

VC Spotlight

A Place for Safety Professionals to Meet



Valley Coastal ASSE Newsletter

January 2016

2015-2016 Executive Board

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President's Message

The tragic event in San Bernardino challenges our sensibilities. Our support and thoughts go out to families and friends that lost loved ones. Schools and hospitals have been preparing for active shooter scenarios for the past several years. It has now become obvious that, as safety professionals, we will have to expand our violence in the workplace and emergency plans to include the active shooter scenario. We must be careful to present this material to avoid alarming our fellow workers. General employee awareness may be sufficient for the majority of our operations. See the article, "Active Shooter Preparation".

At our November meeting, Carla Slepak, Cal OSHA Associate Safety & Health Consultant to Cal/OSHA, did an excellent job of highlighting the 2015/16 Cal OSHA inspection priorities. We have posted the power point presentation to the Chapter Web page on the Files-Presentations page.

The first Annual Holiday Food Drive was a success! Over 25 lbs of can goods and packaged foods were collected at the November meeting. The donation was warmly received by the West Valley Food Pantry.



Presidents Message Continued:

As 2015 has come to an end, it's time to start preparing for the 2016/17 Chapter Year. We will be opening the nominations for elective office, and as always, look forward to anyone willing to volunteer to assist in directing the chapter's activities.

I would like my thanks to the safety professionals that have a career in safety and protecting people, property and the environment. They have continued their professional development with membership in the ASSE. See the Member Anniversaries and continued you will recognize several past board members and past chapter presidents.

In 2016 we will have a field trip to National Technical Systems in Santa Clarita. Be sure to wear comfortable walking shoes. This company does cutting-edge scientific testing, challenging the extremes of temperature, vibration and environmental conditions. This company has a unique history including testing military ordinance (Boom!).

The Board and I wish you our warmest holiday greetings and look forward to seeing you in 2016.

Tom

Anniversaries

Umesh C Khandelwal, P.E., CSP – 40 Years
Frank H Lennartz, CSP – 40 Years
John G Bienkowski, CSP – 25 Years
Rudy L Suzich, CSP – 25 Years
David L Carroll, CSP, ARM – 25 Years
Steven E NyBlom, CSP, ALCM, ARM– 25 Years
Kevin E Krieger – 25 Years



EHS Overview of National Testing Facility Technical Tour

January 19, 2016 – 11:30 – 1:00

Willie Seebert, Director of Safety



Join us for a technical tour of the National Testing Facility, Santa Clarita

NTS Santa Clarita is one of the largest test facilities in the U.S., covering over 150 acres. From their 50 foot diameter centrifuge with over 200 slip ring channels and the 5000 cubic foot acoustic chamber to their 1500 cubic foot space simulation chamber, NTS Santa Clarita is prepared to meet the most extreme testing challenges.

RSVP to president@valleycoastal.asse.org

Meeting Location

National Technical Systems

20970 Centre Pointe Pkwy.
Santa Clarita, Ca. 91350



Another Friendly Reminder from your friends at ASSE-Valley Coastal

Each year, the Department of Industrial Relations investigates serious injuries where the owners of companies and/or their management staff may be held criminally liable for unsafe actions that lead to injuries. These companies already face stiff penalties for the events that led to the injury. This is commonly referred to the, “Be a Supervisor, Go to Jail!” rule. One such example was recently provided by the December 2015 ASSE news release.

The incident involved a 51 year-old carpenter assigned to lower a window frame opening in the main stairwell of a residential construction site in San Francisco. To accomplish this, the employee built a “nailed-bracket scaffold and used two scaffold plans to access the window located more than 18 feet above ground.” He was not wearing fall protection at the time of the incident and the scaffold did not have railings. He was found later at the base of the stairwell, unresponsive. He later died of his injuries.

The San Francisco District Attorney filed manslaughter charges and two violations of the labor code against the owner of the company and his foreman on the site. This is in addition to the multiple initial Cal/OSHA citations totaling more than \$25,000 against the company itself.

The message is clear!

There are far reaching consequences for an employee who has “direction, management, control, or custody of any employment, place of employment, or of any other employee” and who “willfully violates any occupational safety or health standard, order, or special order, Section 25910 of the Health and Safety Code, and that violation causes death to any employee or causes permanent or prolonged impairment of the body of any employee.....”

The penalties are stiff.

Section 6425 of the California Labor Code says that an offense of this code may result in any/all of the following:

For an individual....

- up to one year imprisonment in a county jail
- fine up to one hundred thousand dollars
- both imprisonment and fine,

Or

- Imprisonment in the state prison for (between) 16 months and 2-3 years
- fines totaling up to \$250,000

And/or

For a corporation....

- if the defendant is a corporation or a limited liability company, a fine of up to one million, five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) may be imposed.



