference features a variety of sessions that address the rule and a two-day pre-conference seminar that includes a discussion of how to set up an ergonomics program.
• A special track from California OSHA and EPA, and a western states (OR, WA, AZ, CA) perspective from OSHA representatives in those states.
• An OSHA update session featuring key representatives from federal OSHA who will discuss important events and actions of the agency.
• The pre- and post-conference education seminar program offers a variety of opportunities, including examination preparation courses for ASP, CSP and the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager, as well as two of the required courses for the ASSE Certificate in Safety Management.
• An expanded Fundamentals of Safety, Health and the Environment track of five concurrent educational sessions for beginning professionals.
• The exposition offers a wide selection of products and services of interest to professionals. This year, a Hands-On Demo Area and Startup Park for new exhibitors will be offered for the first time.
• Three conference luncheons this year are complimentary to conference registrants. Wednesday’s lunch includes a presentation on Leadership for the Safety Professional, by ASSE President-Elect Eddie Greer, CSP.
• Offsite tours of the LA International Airport Air Traffic Control Center and the Los Angeles/Long Beach Port, sponsored by the Transportation Practice Specialty, and a tour of Steelcase Furniture Co.

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Safety 2001 (continued from page 1)

Concurrent sessions offer educational opportunities for veteran and new practitioners alike, and cover a broad range of topics, including leadership/management, construction, ergonomics, international safety and health, human behavior, technical/engineering, risk management/insurance and environmental protection. For a better idea of the scope of this conference, see the “PDC Snapshot” on pages 4-5.

Pre- and Post-Conference Seminars
Pre- and post-conference seminars allow attendees to supplement their learning experience at the PDC and earn additional CEUs. These seminars feature something for everyone. Attendees planning to take a certification exam can brush up with ASP, CSP and CHMM exam preparation and math review workshops.

Those focusing on management techniques will benefit from seminars on corporate safety management; global environmental, health and safety management; effective training techniques; or safety leadership skills seminars.

If you’re looking to advance your knowledge in a less-familiar area, several sessions may be of interest, such as industrial hygiene, risk management or finance for the safety professional.

Construction professionals can benefit from subcontractor liability or fall protection in the construction industry, while those in an industrial setting might benefit from lockout/tagout/machine guarding; conducting a safety audit; fire protection; safety on the docks; or process safety management.

Other topics include electrical hazards, OSHA and the NEC; hazard analysis and risk assessment; ergonomics as a loss control measure; incident investigation and root-cause analysis; and movement safety.

Registration for pre- and post-conference seminars includes course materials, course roster, certificate of completion, refreshment breaks and CEU recordation.

Practice Specialty-Sponsored Sessions
Many people attend the PDC to focus on professional development in their specific industry. If you’re one of these professionals, you should consider attending an ASSE practice specialty-sponsored session.

The practice specialties supplement ASSE’s broad-based general activities with focused, industry-specific programs. Ten practice specialties will offer educational sessions at this year’s conference. These sessions allow attendees to network and learn with other members working in or interested in their field.

Practice specialty sessions include:

- **Construction**. Construction Forum.
- **Engineering**. Safety Engineering Case Studies; Task-Based Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Risk Reduction—A Paradigm Shift from Prescriptive Safety; and Engineering Forum.
- **Environmental**. Indoor Air Quality Overview; Process Safety Management/Risk Management Program; Introduction to the California Environmental Regulations and Cal/EPA; and Hazardous Waste Minimization.
- **Industrial Hygiene**. An Employee-Owned B-Safe Process.
- **International**. International Standards Update; and International Forum.
- **Management**. Safety Leadership to Bring Out the Best in People; Leadership Skills for the 21st Century.
- **Mining**. Construction Safety Management for the Alameda Corridor Project.
- **Public Sector**. Owner-Controlled Insurance Programs.


**Fundamentals of Safety and Health**

This year’s PDC also features an expanded Fundamentals of Safety and Health track. Well-received by attendees during its debut last year, the series offers an introduction to a broad range of topics geared to professionals with less than three years’ experience, or those who work in disciplines associated with the EHS profession. “It was a great start for my career,” says a 2000 PDC attendee who completed the series.

The comprehensive presentations are an excellent way to increase knowledge and expand career opportunities. “My eyes were open to things I had not previously given any thought to,” another attendee adds.

Program sessions include:

- **Overview of Regulatory Compliance Requirements**. This session covers basic contents of the OSH Act and key environmental laws and compliance regulations.
- **Hazard Identification and Control**. Essential elements of hazard identification in the workplace will be covered, with an overview of major sources of hazards and the methods to evaluate them.
- **Workplace Health**. The EHS profession

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Craig, firefighter, EMT
Craig is a firefighter and EMT in a large metropolitan area. Having attended ASSE’s PDC last year, Craig decided to make the most of the education sessions by including pre- and post-conference seminars in his schedule.

Pre-conference
• Two-day seminar 323: Incident Investigation and Root Cause Analysis.
  
  Day 1
  • Session 530: When Seconds Count: Saving Cardiac Arrest Victims with Automated External Defibrillators;
  • Session 529: Clean Agent Fire Protection.
  
  Day 2
  • Session 610: Medical Causation/Occupational Injuries;
  • Session 631: Leadership Skills for the 21st Century;
  • Session 645: Confined Space Emergencies.
  
  Day 3

Post-conference
• One-day seminar 914: Fire Protection.

Debbie, state government employee
Debbie works for a state OSHA office, and has been charged with learning more about emerging technologies and exploring real-world examples of the latest management trends.

