

April, 2007



Your Essential Connection

Philadelphia Section AIHA Local Section News



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April, 2007 Half-Day PDC: Tuesday, April 17th- Safety and Health Challenges in Diverse Workplaces

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 17th, 2007, in the Grant Room at The Union League of Philadelphia, 140 S. Broad Street in Center City Philadelphia. The topic of the meeting will be "Safety and Health Challenges in Diverse Workplaces".

Speakers will be discussing specific issues associated with women, younger and older employees in the workplace, as well as the issues one may face in a multi-cultural workplace. There will be plenty of opportunity for questions and for sharing your experiences with other course attendees, as well as for networking with your friends and professional colleagues.

Please be sure to register early for this course, as it is likely to fill up fast.

PLEASE NOTE: The Union League maintains a strict dress code, and anyone not meeting that dress code may be refused admission:

"The League's Dress Code requires Business Casual Attire for ladies and gentlemen. Gentlemen are required to wear a collared shirt and slacks; turtleneck and mock-turtleneck shirts may be worn when accompanied by a suit jacket or sport coat. At no time are jeans, sneakers, athletic clothing, or shorts permitted in the League house. The League reserves the right to refuse admittance to anyone not adhering to the Dress Code."

**PHILADELPHIA SECTION AIHA
HALF-DAY PDC:
TUESDAY, APRIL 17TH, 2007
“SAFETY AND HEALTH CHALLENGES IN
DIVERSE WORKPLACES”**

7:30 AM – 8:00 AM: Registration/Networking/Continental Breakfast

8:00 AM – 8:15 AM: Greetings and Announcements

8:15 AM – 9:10 AM: “Safety Issues Unique to Women in the Workplace”

Maureen Modica, CIH, CSP
Crown Safety LLC

9:10 AM – 10:00 AM: “Young Worker Safety & Health”

Bob Coffey, CSP, CPEA
WRC Safety & Risk Consultants

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM: BREAK

10:15 AM – 11:10 AM: “The Performance of Older Workers in the Workplace”

Ellen Rader Smith, MA, OTR, CPE
Ergo & Rehab Services

11:10 AM – 12:00 PM: “Multi-Cultural Workplaces”

Michael Topf
Topf Initiatives, Wayne, PA

12:00 PM Lunch

The cost for this course, which includes continental breakfast and lunch, is \$75.

Please be sure to note the Union League’s dress code (see p.1)

All attendees will be required to pay at the door (NO EXCEPTIONS)

Payment must be made via cash or check (payable to Phila. Section AIHA)

To register, please send an e-mail to register-april@philaaaha.com, with your name and company affiliation.

“Safety Issues Unique to Women in the Workplace”

Maureen Modica, CIH, CSP: Crown Safety LLC (Cherry Hill, NJ)

This presentation will address safety issues unique to women in the workplace, including gender-specific work stress factors, physical limitations during pregnancy, and chemical, physical and reproductive hazards. Discussion will include a review of the potential risks along with suggested possible modifications in workplace design and work practices. Both traditional and non-traditional occupations for women will be explored.

Maureen Modica, CIH, CSP is the Director of Industrial Hygiene at Crown Safety LLC in Cherry Hill, NJ. She has 25 years experience in environmental, health and

safety management in private industry, academia and consulting. Maureen is a Past-President of the Penn-Jersey Chapter of ASSE and a current Director of the Philadelphia Section of AIHA. Prior to joining Crown Safety, Maureen worked at Wyeth Pharmaceuticals as Environmental, Health & Safety Manager and at Mobil Oil Corporation as Industrial Hygiene Supervisor at their Paulsboro, NJ refinery (now Valero). Most of her remaining work experience is in the full-time practice of safety and industrial hygiene consulting in industry, commercial settings and academic environments.

“Young Worker Safety & Health”

Bob Coffey, CSP, CPEA: WRC Safety & Risk Consultants (Seven Valleys, PA)

While physiology may be the same, psychology is different between the veteran and the younger worker. This difference can have an impact on safety and health issues for the younger worker. In this session, the law around employing younger workers will be discussed; different attitudes between the generations will be highlighted; and suggestions on how to improve the safety of younger workers will be discussed.

William “Bob” Coffey is a graduate of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, and holds degrees in both Chemistry and Psychology. He has worked in industries including pharmaceutical, specialty chemical, heavy manufacturing and paper manufacturing, and is currently Principal of WRC Safety and Risk Consultants. Bob holds both the Certified Safety Professional (CSP) and Certified Professional Environmental Auditor (CPEA) designations. He is also a Department of Homeland Security

Instructor. Bob’s work has been instrumental in creating substantial reductions in recordable accidents and breaking records for consecutive days without lost time accidents. His training has reached thousands and his programs have been implemented across the country.

Bob has been published in Professional Safety Magazine and in local and regional newsletters and is slated for publication in Occupational Health and Safety magazine later this year. He is also one of the authors of a safety reference book to be released by the American Society of Safety Engineers and is authoring a manual on Emergency Planning.