Explore the New Practice Specialty Portals

ASSE [practice specialties, branches and common interest groups](#) connect members with a network ready to share knowledge and exchange ideas. To make that even easier, all the groups have a new online member portal that allows access to OSH resources, industry news and information about the groups. Each group has its own online portal that features an Ask the Experts section; an Administrator Message; a blog where users can read relevant, up-to-date industry news; and a members section where users can find resources and learn how to get involved.

Not a member of one of ASSE's practice specialties, branches or common interest groups? Use the code **SU1231** log into any of the portals to see first-hand what the new portals are all about. To learn more information about what these groups have to offer, contact Char Haguewood, ASSE manager, practice specialties, at (847) 768-3436 or chaguewood@asse.org.

To begin to explore the website click [Explore The Specialty Groups](#)



For more information, visit: <http://www.safetyindia2015.org/>

ASSE Newsroom

ASSE's SeminarFest 2016 Offers Safety Professionals Opportunities to Grow Skillsets

The American Society of Safety Engineers, the world's oldest professional safety society, encourages occupational health and safety professionals to hone their knowledge and skills, including the potential of earning recertification points, by registering now for SeminarFest 2016, Feb. 5-11, 2016 in Las Vegas.

Each year, ASSE's SeminarFest offers more than 80 sessions ranging from one to three days in length, with each providing essential technical, management and skill development on a comprehensive range of topics for OSH professionals across the full spectrum of practice. By attending these seminars during the week, participants can earn up to 5.1 CEU/Recertification Points.

"SeminarFest is a unique opportunity to become engaged in an educational event that carries with it a wide variety of training topics participants cannot experience anywhere else," said Trudy Goldman, ASSE manager of Education and Program Development. "The instructors are high-caliber safety professionals, all of whom are considered content and thought leaders in their field."

Aside from the eight preparation workshops and more than 80 seminars, participants may work toward a certificate in Safety Management, Executive Program in Safety Management, Global Safety Management and Risk Assessment. More than 1,000 people are expected to attend the week-long event, as well as take advantage of the networking opportunities with safety professionals from across the globe.

"SeminarFest is an ideal way for participants to propel their occupational health and safety careers by improving their skills, earning recertification points and networking with industry thought leaders," Goldman said.

To register, please visit <http://seminarfest.asse.org>. The event will be held at the Rio All-Suite Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas.



ASSE to Host Construction Safety Symposium in New Orleans This Fall

The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is hosting a two-day Construction Safety Symposium featuring industry experts discussing the latest safety practices, innovation and risk management thinking from November 12-13, 2015 in New Orleans.

“We’ve assembled a top-notch group of speakers to share their expertise on fall prevention, OSHA’s new confined spaces standard, risk assessment and prevention through design,” said Trudy Goldman, ASSE Manager of Education and Program Development. “We want participants to gain important knowledge they can apply and share with their colleagues.”

Registration for the symposium is available at <http://symposia.asse.org/>

The symposium’s keynote presentation will be given by members of the BlackOps U.S. Navy SEALs entitled, “Flawless Execution: Always the Goal!” Other presenters include:

- Thomas Kramer, P.E., CSP, will share powerful solutions on fall prevention
- Gary Lopez, CSP, will discuss the new confined space standard
- NIOSH’s Michael Flynn, MA, will present a model of loss reduction for at-risk work groups
- NIOSH’s Dr. Christine Branche will offer how to develop a successful Safety Stand-Down
- A host of experts, including Deborah Grubbe, PE, CEng, Co-Chair, NAC Safety Committee/President will provide expertise on the most critical topics in construction safety management including risk assessment and prevention through design

The symposium also offers participant a chance to earn 1.3 continuing education credits.

“With all the changes taking place in the construction industry, we wanted this symposium to give anyone affiliated in this field a chance to learn the best practices around these timely subjects,” Goldman said.

To Read More from ASSE’s Newsroom, Visit:

<http://www.asse.org/newsroom/>



Regulatory Update

Fed/OSHA:

Confined Spaces in Construction for Residential Construction Work- On October 1st, 2015, OSHA Director James Maddux extended the temporary enforcement policy through January 8, 2016. This policy covers construction work on single-family homes, duplexes, and townhouses but not multi-unit apartment buildings.

In essence, OSHA (Fed/OSHA not Cal/OSHA) will not be issuing citations under the Confined Spaces in Construction standard as long as the employer makes a good faith effort to comply with Federal training requirements. The Letter of Memorandum can be found at this address:

Federal OSHA Confined Space Enforcement Policy:

Please note the section approximately in the middle of the page that details what constitutes good faith efforts.

