



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Next Meeting:

TOPIC: Contractor Safety Program & Plant Tour

Presenter: Reggie Burke w/Bayer US – Crop Science (formerly Monsanto)

When: April 18 @ noon

Where: Bayer US – Crop Science

2500 Wiggins Rd, Muscatine, IA 52761

Update Contact Information

Contact Diana Gilbert @ dlg1127@aol.com to up-date your e-mail address to receive the newsletter by e-mail, and emails from ASSE if you are not currently doing so.

We are always looking for input into the newsletter to better serve our members. Please send newsletter contributions to Diana Gilbert.

New Members!!

The Quad City Chapter would like to welcome our newest members: Andy Josund w/ADM and Misha Griffis student member!!

Welcome!!

If you know of someone who is interested in joining our chapter, refer them to the refer-a-member link on <http://www.assp.org/>

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WHAT DO YOU SEE?

OSHA Issues Safety Bulletin on Hazards of Lithium Batteries, Lithium-Powered Devices

Washington — OSHA has released a [Safety & Health Information Bulletin](#) warning employers & workers of potential fire & explosion hazards stemming from lithium batteries used to power small or wearable electronic devices. More than 25,000 overheating or fire incidents, involving more than 400 types of lithium battery-powered products, occurred between January 2012 & July 2017, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission's [Status Report on High Energy Density Batteries Project](#).

"Lithium batteries are generally safe & unlikely to malfunction (i.e., fail), but only so long as there are no defects & the batteries are not damaged," OSHA states in the Jan. 18 bulletin. "When lithium batteries fail to operate safely, they may present a fire or explosion hazard." Battery damage can occur from physical impact, exposure to extreme temperatures or failure to follow manufacturers' recommendations when charging a device or battery.

OSHA's advice for prevention & training includes:

- Make sure lithium batteries & all other equipment are tested under appropriate standards, certified by a [Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory](#) & rated for their intended uses.
- Follow manufacturers' instructions for storage, use, charging & maintenance.
- Ensure replacement batteries & chargers are designed & approved for use with specific devices. Buy batteries or chargers from the device's manufacturer or an authorized reseller.
- Remove lithium-powered devices & batteries from chargers when they are fully charged.
- Store devices & batteries in fire-resistant containers & in cool, dry locations.
- Inspect devices & batteries before use for signs of damage such as bulging, cracking, hissing, leaking & smoking, especially if they are wearable. If any of these signs are present, immediately remove a device or battery from service & place it away from flammable materials.
- Ensure workers remove a device from clothing if it feels hot or shows any of the aforementioned, or similar, signs of damage.
- Follow local, state & federal regulations on proper disposal. Contact a local battery recycling center for disposal instructions.
- Follow manufacturers' guidelines or employer policies when extinguishing small battery fires.

"Ensure that an emergency action plan for a workplace with lithium-powered devices or batteries includes lithium-related incident response procedures based on manufacturers' instructions for responding to battery failures, including fires or explosions," OSHA states, adding that employers should communicate information about the hazards of lithium-powered devices & lithium batteries to workers.

Safety Training Materials May Be Too Technical For Some Construction Workers: CPWR

Silver Spring, MD — about one-third of construction worker training materials are written above an eighth-grade reading level – which goes against the recommendation of many communication experts – according to a [recent report](#) from the Center for Construction Research & Training, also known as CPWR. After reviewing 103 safety training handouts, brochures & Safety Data Sheets, researchers found several of the materials contained technical language or other unfamiliar terminology.

To correct this issue, the researchers recommend written training material authors:

- Focus on a single, main message.
- Use one "call to action" for workers.
- Summarize the main message at the beginning of the document.
- Include informative subheads & bold print to reinforce key points.
- Provide step-by-step instructions for recommended actions.

In addition, CPWR states employers should supplement SDSs – which can be hard to understand – with targeted, easier-to-read materials for workers. The study was [published online](#) Aug. 26 in the *American Journal of Industrial Medicine*.

OSHA CHALLENGE

What is OSHA's latest position on safety-incentive programs, as described in its October 11 memorandum?

