



Safety Through The Decades

ASSE: 100 years of Protecting People, Property and the Environment.
Your Safety is Our Business; Your Future is Our Mission.



Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire
On March 25, 1911, in the Asch Building in New York City, nearly 150 garment workers died because of locked fire exits and inadequate fire extinguishing systems. A major turning point in history, this fire changed government regulations and laws were instituted to protect workers.

Dam Failure in Canada
A 10 meter high dam, located in Penticton, British Columbia, failed, resulting in severe property damage to the area. This led to an increase in dam safety awareness.

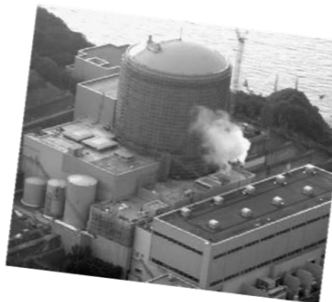
Federal Aid Highway Act of 1956
June 19, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed this bill into law, appropriating \$25 billion dollars for the construction of 41,000 miles of Interstate Highways, making it the first major road construction project in U.S. history.

Fire Safety Institute Founded in 1981
A non-profit organization, the Fire Safety Institute is comprised of fire safety professionals who use an integrated approach of education, information and research to prevent deaths, injuries and property loss due to fire.



Workplace Safety Changes Forever
2,885 reported work-related fatalities resulted from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. 2,198 workers and 412 rescue workers were killed in New York city; 125 workers were killed at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. 151 workers perished on the planes that crashed in Pennsylvania, Virginia and New York City.

Bureau of Mines Given Inspection Authority
13,228 miners were killed in U.S. coal mines from 1906-1911. Established by Congress in 1910 to improve the safety of miners, the Bureau of Mines was charged with the responsibility to conduct research and to reduce accidents in the coal mining industry, but was not given inspection authority to enter mines until 1941.



Nuclear Accident Causes 3 Workplace Deaths
On January 3, 1961, an accident at an experimental nuclear reactor at a federal installation near Idaho Falls, ID, kills three workers. These were the first deaths in U.S. nuclear reactor operations.

Bhopal Poisonous Gas Leak Kills Thousands
On December 3, 1984, poisonous gas leaked from a pesticide manufacturing facility in Bhopal, India, initially killing and injuring thousands of people. This led to new plant safety programs, chemical handling and processing regulations worldwide aimed at preventing such accidents in the future.



Upper Big Branch Mine Tragedy
In the worst U.S. coal mining accident since 1984, on April 5, 2010, an underground explosion reportedly caused by methane gas at W. VA's Upper Big Branch mine killed 25 coal miners.

1921

1941

1961

1981

2001

1911

American Society of Safety Engineers Formed
Founded October 14, 1911, in New York City, ASSE was originally named the United Society of Casualty Inspectors. The original mission was to promote harmonious action in occupational safety work and educate members and the public in all matters related to safety. ASSE is committed to protecting people, property and the environment.



Uniform Traffic Code Established
Established due to the increase in speed and volume of motor vehicle traffic, as well as accidents, the Code consists of four separate acts: motor vehicle registration, driver licensing, automobile anti-theft and uniform traffic regulations.

National Water Safety Congress Established
This nonprofit organization was created in response to a growing number of recreation-related drowning incidents. It includes water safety specialists from federal, state and local governments, water/flood authorities, public safety agencies and individuals.

FDA Established
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is charged with protecting public health by ensuring that foods are safe, chemical substances are harmless and products are safe, effective and honestly labeled.



Institute for Farm Safety Specialists Created
In response to the sharp increase in agricultural fatalities, the Institute for Farm Safety Specialists, now known as the National Institute for Farm Safety, Inc., was created in April 1945 to help in the prevention of agricultural injuries and illnesses.

1971

OSHA & NIOSH Created
Passed by Congress and signed into law by President Richard M. Nixon, the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 established both the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). OSHA was created to enhance workplace safety and prevent injuries and fatalities in the workplace. NIOSH was created to conduct research and make recommendations for the prevention of work-related injuries and illnesses.

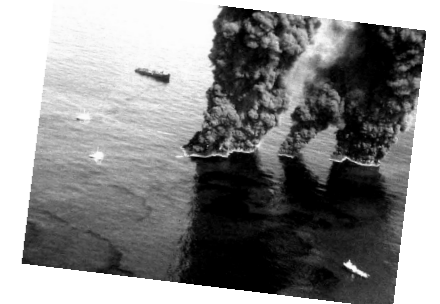
North Carolina Chicken Plant Fire
25 workers died and 49 were seriously injured during a fire at the Imperial Chicken processing plant in Hamlet, NC. The employees were trapped inside the building due to padlocked doors meant to keep vandals away.

Congress Recognizes ASSE & North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week
Senate resolution 245 reads: 'Whereas, every day, millions of people go to and return home from work safely due, in part, to the efforts of many unsung heroes—the occupational safety, health and environmental professionals who work day in and day out identifying hazards and implementing safety advances in all industries and at all workplaces, thereby reducing workplace fatalities and injuries, the Senate commends ASSE, its members and safety professionals for their ongoing commitment to protecting people, property and the environment.'



1991

Major Russian Coal Mining Accidents
On April 10, 2004, 45 miners were killed in a methane explosion in Russia's Kemerovo Region. October 23, 2003, 23 miners were rescued and two died after being trapped in a flooded mine. Miners had complained about deteriorating safety conditions prior to the disasters.



Deep Water Horizon Gulf Oil Spill Tragedy
On April 20, 2010, the Deep Water Horizon drilling rig exploded, killing 11 crewmen. After burning for 36 hours, the rig sank. A reported combination of speculated shortcuts in procedure and a failed blowout preventer contributed to the explosion, resulting in the largest oil spill in the history of U.S. waters, according to authorities.

2011



ASSE Turns 100!!