Day 1
• Session 502: An Employee-Owned B-Safe Process;
• Session 521: Lubrizol’s Assessment of Safety Excellence.

Day 2
• Session 613: OSHA State Plans—Western States Perspective;
• Session 627: Safety at the Speed of Business;
• Session 647: Rear Detection Devices Impact on Vehicle Safety.

Day 3
• Session 703: Emerging Trends in Healthcare Safety;
• Session 725: Six Sigma Applied to Safety;
• Session 741: Due Diligence vs. Control: Safety/Environmental Oversight of Outsourced Service Providers.

Unfortunately, Debbie missed a session she wanted to attend, 653: Foundation Research Reports. However, as a conference attendee, she receives a complimentary copy of the Conference Proceedings on CD-ROM. When she returns to her office, she’ll be able to “attend” the session, and share what she learned at the conference with her supervisor and co-workers.

Lynn, ergonomics consultant
Lynn is specifically interested in ergonomics. Since she has clients in various industries, she’s interested in the application of ergonomics in various environments.

Pre-conference
• Two-day seminar 321: Ergonomics as a Loss Control Measure.

Day 1
• Session 501: Innovative Strategies to Improve Warehouse Safety & Ergonomics;
• Session 522: Ensuring a Return on Investment from Your Ergonomics/Injury Prevention Training.

Day 2
• Session 612: Design for Optimum Worker Safety, Part I: Operations & Maintenance of Aircraft, Part II: Worker Ergonomics in Design;
• Session 625: The Pregnant Worker and Ergonomics;
• Session 651: Strategies and Tactics for a Successful Ergonomics Program.

Day 3
• Session 727: Visual Ergonomics in the Workplace;
• Session 743: Large Scale Office Ergonomics Improvement Projects—Lessons from the Field.

Attention Writers: Visit the Professional Safety Author Session & Booth
If you’ve ever considered writing an article for Professional Safety, but haven’t been able to put your thoughts down on paper, visit with PS staff at booth #347 while at the PDC. In addition, plan to attend the manuscript submission session, which will be held on Monday, June 11 from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m.

The session will include a review of the manuscript submission process—from submission requirements to the Editorial Review Board review process and how articles are rated. Moderated by Editorial Review Board Chair Frank D’Orsi, the session will include a Q&A session with Editorial Review Board members. Session attendees will also receive writing tips and a list of suggested topic areas.
Customize Your Conference

Brian, safety professional, petrochemical manufacturer

Brian is a safety professional with a large petrochemical manufacturer. His team was recently charged with updating the firm’s confined spaces training program. He is considering developing an article about the project.

Day 1
- Session 513: Publishing an Article in Professional Safety Journal;
- Session 528: Safety Engineering Case Studies.

Day 2
- Session 601: Lights, Camera, Action! Film Production Safety and Insurance;
- Session 645: Confined Space Emergencies.

Day 3
- Session 701: Hot Work in Confined Spaces—Practical Considerations;
- Session 733: Project Management: A Critical Skill;
- Session 745: How to Conduct Effective Atmospheric Monitoring for Confined Space Safety.

Post-conference
- One-day seminar 913: Effective Training Techniques.

Jennifer, new safety graduate

Jennifer is a recent occupational safety and health graduate, but has not yet determined her specific area of interest. She wants to explore several different fields, learn more about the various professional certifications and understand options offered by different work environments.

Day 1
- Session 502: An Employee-Owned B-Safe Process;
- Session 525: Quality, Value and Pay for Health, Safety and Environmental Certifications.

Day 2
- Session 614: New Staffing Models and the Role of the Safety Professional;
- Session 622: Code of Professional Conduct;

Day 3
- Session 708: Professional Certification, Registration & Licensure—Benefits & Issues;
- Session 724: Lifelong Learning Resources and Strategies for the OSH Manager;
- Session 752: Traveling the World of Workers’ Comp.

In the first session she attended, Jennifer met Debbie, who works for a state OSHA office in her home state. Jennifer was interested in Debbie’s experience as an OSHA employee. Debbie invited Jennifer to visit her office for a tour and to meet other professionals with a range of different work experiences.

Post-conference
- One-day seminar 913: Effective Training Techniques.

Joe, construction safety manager

Joe’s position as a safety manager for a large construction contractor requires him to wear many hats. As leader of a three-person safety team, he needs to stay abreast of current trends, maintain basic knowledge in various areas, and keep his management techniques fresh.

Pre-conference
- One-day seminar 311: Motivating Employees for Safety Success;
- One-day seminar 414: Workers’ Compensation for the Safety Professional.

Day 1
- Session 503: Developing Highly Effective Construction Safety Professionals;
- Session 526: Pre-Construction Safety Planning.

Day 2
- Session 604: A New Approach to Enhance Workplace Safety;
- Session 622: Code of Professional Conduct;

Day 3
- Session 709: Construction Behavior-Based Safety: “It’s Easier Than You Think!”;
- Session 732: Construction Forum;
- Session 753: Construction Safety Management for the Alameda Corridor Project.

Post-conference
- One-day seminar 813: Subcontractor Liability;
- One-day seminar 911: Fall Protection in the Construction Industry.

In addition to educational sessions, the program offers a variety of special activities & events to round out your conference experience.
Safety 2001
(continued from page 3)

Sessional’s role in assessing and addressing workforce health issues will be reviewed.

Environment. This session will examine the major environmental problems and issues that impact the EHS professional.

Basic Safety Management. An overview of management principles as they apply to the EHS profession will be discussed.