“The Performance of Older Workers in the Workplace”

Ellen Rader Smith, MA, OTR, CPE: Ergo & Rehab Services (Montville, NJ)

This presentation will address health, safety and ergonomic issues related to *The Performance of Older Workers in the Workplace*, the ever growing numbers of “older workers” and Baby Boomers in the workplace (as well as who constitutes an older worker), performance based issues related to normal physiological aging issues and how these relate to preferred ergonomic job set-up and the need for accommodations (physical, sensory, cognitive) to enable safe and optimal job performance. Issues related to younger/older worker productivity, myths about older workers and current research in this area will also be discussed.

Ellen Rader Smith is a Certified Professional Ergonomist, Certified Vocational Evaluator, and Licensed Occupational Therapist. She has her B.S. in Occupational Therapy and M.A. in Occupational Biome-

chanics and Ergonomics. She has been actively involved in ergonomics for over 20 years.

Ellen's company, Ergo & Rehab Services, provides consulting services directed at the control and prevention of musculoskeletal injuries. This includes industrial and office workplace assessment and ergonomic interventions to control identified injury-risk factors. Services are provided to companies of all sizes, as well as home-based offices. ERS provides the appropriate engineering, administrative, training and control measures to ensure a safer workplace. ERS also provides one-on-one ergonomic workstation evaluations for well, injured or disabled workers to enhance and/or accommodate their performance and comfort. Her approach is very hands-on, using her rehabilitative background to help workers better understand how musculoskeletal issues affect their daily performance.



Pre-registration is now open for the 2007 American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition, being held in Philadelphia from June 2nd to 7th, 2007.

For additional information, please visit the [AIHA web site](http://www.aiaa.org).



Volunteers Needed for 2007 AIHCE in Philadelphia

Volunteers are needed to assist AIHA/ACGIH Staff at the 2007 AIHCE in Philadelphia.

Volunteer duties will involve working at information booths for 1-2 hours, answering questions and handing out registration packets.

If you are interested, please contact Tom Case at coshc@earthlink.net.

“Managing Diversity for Safety, Health & Environmental Excellence”

Michael Topf: Topf Initiatives (Wayne, PA)

Most workplaces today are like a mini United Nations, made up of people from different cultures, languages, races, genders, generations, religions and educational backgrounds.

Diversity brings a range of attitudes, beliefs, values and behaviors that can challenge, or even impede productivity in general as well as your S, H & E efforts. Yet these differences can be addressed to result in a stronger safety process and a more unified workforce.

Labor and Management leadership and line employees require a new set of skills to lead and support each other and manage diversity to prevent accidents, injuries and incidents, in and out of the workplace.

Participants will learn:

- The changing nature of our workforce today and the near future.
- How is diversity defined?
- What is culture and how is it formed?
- How does culture influence and determine attitudes and behaviors?
- How does a diverse culture and its values, attitudes and beliefs affect productivity and your safety, health and environmental process effectiveness and performance?
- How cultural differences can be an obstacle to improving safety, health and environmental performance.
- Language, jargon, and literacy, creating barriers to S, H & E excellence.
- How diversity can be used to bring people together and create a unified improvement effort.
- Strategies for taking actions.

Michael D. Topf is the founder, President and CEO of Topf Initiatives. Michael has extensive experience in consulting as well as designing and conducting training courses in Executive Leadership, Management & line Employee Development and other areas of Organizational Effectiveness.

Michael has pioneered a holistic, integrated methodology to assist all levels of employees in creating an organizational culture committed to safety, health and environmental excellence thru developing safe attitudes and behaviors to prevent errors and resulting accidents, injuries, health and environmental incidents.

Michael has a BS in Biology and Chemistry, as well as, a MA in Applied Psychology and a MA in Theology. He was an Instructor in the Graduate Program in Health and Safety Administration at St. Joseph's University in Philadelphia and has published many articles in a variety of safety and health publications. He has been a speaker and presenter at numerous corporate, as well as national and local ASSE, NSC and specialty conferences over the past 25 years on the topics of organizational and personal effectiveness, safety, health and environmental culture change and attitudinal and behavioral approaches to preventing errors and improving safety, health and environmental performance. He has worked as a Medical Researcher, a Hospital Administrator, and a Mental Health Counselor. He founded Topf Initiatives in 1980, conducting Organizational Effectiveness Training and Consulting with a specialty in SH&E Culture and Attitudinal and Behavioral Improvement and Incident Prevention.





140 South Broad Street
Philadelphia, PA
215-563-6500



From North of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania - Follow I-95 South to Exit 22. Take 676 West/Central Philadelphia Exit. Follow 676 West to the first exit, which is Broad Street/Central Philadelphia. This exit will bring you onto 15th Street. Continue on 15th Street until you see City Hall on your left. Bear left around City Hall. Make a right at the first light, which is Broad Street. Take Broad Street two blocks to Sansom Street. Make a right onto Sansom. The Midtown Parking Garage is on the right. The entrance to the Union League is directly across the street on the left. Look for the awning.