- A) Safety incentive programs are never allowed**
- B) Positive incentive programs are allowed, but rate-based programs are not**
- C) Rate-based incentive programs are allowed when combined with other measures**
- D) All types of safety incentive programs are allowed**

Trenching Safety: OSHA Publishes Videos & More for Trenching Safety

According to OSHA, 23 workers died in trench collapses in 2016, more than the combined total from 2014 & 2015. According to [OSHA](#), dozens of workers are killed every year & hundreds more are injured in trench collapses. Cave-ins represent the greatest fatality risk for trench workers; other hazards include falls, falling loads & mobile equipment.

The [OSHA Region 6](#) Training Institute Education Centers recently released a video on [trenching & excavation safety](#). The one-hour video addresses best practices, cave-in protection, resources & other hazards workers encounter in trenching <https://info.midsouthoti.org/vpppa-region-6-video-1-0-0>. Key points:

- The standard for trenching & excavation requires protective systems for trenches that are 5' or deeper, unless the excavation occurs in stable rock. Types of protective systems include sloping, shoring & shielding.
- Requirements for a safe means of access or egress – such as ladders, steps & ramps – be located within 25' of all workers for excavations 4' or deeper.
- Preplanning is paramount in excavation work. The designated competent person leading the operation takes a central role by mastering OSHA regulations & recognizing existing & potential hazards.

OSHA recently released another [video](#) highlighting the importance of soil classification when planning [trenching & excavation work](#). The 11-minute video examines how visual inspection of soil is performed by a [competent person](#) before work begins, as required by OSHA. Testing the soil helps employers determine its stability, which dictates the proper protective system to use on a jobsite. "Some types of soil are stable & some are not," the video states. "When digging a trench, it's important to know the type of soil you're working with so you know how to properly slope, bench or shore the trench. This can help prevent a cave-in."

The OSHA standard for trenching & excavation requires protective systems for trenches that are 5' or deeper, unless the excavation occurs in stable rock. Soil may be classified as Type A, B or C, listed in descending order of stability. Trenches can be cut through multiple types of soil, the agency points out. OSHA has updated its [guidance document](#) on trenching & excavation activities to include a section on the employer bidding process. When deciding whether to bid, employers should know as much as possible about a jobsite & consider the materials necessary to perform work at the site safely. OSHA advises employers to consider the following factors when bidding on a job:

- Traffic
- Weather
- Fall protection needs
- Overhead & underground utilities
- Soil classification

A recently developed mobile app aims to protect workers who take part in excavation & trenching activities. Sponsored by the Michigan Infrastructure & Transportation Association, the [Trench Right](#) app performs calculations to help workers determine whether potential excavations are safe enough to be completed. Users input the dimensions, soil type & tons-per-square-foot reading from their penetrometer & the app uses the information to determine whether the worksite is safe. The free app is available from the [Google Play Store](#) & the [Apple Store](#).

OSHA has unveiled a new sticker intended to raise awareness of trenching safety by reminding workers to "slope it, shore it, shield it." "When done safely, trenching operations can limit worker exposure to cave-ins, falling loads, hazardous atmospheres & hazards from mobile equipment," OSHA states. "The best way to prevent a trench collapse is to slope or bench trench walls, shore trench walls with supports, or shield trench walls with trench boxes." The free stickers are available in [English](#) & [Spanish](#). Go to [OSHA's Publications page](#) to order them.

NTSB Most Wanted List

About the NTSB Most Wanted List of Transportation Safety Improvements Tens of thousands of people die in transportation accidents and crashes every year—our neighbors, our coworkers, our schoolmates, our family members. But they don't have to. Most of these deaths are completely preventable. With each accident, we learn lessons about safety gaps and make recommendations that, if acted upon, could close these gaps. The MOST WANTED LIST, the NTSB's premier advocacy tool, identifies the top safety improvements that can be made across all modes to prevent accidents, minimize injuries, and save lives in the future. These issue areas are ripe for action now; if addressed, they would make a significant impact. The MOST WANTED LIST is our road map from lessons learned to lives saved. We urge lawmakers, industry, and every American to learn more about what they can do to implement and champion these critical safety improvements. Together, we can save lives. To learn more about the Most Wanted List, visit www.NTSB.gov/MostWanted or contact SafetyAdvocacy@NTSB.gov

HELP WANTED

To view the job listing please place cursor on the job title and then control + click.