New EHS professionals will gain valuable insight into the profession, while seasoned professionals will find the program to be a helpful refresher. “I am an experienced EHS manager and attended all of the sessions; I recommend that [junior] staff attend,” comments another attendee from last year’s “Fundamentals” series.

Those who attend all five sessions will earn 0.6 CEUs applicable toward ASSE’s Certificate in Safety Management.

The Exposition
This year’s education program has been restructured to allow attendees more time to browse the exposition floor, talk to representatives from various companies and explore the thousands of products and services offered. This year’s Expo also offers two new special features: Startup Park and Hands-On Demo Area.

Look for a list of exhibitors in the May issue of Professional Safety.

Startup Park
Startup Park will allow new companies to showcase their wares. “Startup Park will be a great opportunity for first-time companies to display their products and services,” says Rick Pollock, CMP, co-chair of the PDC Exposition/Sponsorship Subcommittee. “We expect positive feedback, both from new exhibitors benefiting from this initiative as well as attendees.”

Hands-On Demo Area
The Hands-On Demo Area will permit exhibitors to present a 15- to 20-minute demonstration and instruction of their products.

Events & Activities

Student Activities

An ASSE Student Luncheon and Roundtable Discussion will allow student members and faculty advisors to meet and exchange ideas. Additionally, outstanding student achievements will be recognized.

Practice Specialty Reception
A Practice Specialty Reception will be held on Monday, June 11 at 5:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to network with peers and discuss the activities of all 12 practice specialties. Each practice specialty will present its own year-end awards and honors during the reception. Best of all, you don’t have to be a member to attend.

Special Events

A chapter night out to Disneyland, considered the “happiest place on earth,” will take place on Tuesday, June 12, and tickets are available for a trip to Knotts Berry Farm. An offsite educational tour sponsored by the Orange Coast Chapter will feature a visit to the Steelcase Furniture Co., and the Transportation Practice Specialty will sponsor offsite tours to the Los Angeles Air Traffic Control Center and the Port of Long Beach. Day tours are available for guests of registered attendees as well, with scheduled visits to the J. Paul Getty Center and Santa Monica, and The Queen Mary and Shoreline Village.

For detailed information on the education programs and activities at the PDC, see the final brochure that was included with the February 2001 issue of Professional Safety. For more information or to register, visit www.asse.org or call ASSE’s Customer Service Dept. at (847) 699-2929.

ASSE Foundation Silent Auction

The ASSE Foundation will present its seventh annual Silent Auction*, June 10-12, in Anaheim, CA, in conjunction with the Society’s 2001 Professional Development Conference. How can you get involved to help the Foundation succeed in its mission to enhance the long-range future of the safety and health profession? By donating an item for auction. Specifically, the Foundation is seeking:

- autographed sports items;
- gift certificates to restaurants/hotels;
- mini-vacation or weekend getaway packages;
- tickets to sporting events;
- theatre tickets;
- computer software;
- airline tickets;
- Coach briefcase or handbag;
- subscription to an “item of the month” club (e.g., coffee, seafood);
- luggage set;
- golf accessories;
- items from a popular home furnishings catalog (e.g., Spiegel, Crate & Barrel, Pottery Barn);
- spa gift certificates (e.g., Estée Lauder)
- autographed sports items;
- gift certificates to restaurants/hotels;
- mini-vacation or weekend getaway packages;
- tickets to sporting events;
- theatre tickets;
- computer software;
- airline tickets;
- Coach briefcase or handbag;
- subscription to an “item of the month” club (e.g., coffee, seafood);
- luggage set;
- golf accessories;
- items from a popular home furnishings catalog (e.g., Spiegel, Crate & Barrel, Pottery Barn);
- spa gift certificates (e.g., Estée Lauder)

To make a contribution, contact the Customer Service Dept. at (847) 699-2929 and request an “Item Donation Form,” or visit www.asse.org and follow the Occupational Safety and Health Reporter link.
SeminarFest: An Unparalleled Success

SeminarFest, held Jan. 7-13 at the Hyatt Islandia Hotel in San Diego, was an unparalleled success for the Society’s Professional Safety Academy (PSA). Developed to provide a comprehensive educational opportunity in one location, more than 400 safety, health and environmental professionals attended the event. The weeklong series featured 30 professional development seminars that ranged from one to three days in length, and covered technical, management and skill-development topics. A wide range of subjects were covered, with seven new sessions offered this year, including Effective Training Techniques, Business Communication Skills, Motivating Employees for Safety Success, Fire Protection, Process Safety Management, Legal Liabilities for Safety and Health Professionals, and Implementing the OSHA Ergonomics Standard.

"Attendees provided positive feedback on the topics and quality of the new seminars, as well as the seminars that were repeated," says Trudy Goldman, ASSE’s manager, education and program development. “Those attending the business skill-building seminars, such as Business Communication Skills and Effective Training Techniques, encouraged the PSA to continue offering seminar education in this area.”

Several networking receptions and luncheons were held to help attendees establish professional contacts. Attendees were also able to browse through technical publications and purchase incentive items through the ASSE bookstore.

San Diego offered many leisure activity options as well, including beach-front dining, golfing, fishing, and boat and bicycle rentals. In light of the response to SeminarFest 2001, plans for SeminarFest 2002 are underway for another Sunbelt location in January 2002. More information will be available in the coming months.

