



Quad Cities Chapter American Society of Safety Engineers

Next Meeting:

How Leadership Can Enhance Engagement

Presenter: Dr Dan R Ebener w/St Ambrose University

When: Feb 19 @ 11:30 – 12:30

Where: Birchwood Fields Learning Center

4700 E 53rd St
Davenport, IA 52807

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 member: Paula Campbell w/Atlas Molded Products & Matt Pojar!!

Welcome!!

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

WHAT DO YOU SEE?

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What to Expect from OSHA in 2020

Proposed rulemakings & initiatives stand out on the agency's agenda. Don't expect OSHA to slow down as it enters the fifth decade of its existence, following a year of heightened activity in support of its workplace safety mission.

An agency of the U.S. Department of Labor, OSHA spent 2019 [increasing its number of employer inspections](#) & pursuing new rulemakings & programs. In fiscal year 2019, It conducted 33,401 inspections—more inspections than the previous three years—addressing violations related to trenching, falls, chemical exposure, silica exposure & other hazards.

The enforcement numbers do not include 22 state plans which are responsible for covering both private sector & state & local government workers, & six additional states covering only state & local government workers. Those states rely on their own resources & assistance from federal OSHA to enforce both federal & state worker safety laws, & have not yet released their enforcement statistics for this year.

During the same period, OSHA provided a record 1,392,611 workers with training on safety & health requirements through the agency's various education programs, including the OSHA Training Institute Education Centers, Outreach Training Program & Susan Harwood Training Grant Program. The number of workers OSHA trained in FY 2019 includes workers from all states, including those with state plans.

OSHA also reported its compliance assistance programs did more this year to help small businesses address safety & health hazards in their workplaces. In FY 2019, OSHA said its free On-Site Consultation Program identified 137,885 workplace hazards & protected 3.2 million workers from potential harm.

According to the agency's recently published agenda for next year, in June it plans to release its proposed rule on occupational exposure to crystalline silica that would allow employers in general industry to meet the same standards as the construction industry. OSHA's [request for information](#) comment period on this topic ended in October.

During that period, OSHA received information from the industry on the effectiveness of control measures not included for the tasks & tools listed in the agency's Table 1, tasks & tools involving exposure to crystalline silica that are not listed in Table 1, & information on dust control methods in limiting exposure to crystalline silica when workers are performing these operations.

OSHA also will review this information in consideration of potential revisions to Table 1. Table 1 serves as a compliance option for construction contractors to achieve compliance with key provisions in the standard, explain attorneys Bradford Hammock, Melissa Harclerode & Lauren Bridenbaugh of the Littler Mendelson law firm.

In addition, OSHA intends to issue a notice of proposed rulemaking in April 2020 for its walking-working surfaces rule to clarify its requirements for stair rail systems. The agency is seeking to clarify the requirement as the result of feedback it received from employers that the current requirements were unclear.

Rulemakings: Cranes, Forklifts, Confined Spaces, Drug Testing

OSHA also says it will begin the process of analyzing comments it received after issuing [requests for information](#) regarding potential revisions to its lockout/tagout & powered industrial truck regulations. OSHA is seeking to revise both regulations as evolving technologies have affected each & hopes to bring both of the regulations up to date & in line with current consensus standards.

OSHA plans to inaugurate a Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act review panel in January that will begin an effort to create a standard designed to address workplace violence in the healthcare & social services industries. This comes after the House of Representatives passed a bill to require OSHA to develop a standard regarding the same issue.

OSHA plans to issue a proposed rule in May that would amend parts of the cranes & derricks in construction standard, as well as those dealing with industrial trucks. According to the agency, the proposed amendments will include correcting references to power line voltage for direct current (DC) voltages as well as alternating current (AC) voltages, broadening the exclusion for forklifts carrying loads under the forks from "winch or hook" to a "winch & boom," & clarifying an exclusion for work activities by articulating cranes.

The agenda also includes a proposed rule for updates to the powered industrial trucks standard to incorporate consensus standard provisions having to do with the design & construction of powered industrial trucks. Last November, OSHA started reviewing [comments on changes](#) to the current standard, which currently relies upon American National Standards Institute (ANSI) standards dating back to 1969. (For example, the current standard covers 11 types of trucks but there are now 19 types.) At the same time, the agency sought comments on the need for changes to locations of use, maintenance, training & operation of industrial trucks.

Other new rulemakings will deal with communication tower safety, welding in construction confined spaces, & occupational exposure to beryllium & beryllium compounds in construction & shipyard sectors, & updates to the Hazard Communication Standard.

