

Safety Through The Decades



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 dam safety awareness.

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 the mines until 1941.

Nuclear Accident Causes 3 Workplace Deaths

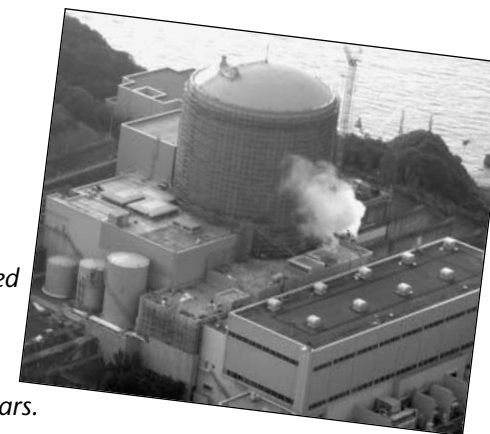
On January 3, 1961, an accident at an experimental nuclear reactor at a federal installation near Idaho Falls, ID, kills three workers. These were the first deaths in U.S. nuclear reactor operations.

Fire Safety Institute Founded 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.

Japan's Deadliest Nuclear Workplace Accident

On August 8, 2004, five workers were killed at a nuclear plant west of Tokyo, prompting safety inspections at several nuclear plants in Japan. Reports state the plant had not been properly inspected for 28 years.



Mining Personal Dust Monitor Developed

NIOSH unveils new Personal Dust Monitor to aid miners in immediately gauging exposure to harmful coal dust, at ASSE's North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week 04 event.

Workplace Safety Changes Forever

2,886 work-related fatalities resulted from the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. 2,198 workers and 412 rescue workers were killed in NY City; 125 workers were killed at the Pentagon. 151 workers were killed on the planes that crashed in PA, VA, and NY City.



Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire

On March 21, 1911, in the Asch Building in New York City, nearly 150 women and young girls died because of locked fire exits and inadequate fire extinguishing systems. A major turning point in history, this fire changed regulation by the government and laws were instituted to protect workers.

1921

1941

1961

1981

2001

1911

1931

1951

1971

1991

2005

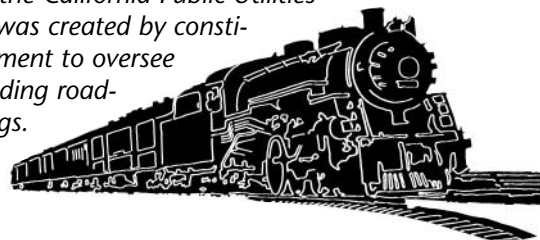


American Society of Safety Engineers Formed

Founded October 14, 1911, in New York City, ASSE was originally named the United Society of Casualty Inspectors. Its original philosophy 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.

California Railroad Commission Created

Now known as the California Public Utilities Commission, it was created by constitutional amendment to oversee rail safety, including road-way/rail crossings.



Uniform Traffic Code Established

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

FDA Established

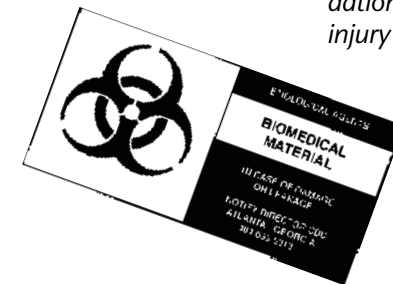
The U.S. Food and Drug Administration is charged with protecting public health by ensuring that foods are safe, chemical substances are harmless, and products are safe, effective and honestly labeled.

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.

National Water Safety Congress Established

This non-profit organization was created in response to a growing number of recreation-related drownings. It includes water safety specialists from federal, state and local governments, water/flood authorities, public safety agencies and individuals.



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 injury and illness.



North Carolina Plant Fire

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

Major Russian Coal Mining Accidents

On April 10, 2004, 45 miners were killed in a methane explosion in Russia's Kemerovo region. On October 23, 2003, 43 miners were rescued and two died after being trapped in a flooded mine. Miners had complained about deteriorating safety conditions. On December 2, 1997, post-Soviet Russia's worst mining disaster kills 67 workers in a methane explosion in Siberia.

Congress Recognizes ASSE & North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week

Senate Resolution 245 says '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.'