A Letter from the VP, CoPS (continued from page 2)

• A “Night Out” at Disneyland or Knott’s Berry Farm, sponsored by ASSE’s Orange Coast Chapter.
• Guest tours at exciting attractions such as Disneyland’s California Adventure, the J. Paul Getty Center and the Queen Mary.
• Networking opportunities abound at the ASSE Service Center, where the newly redesigned ASSE website and Online Community will be showcased along with ASSE publications and recognition items.
• ASSE’s Practice Specialties Reception Monday evening—available to all conference attendees who register in advance—offer an opportunity to network with others in your area of interest.
• Continuing education units (CEUs) for use as BCSP continuance of certification (COC) points and certification maintenance (CM) points for CIHs.

This issue of Society Update contains additional details about these exciting events. You can also review the final brochure mailed with the February issue of Professional Safety; contact ASSE’s Customer Service Dept., (847) 699-2929, for more information; or visit www.asse.org, where you can now register online.

The PDC Planning Committee is focused on presenting the most important event in the profession—advancing the level of EHS discourse and providing attendees the information and skills to meet their professional and career goals. Please join us!”

Jeff W. Vincoli, CSP
Chair, Professional Development Conference Planning Committee

ASSE Publishes New Edition of Electrical Safety Book

An Illustrated Guide to Electrical Safety, Fourth Edition

Edited by Thomas M. Kovacic. Published by ASSE. 2001, softcover, 272 pp., $49.95 members; $64.95 non-members. ISBN 1-885581-34-3. Order #4383.

ASSE’s Technical Publications Dept. recently published the fourth edition of An Illustrated Guide to Electrical Safety. This popular book was first published in 1983 as a training, educational and informational tool to be used by safety professionals, employers, compliance officers, educators and others dealing with electrical safety.

The new edition explains revisions to the 1999 NEC and offers expanded information on OSHA’s safety-related work practice requirements. It also contains relevant and practical information on common electrical requirements and safety practices. Special features include:

• improved page layout—editor’s comments immediately follow related regulations;
• improved graphics help clarify application of regulations;
• expanded comments on the use of insulated tools and PPE;
• new tables explain dielectric gloves, rubber insulating equipment and the hazard/risk category of common electrical tasks.

Editor Tom Kovacic is an occupational safety instructor and consultant. His firm, TMK & Assoc., Chardon, OH, specializes in electrical safety and lockout/tagout.

Haering Inducted Into Safety & Health Hall of Fame

ASSE professional member Franklin C. Haering, Ph.D., was recently inducted into the Safety and Health Hall of Fame International, dedicated to recognizing acclaimed leaders and pioneers for their innovative contributions to the safety, health, and environmental industry worldwide.

Haering’s notable career began as a teacher. In 1967, he was appointed supervisor of safety for Montgomery County (MD) Public Schools, with responsibility for ensuring the safety of 15,000 employees, 100,000 students and 190 facilities spread over 500 miles. Since that time, he has served on ASSE’s Technical Publications Task Force, International Relations Committee and Public Sector Education Task Force, and as president of the Public Employees Safety Assn. of Maryland. Haering was selected by the National Recreation and Park Assn. to serve on a 13-member panel to develop public playground safety guidelines for the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

A 33-year member of ASSE, he belongs to the National Capital Chapter, which he served as president, and is a member of the Public Sector Practice Specialty. Haering holds a Ph.D., with special emphasis in safety and administration, from the University of Maryland. He is a renowned speaker, conference presenter, corporate trainer and safety advisor.

Rinella Honored for Esteemed Career

As a tribute to his 25 years as an ASSE member and more than 50 years in the safety profession, Northwest Tennessee professional member emeritus Ralph E. Rinella, P.E., was honored by his chapter. Rinella received a plaque honoring his distinguished career, dedication to the profession and inspiration to others.

A 1949 graduate of the University of Tennessee, Rinella’s career began with Proctor and Gamble. Under his direction, the company recorded 6 million work-hours without a lost-time injury. Rinella subsequently worked as a consultant, and throughout his career has performed training and audits, which exposed him to a broad range of business and industry. As robots were introduced to industry, the entire spectrum of safety had to be managed. With that, he instinctively implemented what he learned from his exposure and experiences at various sites.

Rinella credits ASSE’s leadership and far-reaching methods for enhancing his safety career—not only in material offered, but in procedures in the workplace today. He also cites the Society’s guidance for helping him to develop proper analyses to safely manage high-voltage electricity and provide an environment in which employees could work safely.

Rinella’s career has benefited people in general is admired by all he has come in contact with. Northwest Tennessee Chapter President Jodie French has been greatly influenced by Rinella’s professionalism and kindness. “In today’s workplace, it is our goal to get everyone speaking up with concern and not authority,” says French. “I believe people recognize the need for this quality more today than in Ralph’s professional time—he was addressing issues alone, in a sense.” He adds, “I’ve always admired [Rinella’s] sincere concern for people in general—Ralph’s quality was [ahead of] his time.”

Hall of Fame Inductee

Blackman Thanks Board, Staff

Recent Safety and Health Hall of Fame Inductee Alfred C. Blackman, P.E., CSP, forwarded a gracious note of thanks to ASSE’s Board of Directors and staff.

Please thank each member of the Board of Directors and each member of the staff for the lovely flowers that were sent to me on the occasion of my induction into the Hall of Fame for Safety and Health on Oct. 16, 2000, in Orlando, FL.

It was a distinct honor to be recognized for my working career. As I mentioned in my acceptance after thanking my sponsors and my family, I hope that everyone who feels successful is as personally grateful that my efforts have helped to prevent someone else from being injured or disabled. I would extend that to each of you as well.

Thank you all very much.

A.C. Blackman

Long-Service

ASSE recognizes the following members with anniversary dates from February through April 2001. Thank you for many years of dedicated service to the Society. Members are listed by name and chapter affiliation.