In addition to the upcoming proposed rules, OSHA has several agenda items that are in the pre-rule stage. These include initiation a Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act panel in August for the development of an Emergency Response rule, a request for information slated for July as a preliminary to updating the Mechanical Power Press rule (which hasn't been updated in 40 years), & the issuance of an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking in September for the Blood Lead Level for Medical Removal rule.

In November, OSHA said it plans to propose rules regarding post-incident drug testing & safety incentive programs. That same month it also is expected to issue a proposed rule regarding Personal Protective Equipment in the construction industry.

"While the rulemaking process moves at a slow pace, employers should remain informed on OSHA's anticipated regulatory actions & should consider participating in the rulemaking process to ensure their interests are made known & protected," advises attorney Trever L. Neuroth of the law firm of Jackson Lewis.

The Littler Mendelson attorneys also noted the agency's advance agenda is not written in stone. "While some of these initiatives may not materialize into final rules in the near term, employers are encouraged to continue to track these efforts as they might develop into significant requirements at some point in the future."

[David Sparkman](#)

OSHA Stresses Limits on Computer-Based Training

Courses must offer interactive and hands-on opportunities with qualified trainers. OSHA takes employee safety training very seriously, and in support of that commitment the agency recently reinforced its stated policy that online and computer training alone for employees is not adequate to meet federal training requirements.

“One of the keys that OSHA emphasizes in all of its efforts is the importance of training,” OSHA Acting Chief Loren Sweatt declared in a recent speech. “Training must be provided to workers who face hazards on the job. It’s the law, and it’s also good for every business. A highly trained workforce can minimize unnecessary costs and disruptions from an illness, injury, or fatality.”

In this age of high-tech wonders, with everyone glued to their smart phones and relying on Google the way they once used *Encyclopedia Britannica*, it’s not surprising that some employers would be tempted to believe that computer training could be enough to meet the agency’s requirements. But it’s just not so, as another OSHA official explained in response to a question posed earlier this year by an employer.

OSHA’s interpretation of its requirement that training must “result in mastery of the training material” leads to the conclusion that online training must be supplemented by interactive and physical components, such as putting on and removing personal protective equipment (PPE).

OSHA adds that the opportunity for workers to be able to ask questions of, and receive responses from, a qualified trainer in a timely manner is critical to effective training. As a result, it says, online training that does not provide workers with this opportunity would not be in compliance with OSHA’s worker training requirements.

“Training with no interaction, or delayed or limited interaction, between the trainer and trainee may halt or negatively affect a trainee’s ability to understand and/or retain the training material,” according to OSHA.

“Equally important is the provision of sufficient hands-on training because it allows an employee to interact with equipment and tools in the presence of a qualified trainer, allows the employee to learn or refresh their skills through experience, and allows the trainer to assess whether the trainees have mastered the proper techniques.”

OSHA notes that one way for the employer to give workers this opportunity in the context of a computer-based program is by providing a telephone hotline so that workers will have direct access to a qualified trainer during the conduct of the online training. But even that is not considered optimum by the agency in regard to certain kinds of training.

For training to be considered adequate, OSHA says a qualified trainer must supplement and facilitate any appropriate hands-on training or demonstration (for example, how to use a tool, perform a task or don appropriate PPE) as necessary for the employee to learn the proper safety and operational techniques, and for the trainer to assess the employee’s mastery of them.

Time is of the essence, too. A qualified trainer must be available in a “timely manner” to answer questions during the training. “Training with no interaction, or delayed or limited interaction, between the trainer and trainee may halt or negatively affect a trainee’s ability to understand and/or retain the training material,” OSHA explains.

“Online training that does not provide workers with hands-on training would not comply with the agency’s worker training requirements,” the agency stresses. It also emphasizes the importance of employers reviewing specific OSHA standards and related guidance to determine what OSHA requires in specific situations.

OSHA’s constituent employers may be forgiven for embracing this misapprehension due to the fact that the agency itself offers dozens of video and other kinds of computer-based training programs for sale on its website. On top of that, many private companies also market DVDs and computer-based OSHA training programs covering almost every major OSHA topic, as well as options for 10- and 30-hour general industry and construction training courses.

However, employers should know that there is nothing new contained in this most recent interpretation of training requirements. OSHA issued another one that is almost identical in its wording 25 years ago, note attorneys Timothy Hoover and Jason Markel of the law firm of Hodgson Russ LLP.

“Perhaps over the next 25 years advances in virtual reality, interactive holographic imagery or robotic android technologies may afford a viable substitute for the way interactive employee training can be delivered,” they point out. “But for now, the letter of interpretation serves as a reminder to employers that some things still need to be done the old-fashioned way.”

