



San Diego Chapter American Society of Safety Engineers



*“Providing Leadership & Direction to the Safety Professional Since 1911”
Published Monthly A Not-For-Profit Organization March 2002 - Issue 94*

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"Think Blue - Preventing Stormwater Pollution"

Presented by:

Pete Higgins, CSP, CHMM

Safety Representative for the

City of San Diego Metropolitan Wastewater Department
and a Code Compliance Officer

from the City of San Diego

Date: April 2, 2002
Time: 11:00 - 11:30 Registration
11:30 - 12:15 Lunch
12:15 - 1:15 Program
Place: Red Lion Hanalei Hotel in Mission Valley
Cost: \$15 Pre-registered Members
\$20 At the Door or \$1 Coffee Only

Registration: Please call the Chapter voicemail at (858) 621-2313 x19 to make your lunch reservation no later than March 28, 2002. We are unable to guarantee lunch reservations made after this date. Providing an accurate head count is the only way to ensure the best prices for all of our members.

Executive Meeting: Chapter Officers and Committee Chairs will meet at the facility from 9:45 am to 11:00 am before the luncheon to conduct Chapter business.

Visit us on-line at www.sandiegoasse.org

Across My Press Desk...
Sam Cahan, PE

“JUST ASKING”

Recently FED/OSHA cited the U.S. Forest Service for willfully disregarding the safety of its employees on the Thirty Mile fire in northern Cascade Range, where four firefighters died last summer. OSHA said the Forest Service did not provide a place of employment that was “free of recognized hazards that could cause serious harm or death.”

Basically, firefighters enter hostile surroundings when fighting fires, especially in buildings subjected to intense heat, and with weakened structural beams, joists and girders. The element of collapse and the danger of personal injury are ever-present, resulting in this particular occupation being rated as one of the most hazardous.

How does one then define the “work environment” in this instance? And how can the employer, the fire department, take appropriate steps to provide a place of employment “free of recognized hazards,” etc?

Supposing your company sends an employee to a consult with another company and is then involved in an accident due to the negligence of the outside firm. Who is responsible for the accident? Can the injured’s employer be cited? Can an employee refuse to enter a distant location because of a safety concern?

Let’s “talk” about this factor. Give us your thoughts. Write the Editor.



The Top 10 Signs Your OSHA Inspection Is Going Poorly

10. OSHA sets up temporary housing in your parking lot.
9. The compliance officer’s pen runs out of ink - a second time.
8. The OSHA team has brought a professional film crew to document conditions at your facility, and a reporter from "60 Minutes" happens to tag along.
7. Your employees are wearing shorts and sneakers, but the compliance officer goes back to the car to get a level A suit, SCBA and a bullet-proof vest.
6. The US Senator you call for help doesn't return your phone call -- but does send back your campaign contribution.
5. The opening conference starts with the compliance officer stating "You have the right to remain silent"...
4. The compliance officer asks you a detailed question about a specific page in a report from the files you turned in -- but you haven't turned in any files.
3. The compliance officer knows each of your employees by their first name.
2. The compliance officer inspecting your facility is a former employee that you personally fired.

And the number one sign your OSHA inspection is going poorly:

1. Halfway through the inspection the compliance officer asks you to start filling out forms itemizing your assets and declaring your personal net worth.

NIOSH TO APPROVE SELF-CONTAINED RESPIRATORS FOR EMERGENCY WORKERS IN TERRORIST ATTACKS

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is beginning a new program to approve self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for use by fire fighters and other first responders after terrorist attacks.

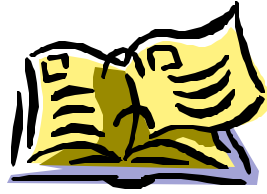
NIOSH approval under the program will signify that an SCBA is expected to provide needed protection to first responders in situations where an act of terror has released harmful chemicals, pathogens, or radioactive materials into the air. Approvals will be based on positive results from rigorous tests on sample units submitted to NIOSH by manufacturers, and from stringent evaluation of manufacturers' quality-control practices, technical specifications, and other documentation. These positive results will demonstrate that the device provides the required level of protection against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) agents.

Products that meet the NIOSH requirements will be included on a list of special SCBAs approved by NIOSH for use by first responders in chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear emergencies. In addition, the products' manufacturers will be authorized to label them as "CBRN Agent Approved" by NIOSH.

Development of the new program involved broad national support and collaboration by many agencies, organizations, and stakeholders, including the National Institute of Justice, the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the U.S. Army Soldier and Biological Chemical Command, the National Fire Protection Association, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the Oklahoma City National Memorial Institute for the Prevention of Terrorism, the U.S. Departments of Defense and Justice's Interagency Board for Equipment Standardization and Interoperability, the International Association of Fire Fighters, the International Association of Fire Chiefs, and the International Safety Equipment Association.

Because knowledge of biological and chemical agents is evolving as research continues, NIOSH is accepting comments and suggestions on the new program. Applications, comments, and questions may be sent by email to respcert@cdc.gov or by mail to Attn: Records Room, Respirator Branch, NIOSH, National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory, 1095 Willowdale Road, Morgantown, W.Va. 26505-2888. Further information about the program will be posted shortly on the NIOSH web page at www.cdc.gov/niosh. NIOSH also is in the early stages of developing similar CBRN certification requirements for other types of respirators, such as air-purifying devices, for use by first responders.

Safety Calendar



We know how busy you all are...so block out the time in advance on your calendars for the upcoming safety-related events.

ASSE: The San Diego Chapter meets on the first Tuesday of the month at the **Red Lion Hanalei Hotel** from 11:00 am -1:15 pm. Call the Chapter voicemail for more information at (858) 621-2313 x19.

AIHA: The San Diego Chapter meets on the last Wednesday of the month at the South-Western Yacht Club in Point Loma from 11:30-2:00 pm. Call (619) 685-7140.

FSHC: San Diego Chapter meets on the third Wednesday of the month at the MCRD Bayview Room from 11:30-1:00pm. Call (619) 532-9574.

PSC: For more information call (858) 621-2313 or click on

www.safetycouncilonline.com.