While this standard applies specifically to worksites and employees under Federal oversight, it is critical to understand that areas covered under OSHA approved State plans often have standards that meet or exceed those currently enforced by the Federal Government. Cal/OSHA enforces regulations for Confined Spaces under T8, Section 5156 of the California Code of Regulations found here: CCR, T8, Section 5156 Given recent Federal Regulations adopted by Cal/OSHA, a review of your program might be in order.

Cal/OSHA:

Regulatory changes enforced by Cal/OSHA have been few and far between in 2016. AB 578 was recently vetoed by Governor Brown. The bill would have required requestors of variances to Title 8 regulations to notify workers and representatives of workers who will be impacted prior to work start dates. According to the Governor's official veto message, the impact of the bill was unclear. The Governor indicated that the current process appears adequate. This was a follow up or "clean up" bill to the Refinery Shutdown/Turnaround notification requirements (SB 1300) passed September 20, 2014. For official information regarding Governor Brown's veto of AB578, please review this message: Governor Brown Veto AB 578

Links you should know Cal/OSHA Publications Page:

Check out the Cal/OSHA publication page for recent updated information. New Safety & Health Fact Sheets for October include pamphlets in five different languages on Protecting Temporary Agency Workers (now in Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Korean in addition to English version published in June 2015), and Respiratory Protection. These recent additions follow closely on the heels of the new Hazard Communication and GHS fact sheet in August 2015 and the Health & Safety Rights: Facts for California Workers published in June 2015.



Upcoming Live Webinars

Criteria for Safety Practices With the Construction, Demolition, Modification and Maintenance of Communication Structures

Includes a Live Event on 10/28/2015 at 12:00 PM (EDT)

The Telecommunications industry field workforce is small and specialized which results in the scenario where very few OSHA regulations or industry standards that apply to the industry. The goal was to develop an all-inclusive standard that gave the industry guidance for safely completing their daily work tasks.

An In-Depth Look at the Combustible Dust Hazard and PPE Protection

Includes a Live Event on 11/04/2015 at 12:00 PM (EST)

This webinar will focus on the flash fire component of combustible dust events and the most current status of the OSHA rulemaking and National Emphasis Program as well as relevant NFPA standards.

Top Five Strategic EHS Training Tips

Includes a Live Event on 11/11/2015 at 12:00 PM (EST)

Gain the tools to implement the top five strategic tips to improve efficiency and effectiveness of your EHS training efforts.

7 Safety Leadership Insights - A Special Live and On-Demand Web Series With Dr. Tom Krause

Take part in the exciting new web series that viewers are already calling "one of your BEST webinars" and a "great piece of work!" Missed the first episode? Your registration includes access to binge watch the recordings!

Visit <http://www.asse.org/education/virtualclassroom.php> for more information.



On Demand Offerings

[Actively Caring For People - A Special Session By Dr. E. Scott Geller](#)

[ANSI/AIHA/ASSE Z10-2012 - Standard for Occupational Health & Safety Management Systems](#)

[Best Practices in Industrial Hygiene](#)

[Changing Behaviors – Balancing the Elements for Effective Safety Management Systems](#)

[Global Safety Experience](#)

[Improving Safety Through Mobile Technology](#)

[International Society for Fall Protection Symposium](#)

[Law for the Safety Professional](#)

[Loss Control Virtual Event](#)

[Making Metrics Matter](#)

[Overcoming the Top 10 Safety Leadership Mistakes](#)

[Prevention Through Design Virtual Symposium](#)

[Recordings From ASSE's Fatality and Severe Loss Symposium](#)

[Risk Management for the SH&E Professional](#)

[Safety Issues in the Upstream Oil and Gas Sector](#)

[Slips, Trips and Falls: Best Practices and Standards](#)

[We Have to Do What? Learn the Good and Bad Practical Results of Recent Legal Developments from an OSHA Lawyer](#)

Visit <http://www.asse.org/education/virtualclassroom.php> for more information.

Would you like to present at a future VCASSE Meeting?

Valley Coastal ASSE invites those interested in presenting at one of its Professional Development Meetings to submit a proposal to adolson24@yahoo.com. Valley Coastal ASSE endeavors to provide a forum for attendees to learn the profession's best practices and to:

- Identify key issues facing SH&E professionals
- Expand their knowledge to improve their professional skills
- Prepare for the challenges in the SH&E fields
- Engage in the discourse concerning the profession
- Identify emerging issues relevant to the profession



Visit the ASSE Region 1 Website!

The ASSE Region 1 is made up of 20 Chapters and now has a new Web Page, <http://region1.asse.org/>. you will find links to other member chapters, Regional and National news updates along with links to ASSE Industry & Interest Groups - Enjoy networking, service and leadership opportunities, technical and educational resources, publication opportunities and access to leadership guidance and advice and Government Affairs Resources – Keep up with Safety legislation, ASSE is committed to ensuring that any decision by federal or state government impacting the safety health and environment of the workplace is based on good science and sound technology