50 Years

Donald M. Beccaria, Southern Oregon
Gary Bohling, Arizona
Vincent P. Bond, South Carolina
James G. Bratt, Eastern New York
Robert G. Brax, Wichita
Alvie R. Clark, Central Texas
Paul L. Clark, Gulf Coast
James J. Curtis, Greater Detroit
James E. Curtis, Gulf Coast
Ronald V. Dickson, Columbia-Willamette

50 Years

Ralph N. Chase, Greater Boston
Floyd L. Farrell, Chattanooga Area
Howard J. Limmart, Metropolitan
Lewis R. Morrison, Metropolitan
Aldo P. Osti, Metropolitan

40 Years

Gary Bohling, Arizona
Vincent P. Bond, South Carolina
James G. Bratt, Eastern New York
Robert G. Brax, Wichita
Alvie R. Clark, Central Texas
Paul L. Clark, Gulf Coast
James J. Curtis, Greater Detroit
James E. Curtis, Gulf Coast
Ronald V. Dickson, Columbia-Willamette

40 Years

W.J. Adams Jr., South Texas
David P. Curley, Connecticut Valley
Harold D. Dale, Ark-La-Tex
K.T. Fortier, Middle Tennessee
Everd E. McKinley, Philadelphia
Frederick Wade, Northwest
Byrnes Awarded Honorary Doctorate

Coral Ridge Baptist University in Jacksonville, FL, recently awarded John Byrnes an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree. Chosen in recognition of his development of aggression management skills and his commitment to the understanding of aggression and its effects on human behavior, Byrnes “has made an extraordinary contribution to our society,” says university president Jeff Burnsed.

A member of the Central Florida Chapter, Byrnes is president of Winter Park, FL-based Center for Aggression Management, which teaches workplace and school violence prevention.

Banach Named Quest VP Operations

Wisconsin Chapter member James D. Banach was recently named vice president of operations for Oconomowoc, WI-based Quest Technologies Inc. His responsibilities have included regional sales manager; general manager; and director of training, service and rental. Banach is active in other industry-related associations, including American Industrial Hygiene Assn., National Hearing Conservation Assn., and Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation.

ASSE Profile

“The greatest reward for doing is the opportunity to do more.” — Jonas Salk

Rachelle Popelas

Meet ASSE student member Rachelle L. Popelas, one of safety’s future leaders. She recently accepted a position as safety representative for General Motors (GM) Vehicle Manufacturing, Pontiac, MI, where she is currently completing an internship. She will start her position with GM after she graduates this spring.

A senior in the Safety Sciences Dept. at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP), Popelas was introduced to the field by a family friend who is also a graduate of IUP’s Safety Sciences program. She says the internship experience has given her insight into the various levels of GM operations, from the assembly line to the executive suite. It has also sharpened her people skills, and has afforded her the opportunity to experience different management styles and a range of hands-on safety issues.

In addition to her internship, Popelas also completed two “co-op” sessions at GM during the summers of 1999 and 2000. These pre-internships allow students to experience within industry some of what they have already learned in the classroom, and apply that knowledge.

Aside from classwork, co-ops and internships, Popelas has been active in ASSE’s IUP student section, for which she served a one-year term as program chair. The ASSE Foundation (ASSEF) helped further her education by awarding her a $12,500 Safety and Health Scholarship from United Parcel Service in 1998. And in 1999, she received the Scholarship for a Safer Tomorrow, sponsored by the ASSEF and Safety Equipment Distributors Assn.

Last year, Popelas was inducted into Mortar Board senior national honor society, which recognizes college seniors for their achievements in scholarship, leadership and service, and is committed to the advancement of women. Popelas was named a 1999 Provost Scholar, and is a member of the Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society and Rho Sigma Kappa, the national safety studies honor society.

She enjoys visiting IUP and sharing her experiences with prospective safety majors. “[I encourage them to] research the field, talk to a few safety professionals and other safety students, and take advantage of IUP’s mentoring program for students exploring the safety profession,” she says. Because the field is relatively new, Popelas says graduates can work in just about any industry, including auto, aviation, food service, consulting, hospitality and entertainment. Popelas notes that many IUP graduates have a job before they complete their degree program.

“Coming out of college with a degree in safety sciences makes you highly desirable,” she says. “IUP’s program not only prepares you for a career, but the co-op and mandatory internships help you get your foot in the door before you even graduate.”

ASSE is proud to have played a role in paving her path to success, and the Society congratulates Popelas on her accomplishments.
Bay Area Construction Committee: 20 Years and Still Growing

In December 1980, at the urging of then vice president of the Construction Division Martin Marino, P.E., CSP, the Bay Area Committee of the Construction Division was formed. It began as a six-person committee with the purpose of promoting construction safety throughout the area to all parties involved—product and service providers, such as private consultants; professional safety/insurance representatives; and manufacturers of safety equipment.

Dec. 19, 2000, marked the group’s 20th anniversary. The committee has held 240 consecutive meetings, which now include from 40 to 80 people each month. “We’re still growing,” says original committee chair and Greater San Jose Chapter professional member emeritus William Van Cleve, P.E., who is still an active participant. A congratulatory letter from current Construction Practice Specialty Administrator Ronald Sokol, CSP, commended the group for its dedication to the cause.

The committee has never had commercial sponsors—Van Cleve and other participants feel it is best to remain neutral. With no fixed home base when it was established, the committee convened on a monthly basis for breakfast meetings, and circulated throughout the area every month to help spread the word. The Greater San Jose Chapter—the group’s sponsor and an active supporter throughout the committee’s 20 years—funded small ads in local papers to promote the group. The Cal-OSHA Reporter was also instrumental in helping to foster the committee’s growth, as was Associated General Contractors.