[David Sparkman](#)

OSHA: Fatality Alert - First Fatality of 2020

On January 8, 2020 a miner fell into a portable load out bin and died at the scene. Here are best practices to keep you and your employees safe in a similar situation.

1. Check handrails and gates. Ensure handrails and gates are substantially constructed, properly secured, and free of defects.
2. Install mechanical flow-enhancing devices so workers do not have to enter a bin to start or maintain material flow.
3. Don't stand on material stored in bins. Material stored in a bin can bridge over the hopper outlet, creating a hidden void below the material surface.
4. Lock-out, tag-out. Do not enter a bin until the supply and discharge equipment is locked out.
5. Wear a safety belt or harness secured with a lanyard to an adequate anchor point before entering a bin. Station a second person near the anchor point to make sure there's no slack in the fall protection system.
6. Train all miners to recognize fall hazards and properly use fall protection.
7. Provide safe access to all work places, and discuss and establish safe work procedures.

HELP WANTED

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

[Health & Safety Coordinator, Peru IL](#)
[EHS Coordinator, Rockford IL](#)
[ACE – EHS Manager, Rockford IL](#)
[Safety & Quality Manager, Rockford IL](#)
[EHS Summer Intern, Rockford IL](#)
[EHS Project Manager, Rockford IL](#)
[EHS Specialist, Rockford IL](#)
[Quality Safety Coordinator, Peoria IL](#)
[Network Safety Manager – Warehouse, LaSalle IL](#)
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[EHS Specialist, Freeport IL](#)
[EHS Manager, Loves Park IL](#)
[Safety Manager Manufacturing, Morton IL](#)
[EHS Manager, Tremont IL](#)
[Risk Manager, Patient Safety & Compliance Officer, Galesburg IL](#)
[EHS Technician – Industrial Hygienist, Cordova IL](#)
[HR/Safety Manager, Fairfield IA](#)
[Safety Transportation Manager, Cedar Rapids IA](#)
[EHS Senior Manager, Amana IA](#)
[EHS Engineer, Amana IA](#)
[HSE Technician, Williamsburg IA](#)
[EHS Manager, Dubuque IA](#)
[EHS Spring Intern, Dubuque IA](#)
[Safety Manager, Burlington IA](#)
[Corporate Safety Manager, North Liberty IA](#)
[Health & Safety Manager Summer Internship, North Liberty IA](#)
[In-Plant Safety Manager, North Liberty IA](#)
[HSE Rescue Trainer, West Branch IA](#)
[HSE Director, West Branch IA](#)
[HSE Training Coordinator, West Branch IA](#)
[Safety Manager, Muscatine IA](#)
[HSE Manager II, Davenport IA](#)
[HSE Intern, Davenport IA](#)
[Site Safety Manager, Davenport IA](#)
[EHS Engineer, Bettendorf IA](#)
[EHS Specialist, DeWitt IA](#)
[EHS Coordinator, Maquoketa IA](#)

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

"SAFETY 2020: A VISION BEYOND COMPLIANCE"

67th Annual Professional Development Conference & Expo

April 22-24, 2020 - Grand River Center - Dubuque, IA
REGISTRATION AND AGENDA NOW AVAILABLE AT
WWW.IISC.ORG/PDC

Registration Opens for Safety 2020 in Orlando

Registration is open for the nation's largest conference for occupational safety and health professionals. ASSP expects to draw more than 5,000 attendees from 40 countries to its [Safety 2020 Professional Development Conference and Exposition](#). The event takes place June 23-25 at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando. ASSP's signature event – in its 59th year – will offer more than 240 concurrent educational sessions categorized by experience level and taught by some of the greatest minds in safety. More than 600 exhibitors will showcase the latest products, technologies and techniques in the field. Attendees will experience a spirited plenary town hall and a mix of engaging general sessions.

All paid attendees will receive free access to more than 150 concurrent session recordings, enabling them to catch sessions they missed. Safety and health professionals can [register online](#) for Safety 2020 and get the early bird rate through March 13. Groups from the same company can save on the entire conference by contacting group coordinator Nancy O'Toole at 847.768.3466 or notoole@assp.org.

On-Line Courses @ ASSP.org

[Managed Fall Protection Course](#)
2/23/2020 - 3/29/2020 2.10 CEU

[Risk Assessment Course](#)
2/23/2020 - 3/29/2020 2.10 CEU

[Prevention through Design](#)
3/1/2020 - 3/29/2020 1.40 CEU

[Implementing ISO 45001 Course](#)
3/1/2020 - 3/29/2020 2.10 CEU

[Essential Risk Assessment Tools for Safety Professionals](#)
3/1/2020 - 3/29/2020 1.40 CEU

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American Society of Safety Engineers
 Quad Cities Chapter
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 activities.**

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