From South of Philadelphia (Philadelphia International Airport) in Pennsylvania - Follow I-95 North to Exit 22. Follow signs for 676 West/Central Philadelphia Exit. Exit to the left. Follow 676 West to the first exit which is Broad Street/Central Philadelphia. This exit will bring you onto 15th Street. Continue on 15th Street until you see City Hall on your left. Bear left around City Hall. Make a right at the first light, which is Broad Street. Take Broad Street two blocks to Sansom Street. Make a right onto Sansom. The Midtown Parking Garage is on the right. The entrance to the Union League is directly across the street on the left. Look for the awning.

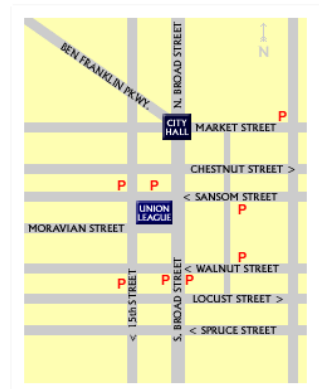
From East of Philadelphia in New Jersey - Benjamin Franklin Bridge to 676 West/Central Philadelphia Exit. Get on 676 West, then take the first exit, which is Broad Street/Central Philadelphia. This exit will bring you onto 15th Street. Continue on 15th Street until you see City Hall on your left. Bear left around City Hall. Make a right at the first light, which is Broad Street. Take Broad Street two blocks to Sansom Street. Make a right onto Sansom. The Midtown Parking Garage is on the right. The entrance to the Union League is directly across the street on the left. Look for the awning.

From West of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania - Take the PA Turnpike to Exit 326, which is the Valley Forge Exit. When you exit, take 76 East to Exit 344, which is 676 East/Central Philadelphia Exit. Take the second exit, which is Broad Street/Central Philadelphia. Stay in the right hand lane as you exit. Make a right at the light, which is 15th Street. Continue on 15th Street until you see City Hall on your left. Bear left around City Hall. Make a right at the first light, which is Broad Street. Take Broad Street two blocks to Sansom Street. Make a right onto Sansom. The Midtown Parking Garage is on the right. The entrance to the Union League is directly across the street on the left. Look for the awning.

From New Jersey Turnpike - Take Turnpike to Exit 4. Take NJ Route 73 North, follow onto NJ-90 West which becomes Betsy Ross Bridge. Exit bridge onto I-95 South to I-676 West to Central Philadelphia, and follow directions from East of Philadelphia in Pennsylvania.

Parking is available at many nearby parking garages. The nearest lot is the Midtown Parking Garage at 1450 Sansom Street.

For additional information, visit the Union League's web site at www.unionleague.org.



Other Meetings Of Interest

The Delaware Valley Society for Radiation Safety will be holding a meeting on Thursday, April 19th on "Institutional Laser Safety". The speaker will be Ben Edwards, MS, CLSO, Health Physicist with the Duke University Medical Center. The hazards associated with laser applications compel institutions and safety professionals to develop and implement effective laser safety programs. This session will provide basic information on how to implement such a laser safety program. While some knowledge of laser hazards will be helpful, both experienced and novice safety professionals with laser safety responsibilities will benefit from this course. This presentation will include:

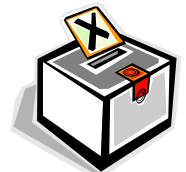
- a brief overview of laser physics and biological effects;
- fundamental laser safety principles;
- laser classification and hazard analysis;
- review of the applicable regulations and consensus guidance, including the soon-to-be released ANSI Z136.1-2007 Standard for the Safe Use of Lasers; and
- elements of an institutional laser safety program.

This information will enable the development of a comprehensive site laser safety program. Basic laser hazard calculations are outside of this course's scope, but participants should bring a scientific calculator to allow a "walk through" of example pre-worked hazard calculations. Students may also find their own copy of ANSI Z136.1 a helpful reference.

To register, use the following link: <https://secure.netreach.net/dvsrs/meetingregistration.cfm>. For more information, send an e-mail to e-mail dvsrs@comcast.net.



2007-2008 Elections



A slate of candidates has been selected to run for office for the Philadelphia Section AIHA for the 2007-2008 term:

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| President-Elect: | Ryan Graff (Merck) |
| Treasurer: | Tamara Mueller (Tandem Group) |
| Directors (2 positions): | Maureen Modica (Crown Safety) |
| | Ed Hanna (Colden Corporation) |
| | Larry Johnson (Sovereign Environmental) |

Elections will take place during the month of April, using the SurveyMonkey online survey service. Local section members will receive an e-mail with instructions on how to vote.

Please be sure to vote to help select the future leadership of your local section.

The American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) is "the essential source" for information on Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety issues.

Founded in 1939, AIHA is an organization of more than 12,000 professional members dedicated to the anticipation, recognition, evaluation, and control of environmental or from the workplace that may result in injury, illness, impairment, or affect the well-being of workers and members of the community. Established in 1947, the Philadelphia Section AIHA serves the area's health and safety professionals, providing a forum in which to learn and exchange ideas.



Your Essential Connection



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