The group now consists of a seven-member Executive Committee elected each year, and is currently chaired by Sacramento Chapter member Samantha Turner, also a member of the Consultants, Environmental and Management practice specialties. The group has hosted construction safety seminars, testified before the state legislature in Sacramento, and been interviewed by local television and radio.

“We are frequently consulted by other safety organizations as well,” adds Van Cleve.

In addition to its regular roundtable discussion, each meeting since 1980 has included a guest speaker, many from Cal-OSHA. “Cal-OSHA is very sophisticated and has set a very high standard in construction safety,” states Van Cleve. Other guest speakers have included individuals from federal OSHA, organized labor and construction safety equipment suppliers.

Anyone involved and/or interested in construction safety is encouraged to attend. The committee meets the third Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at Francisco’s, 8520 Pardee, Oakland, CA. For more information, contact Samantha Turner at (925) 602-6492.

San Diego Chapter Encourages Visual Ergonomics Education

A recent San Diego Chapter meeting featured acclaimed optometrist Dr. Jeffrey Anshel, who presented a visual ergonomics lecture, with discussions that included workplace eye problems attributable to daily computer monitor viewing. “Workplace ergonomics is an important and timely issue, but the visual aspect is often neglected,” says chapter member and program chair Andy Crossland.

Anshel’s presentation provided attendees with a practical overview of functional vision concerns, including focusing ability, binocular vision function, visual perception, optical corrections and environmental concerns, such as lighting and body posture. He also reviewed the signs of visual stress such as pain, discomfort and adaptation, which is associated with eye pain discomfort, headaches, tired eyes and similar problems.

Members received extensive resource materials that each can tailor to his/her own workplace in an effort to reduce visual ergonomics problems. “The presentation was outstanding and very informative,” says Crossland. Citing Anshel’s notable background, which includes establishing the U.S. Navy’s first vision therapy center, serving on the advisory board of the National Iridology Research Assn., and authoring several books on eye disorders and visual ergonomics, Crossland adds, “I would recommend Dr. Anshel to speak to any group about visual ergonomics.”
Orange Coast Chapter Website: A Model for Others

The Orange Coast Chapter had a goal: rapidly disseminate timely information to members while simultaneously reducing costs. Hence, in 1998, www.ocasse.com was born.

“The creation of our website truly was a team project,” says Orange Coast President-Elect Terrie Norris, CSP, ARM, CPSI. The idea was conceived upon the realization that a substantial portion of the chapter’s monthly expenses were allocated to printing and postage for the chapter newsletter. “The costs were simply accepted as part of our doing business,” says Orange Coast Chapter Secretary Phillip Combest, CSP, ALCM, CPSI. “Soon, it occurred to us that the newsletter could be placed on the Internet and members could receive [it] electronically at a substantially lower cost than the traditional paper medium.”

The chapter’s Executive Committee—Glenn Azevedo, CSP; James Boretti, CSP; Patrick McDonagh, Art Robitaille, Jose Bermudez, CSP; Norris and Combest—discussed the key components of a website, including purpose, features and appearance. Chapter members Jeff Jones, Boretti and Norris formed a Website Subcommittee to research the cost associated with its development and maintenance. “The lowest quote we received for the professional development of a website was $1,200,” says Norris, “and an average cost of $50 for professional monthly website maintenance.”

“We were computer literate, but not experts,” says Combest, who volunteered to implement the plan, which saved the chapter the cost of hiring a webmaster. Although he had no previous experience in Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), Combest experimented with several HTML editors (computer programs that are used to create webpage files), decided which one was best, and began to create the site.

In the interest of functionality and simplicity, Combest used feedback from the Website Subcommittee and his “surfing” experience to gather ideas. Once this step was completed, the committee determined that members could receive notification of the online newsletter via e-mail. As the chapter collected addresses from members, his/her name was removed from the “snail” mail list. To protect members’ privacy, messages are sent “blind copy” and in “plain text” to prevent un-encoding problems. What started with 50 member e-mail addresses has increased to more than 250 since its inception. Norris and Combest both cite significant monthly savings—funds now used for outreach activities, public relations campaigns, educational programs, donations to the ASSE Foundation and other more palatable expenses.

In addition to newsletters, the site includes information about the chapter, its Executive Committee, an event schedule, information on how to join ASSE, and employment opportunities. The chapter has monitored hits to the site, which number anywhere from 250 to 400 per month.

The group continues to review the website, and provides input to refine and improve its appearance, content and ease of use. Since the beginning of the 2000 fiscal year, webmaster responsibilities have been handled by Christopher Gaylord, CSP, who “has done an excellent job in maintaining and improving the site,” according to Combest. As host chapter for ASSE’s 2001 PDC, the chapter added a page to the site that outlines some of the activities planned in Anaheim. “We are thankful that we have creative, energetic and resourceful members,” Norris says.

The site’s success is attributed to its continued growth, development and response to an ever-changing Internet environment. “All websites are works-in-progress, and our is no exception,” says Combest. “I believe that every chapter should strive to make its site a functional medium by which membership can stay abreast of chapter activities and upcoming events.”

Combest has compiled a list of items that the OCC Website Subcommittee found to be helpful:

1) Collaboration. Create a committee to define your purpose and goals (e.g., advertising venue, money-maker, way to attract new members). Then, design the site.

2) Keep it simple. Your site should be easy to navigate; all sub-pages should be accessible from your start page. Professional-organization websites typically do not have bells and whistles—these “fancy” features take longer to load.