[Sr HSE Manager, Wever IA](#)

[Safety Intern, Burlington IA](#)

[Safety Sales Specialist, Iowa City IA](#)

[Construction Safety Director, Keokuk IA](#)

[Summer EHS Intern, Manchester IA](#)

[Continuous Improvement & Safety Coordinator, DeKalb IL](#)

[Safety Quality Manager, Galesburg IL](#)

[EHS Manager, Rockford IL](#)

[Safety, Health & Environmental Co-Op, Morton IL](#)

[Health & Safety Professional, Cedar Rapids IA](#)

[Safety Coordinator, Peoria IL](#)

[EHS Intern, Rockford IL](#)

[Complex EHS Coordinator, Cedar Rapids IA](#)

[In Plant Safety Manager, West Liberty IA](#)

[Corporate Safety Manager, Muscatine IA](#)

[EHS Manager, Fort Madison IA](#)

[EHS Technician – Industrial Hygienist, Cordova IL](#)

[EHS Coordinator, Davenport IA](#)

[EHS Compliance Professional, Peoria IL](#)

[Occupational Health & Safety Specialist & Technician, East Moline IL](#)

[Sr EHS Specialist, Cedar Rapids IA](#)

[Lean Manufacturing & Safety Specialist, Mount Pleasant IA](#)

[EHS Specialist, Freeport IL](#)

[EHS Specialist, Cedar Rapids IA](#)

[HSE Coordinator, Cedar Rapids IA](#)

[Special Specialist, Rockford IL](#)

[Field Health & Safety Technician, Keokuk IA](#)

[EHS & Security Technician, Fort Madison IA](#)

[Safety Coordinator, Princeton IL](#)

[Safety Specialist, Bettendorf IA](#)

[Jobsite Safety Specialist, Davenport IA](#)

[Safety Coordinator, Durant IA](#)

[Safety & Compliance Coordinator, West Burlington IA](#)

See more job listings like these on the members' only page located at <https://jobs.assp.org/> or <http://qc.assp.org/jobs/>

Registration Opens for ASSP's Safety 2019 in New Orleans

Registration is open for the nation's largest conference for occupational safety & health professionals. ASSP expects to draw more than 5,000 attendees from 40 countries to its [Safety 2019 Professional Development Conference & Exposition](#). June 9-12 at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center

QC ASSP Scholarship

The Quad Cities Chapter ASSP Scholarship committee is currently taking applications to receive \$1000 scholarship sponsored by [BITCO Insurance](#). **The application deadline is May 10, 2019.** *You do not have to be a member of American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) to be eligible.

Eligibility Criteria:

Transcript (submit an official or unofficial transcript)

Verify current enrollment in at least three semester hours at a college or university & working toward a degree in Health, Safety & Environmental (HSE)

Verify completion of at least 10 semester hours within a HSE program

Verify overall GPA of at least 2.5 (less than 2.5 not eligible)

Must be a student from the Quad Cities ASSP chapter boundaries:

- In Illinois: Carroll, Henderson, Henry, Knox, Mercer, Rock Island, Warren, and Whiteside counties.

- In Iowa: Cedar, Clinton, Des Moines, Henry, Jackson, Johnson, Jones, Lee, Louisa, Muscatine, Scott, and Washington counties.

For more information or to submit your application please visit

<https://qc.assp.org/encounters-news/2019-qc-assp-scholarship-application/>

Call for Board Members for Quad Cities American Society of Safety Professionals Chapter (QC ASSP)

We are looking for anyone who is interested in becoming a board member for our local chapter. It is a 2 year term. If anyone is interested or would like more information please contact Travis Keeney at tkeeney@tricityelectric.com

Popular Topics on the Safety 2019 Blog

Goal Setting to Improve Organizational Performance

To improve safety performance, most organizations measure their efforts using incident-based metrics, meaning success or failure often hinges on the absence of adverse events. Organizations often fail to consider what setting these goals will actually achieve. [Read the full article >](#)

Five Things That Will Make Your Risk Management Successful

Risk management is a complex practice that can seem daunting, especially with its array of analysis methods and matrixes. No matter where you are in your journey, there are five essentials that will help you identify risks and protect workers. [Read the full article >](#)

[Read More Articles](#)

[OSHA Challenge Answer](#)

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 Quad Cities Chapter
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**Check us out on our website
 for current updates and
 activities.**

<http://qc.assp.org>