3) Spread the word. Register your site with search engines and exchange reciprocal hyperlinks from other local organizations and ASSE headquarters. Verify that chapter members use the site, and notify them of site updates.

4) Include the “Last Updated” date at the beginning of the start page. Old information tells a visitor that your site is old and stale.

5) Secure a dedicated webmaster. The webmaster position is critical, and should be filled by the best you can find or afford. Some competitive professional services will author, maintain and update your website for you.

6) Track your success. Monitor the savings your website provides, and track the e-mail database you build. Most website hosting services will provide a site-tracker free of charge.

7) Purchase a domain name. Nothing will hamper your success more than a web address that is difficult to remember; most free web-hosting sites will provide you with something like: http://www.something.com/members/account1234/asse/index.html. Invest in the domain.

Combest and Gaylord are available to offer guidance and answer any questions that other chapters may have. They can be reached at PhilC2member.asse.org or (714) 284-9737; Chris Gaylord@member.asse.org; or contact ASSE Orange Coast Chapter, P.O. Box 17932, Santa Ana, CA 92799-7932; (714) 731-8444.
The February 2001 issue of Professional Safety features the slate of candidates for the Society’s 2001-2002 elections (pg. 1), as well as biographical information on each candidate nominated for national office (pp. 35-39). Candidates’ platform statements are available on ASSE’s website; through the Society’s fax-on-demand service at (800) 380-7101; or via the Customer Service Dept. at (847) 699-2929.

The Society’s leadership urges all eligible members to vote. “The 2000 Presidential election proved that one vote can make a difference in the outcome of an election and that participation in the political process should not be taken for granted,” states 2000-2001 Society President Samuel J. Gualardo, CSP. “In past years, only a small portion of our national membership has taken advantage of this opportunity to help shape the future of the Society. I urge you to change that trend. Learn about your candidates, think about the many reasons you should vote, then do it.”

Ballots were mailed to all voting members by March 1, 2001, and must be received by April 1, 2001, to be counted. Election results will be published in the May issue of Professional Safety.
Liberty Mutual Contributes $30,000 to ASSEF

The ASSE Foundation (ASSEF) recently received a $30,000 donation from Liberty Mutual Research Center for Safety and Health (LMRC) to help support ASSEF’s commitment to ensure the future of occupational safety and health. The donation will be used to fund the safety research fellowship and research grant programs.

LMRC is a world-renowned occupational safety and health research facility. Its goals: encourage research in the field of safety; expand and stimulate participants’ thoughts and understanding of safety research; and provide a forum for linking safety professionals, industry needs and quality research programs.

Auburn University Student Receives ASSEF Research Grant

Auburn University student Lewis N. Payton has received an $8,275 grant from the ASSE Foundation to support his research project titled, “Adaptive Safety Control of the Metal Cutting Process with Machine Vision.” Based on his presentation to the Foundation, his study was selected for its potential to establish risk-control principles in the production machining process.

“The current oil-based mists have been linked to cancer in the colon, stomach, esophagus, pancreas, larynx and rectal areas,” Payton explains. “This research may prove that there are significant benefits in using water as a cutting fluid.”

Payton’s project is focused on investigating effective interventions for traumatic-injury prevention, adaptive risk-control principles in the production machining process, reduction/elimination of disease risk from production machining process cutting fluids and establishing workstation risk-control criteria.

Payton states his research could also lead to development of an adaptive control system that reacts to the hardness of the material being machined, which could result in reduction of work-piece vibration and reduce or eliminate the use of current metal-cutting fluids. Further, the project will help model the system safety of a manufacturing production cell and examine other ways to reduce the interaction of the worker with the system, thereby reducing injury risks.


The guide provides an overview of the profession, describes career options and offers guidance for selecting undergraduate and graduate education programs—a great resource for anyone considering a career in safety. The publication also includes profiles of individuals in the safety profession, from early to senior career levels.

The first edition of the guide, published in 1997, was well-received within the safety community. The new edition reflects today’s safety trends and developments. As with the previous edition, the booklet details areas in which safety professionals can specialize, addresses salaries and advancement opportunities, and offers guidance on becoming a safety professional.

Career Guide to the Safety Profession is available through ASSEF and BCSP, and will also be made available to high-school counselors, and to colleges and universities with safety degree programs.

To obtain a free copy of the guide, contact ASSE’s Customer Service Dept. at (847) 699-2929; customerservice@asse.org.

ASSEF Receives UPS Grant

Continuing its commitment to safety, the UPS Foundation recently awarded $13,750 to the ASSE Foundation (ASSEF). The UPS Foundation identifies specific areas where its support will have clear impact. Since 1997, it has donated $96,250 to ASSEF. The donation will be used as a scholarship for students pursuing a four-year undergraduate degree in occupational safety and health and/or a related field.

Through the generous support of organizations such as the UPS Foundation, ASSEF is able to advance its mission to provide financial resources to individuals and organizations, and ensure the future of occupational safety and health through applied safety research, fellowships, internships and professional development.
Will the Ergonomics Rule Stand?

U.S. Senator Michael Enzi (R-WY) plans to work with a group of colleagues to overturn the Ergonomics Program Standard, according to a recent press release issued by his office. Enzi says the rule could hurt workers and consumers alike by paralyzing businesses across the country and causing dramatic price increases for goods and services.

Enzi, who chairs the Senate subcommittee with oversight authority over OSHA, believes the ergonomics rule will do little to help workers, yet will increase the regulatory burden on small businesses to an unbearable level. “If ever there was an instance that called for Congress to step in and send an administrative agency rule back to the drawing board, this is it,” Enzi says. “Substantively, OSHA did its best to ignore the negative consequences this onerous rule would have on workers, states, businesses and entire industries.”

According to Enzi, OSHA published the rule before considering the complex causes of repetitive motion injuries and how they relate to the workplace. Had OSHA waited for a recent National Academy of Sciences (NAS) study, which addresses these concerns, Enzi says the agency might have been able to craft a rule that would better solve the problem.

The senator notes other areas the agency did not address, including interference with states’ workers’ compensation programs and additional costs to businesses. In addition, he says, the rule forces small stores to implement the same standards as large industries. “I don’t want this rule to cost people their jobs, to force small businesses, especially healthcare providers, out of business,” Enzi says. “This rule would do that without safety results.”

Enzi hopes to overturn the rule through use of the Congressional Review Act (CRA), a little-used law that allows Congress to overturn an agency rule. According to Enzi, the deadline for congressional action on the ergonomics rule could fall in mid-March. Although passing a resolution to overturn the rule will not be easy, Enzi hopes his colleagues will see the flaws in the current rule. To date, no rule has ever been successfully overturned through use of the CRA.

If a new rule is drafted, Enzi says, it should incorporate data from the NAS study, and rulemakers should consider comments from labor and businesses, and take into account its effect on state programs and specific industries, such as healthcare.

For more about the CRA, read Adele Abrams’s article in the March 2001 issue of Professional Safety (pp. 14-15).

ASSE Foundation 2000-2001 Research Grant Available

The ASSE Foundation is now accepting applications for the second 2000-2001 research grant. Interested researchers may submit a safety or health research proposal for a grant not to exceed $10,000. Submission deadline is May 1, 2001, for the spring grant, which will be awarded June 1, 2001.

Topics of interest include:

- Effective interventions for preventing traumatic injuries.
- Effectiveness of incentive programs.
- Developing management commitment to safety/risk control.
- Criteria to measure risk control effectiveness.
- Effective safety programs for temporary workers.
- Proactive incorporation of risk-control principles in early design of facilities, processes and management systems.
- Cultures within organizations that have outstanding safety records.
- Safety in public areas (e.g., playgrounds).

To submit a proposal, complete the application form, which is available at www.asse.org/foundat.htm, and submit to ASSE Foundation, Attn: Mary Goranson, 1800 E. Oakton St., Des Plaines, IL 60018-2187; mgoranson@asse.org.

Members discuss ANSI’s Z359.0 Fall Protection Program draft standard.

ASSE to Draft Standard on ANSI Fall Protection Program

ASSE has become secretariat to a new subcommittee to draft a standard titled ANSI Z359.0 - Fall Protection Program. The standard will establish guidelines and requirements for a managed fall protection program, including fall hazard assessment, elimination or control of fall hazards, rescue and evacuation plans, training, inspection and program evaluation. An important standard in the area of fall protection, it ties all other ANSI Z359 fall protection standards together. Unlike other Z359 standards, which are equipment performance standards, this will be a managed program standard.

NIOSH Guide References ASSE

Intended to help small business owners, employers and managers deal with occupational safety and health concerns, the NIOSH Safety and Health Resource Guide for Small Business is available. The publication includes telephone numbers, e-mail and Internet addresses to help connect small businesses with organizations that can help them address occupational safety and health issues.

The guide references ASSE’s Safety and Health Management Guide for Small Business, and highlights other ASSE publications and materials, including The National Directory of Safety Consultants, ASSE’s comprehensive listing of safety and health professionals. Available training through ASSE is also mentioned, including American Council on Education-approved correspondence courses, and group and private seminars. To obtain a copy of the guide, contact NIOSH at (800) 356-4674; pubstaff@cdc.gov; or visit www.cdc.gov/niosh.
In the Wake of the News

ASSE Urges NASCAR to Increase Safety

Prior to the recent death of noted race car driver Dale Earnhardt, ASSE sent a letter to National Assn. for Stock Car Auto Racing Inc. (NASCAR) President Mike Helton in an effort to encourage increased safety at the racetrack. In the letter, Society President Samuel J. Gualardo, CSP, calls on NASCAR to improve and implement stronger safety efforts on the racetrack circuit to prevent fatalities, and points to several recent racetrack deaths to illustrate the importance of this point.

"There have been too many tragedies during races that may have been prevented by utilizing new safety initiatives, such as soft walls and other products to better protect the drivers, the audience and the crew," says Gualardo.

The Society applauds the racecar industry for developing advanced safety products and systems that have been adapted for use in commercial products, and NASCAR for pioneering the invention of such safety improvement products as fire-retardant protective suits; self-contained gas tanks; vehicle roll cages; use of the head-and-neck restraint system; and research into aerodynamic body changes aimed at slowing speed. ASSE also commends the group for implementing several requirements of Winston Cup Series teams to improve driver and crew safety.

However, although drivers are trained to maneuver safely in the event of a potential crash, injuries and fatalities continue to occur. Gualardo urges the group to increase research and implementation of safety products and systems, including soft walls and crash boxes.

"We are asking you to take a strong leadership role in protecting your greatest asset—the lives of the drivers," says Gualardo.

"NASCAR has historically been proactive in the development and implementation of a wide variety of innovative safety measures," Helton states in a recent response to ASSE’s letter. "Those efforts continue to be the foremost concern and responsibility of a number of professionals both within and retained by NASCAR."

Society Update will report any further developments in this area, and will continue to keep members informed on ASSE’s activities across all sectors of occupational safety and health.