OSHA’s 'Safe and Sound' campaign assists employers in keeping workplaces safe and healthy

by The Department of Labor

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - “Recently, OSHA “launched its "Safe and Sound Campaign" recently, calling on employers to review their safety and health programs to protect workers, and reduce workplace injuries and deaths”.

"Workplace safety and health incidents hurt workers and their families, and they cost businesses' capital better invested in growing their business and creating jobs," said Kim Stille, OSHA's Regional Administrator in Kansas City. "By identifying and controlling job-related hazards that can lead to injuries and illnesses, businesses can improve their safety and health programs, save money and improve competitiveness."

OSHA has initiated 12 fatality inspections in Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska since Oct. 1, 2016 - up from seven for the same period of Oct. 1, 2015 through Feb. 1, 2016 - and found a significant increase in fatalities associated with confined space entry and trenching and excavating. Fatalities involving workers being struck by motor vehicles also doubled from two to four persons for the same time period."

Chapter Highlights

Past March ASSE & AIHA Chapter Meeting

Thank you Norman Ritchie for an insightful talk on “Pragmatic Inclusion of Human Factors in Incident Investigation.” The presentation covered tools that can be used to address Human Factors-incidents and near misses. Gulf Coast members and visitors were able to network, enjoy lunch and hear a wonderful safety topic!
Member Highlights

Congratulations to all members celebrating 10, 25 and 40 years of membership milestones! Thank you for your outstanding commitment to the Gulf Coast Chapter.

Welcome the newest members of Gulf Coast Chapter!

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Looking to advance your career?

Visit the ASSE’s Job Board at http://jobs.asse.org

OSHA Updates continued

"With just a phone call, companies can contact OSHA for assistance in achieving safety compliance. Working together with businesses, unions, and employees, we can reduce these sobering statistics and implement and sustain workplace safety and health programs that can help employees avoid preventable injuries and deaths," Stille said.

Employers have proven that safety and health programs reduce the numbers of injuries and illnesses, and improve their bottom line. While there are different approaches to ensuring worker safety and health, all effective programs share three core elements:

- **Management leadership.** Top management commits to establishing, maintaining and improving the program continually, and provides any necessary resources.

- **Worker participation.** Employers invite workers to identify solutions. Improved worker engagement can lead to better productivity, higher job satisfaction and worker retention - lowering turnover and recruitment costs.

- **A systematic "find and fix" approach.** Employers and workers examine their workplaces, proactively and routinely, to identify and address hazards before they can cause injury or illness.

Congrats and Welcome!
Employers seeking to create a safety and health program should know that the process doesn’t have to be complicated or demand outside consultants be employed; there are some simple, do-it-yourself steps to get started. OSHA's "Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs" page offers practical advice on how any organization can integrate safety and health programs.

OSHA also offers compliance assistance, tips, and consultation for small- and medium-sized businesses, educational materials, training and other information to employers and workers on common workplace safety hazards and how to prevent illness and injury - all at no charge.

"We don't want businesses, especially small ones, to believe they cannot afford to protect their workers. OSHA provides good safety information and will work with employers to help them comply with safety and health standards," Stille said.

Each state has its own On-site Consultation Program. This free and confidential safety and health consultation program is targeted toward smaller businesses primarily; employers can find out about potential hazards at their workplace, improve programs already in place and even qualify for a one-year exemption from routine OSHA inspections. Information is available at OSHA's Web site, www.osha.gov/consultation. The entire article can be found at: www.osha.gov


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FREE Safety Trainings March-April 2017:

- Real Leaders—How to Lead and Connect
- Workplace Hazard Recognition, Prevention and Control
- OSHA 10hr Construction
- Legal Aspects of Safety
- How to Use OSHA’s Resources to Develop a Compliant and Effective Safety Program

http://www.com.edu/gcsi/free-training

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UPCOMING MEETING AND EVENTS

ASSE & AIHA Gulf Coast General Chapter Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, April 6, 2017  
**Time:** 11:00-1:00pm  
**Location:** Brady’s Landing 8505 Cypress St Houston, Texas  
**Speaker:** Sarah Anderson, CIH  
**Topic:** Industrial Hygiene and Occupational Health Management

Energy Corridor Section Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, April 13, 2017  
**Time:** 11:00-1:00pm  
**Location:** Spring Creek BBQ 2100 Katy Fwy; Katy, TX 77449  
**Speaker:** Ken Wells of Lifeline Strategies  
**Topic:** Operating Procedures: Underused Tool for Safety and Quality

North Section Meeting

**Date:** Thursday, April 20, 2017  
**Time:** 11:30-1:00pm  
**Location:** 10000 Energy Drive Spring, Texas 77389  
**Speaker:** TBA  
**Topic:** TBA
Interested in being a vendor at the Monthly Chapter Meeting?

**Sponsorship (Single Vendor Exclusive) Vendor**
- $1,000 Exclusive Sponsorship (First Come First Serve Basis)
- Provide Drawing Prizes

**Benefits**
- Recognition during the Meeting “Kick Off”
- 5 min presentation on your services/products
- 2 table spaces in the meeting room
- Display logo on Signage

**Sponsorship (Multiple Vendors)**
- $500 Sponsorship/Vendor
- Provide Drawing Prizes

**Benefits**
- Limited to first 3 Vendors
- Recognition during the Meeting “Kick Off”
- 1 table space in the meeting room per vendor
- Display logo on Signage

Contact Program Chair, Doug Rush
Doug.rush@bsigroup.com

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**EHSSENTIALS 2017 Symposium**

Friday, April 28, 2017
8:00 AM-4:30 PM
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center
Houston, Texas

**Information**
The EHSSENTIALS 2017 Symposium is a local and inexpensive way for CSPs and CIHs to get continuing education credit, devoted exclusively to the latest EHS trends, issues, strategies and solutions affecting healthcare facilities today.

For additional information, please visit [http://ehssentials.com/texas2017](http://ehssentials.com/texas2017)
Professional Development

Gulf Coast Chapter — American Society of Safety Engineers

Certification Workshops 2017

In just 3 Days, you can gain the knowledge and the confidence you need to pass your certification exams. Led by the most experienced certification leaders, Langlois, Weigand & Associates, Inc., these intensive three-day programs feature overviews of each of examination domain covered by each BCSP exam. Our leaders will help you assess your current understanding of the content, identify where you need to focus your efforts, help you find the right answer and give you the confidence to pass your exam. BCSP approved scientific calculators will be provided.

:: Associate Safety Professional (ASP) ::

When: March 14 – March 16
Where: Houston Area Safety Council 5213 Center Street
Pasadena, TX 77505
Cost: $575

Register by visiting the events page on our website @ http://gulfcoast.assce.org

Day 1: AM Introduction, Review of Fundamentals—Calculator, Algebra, and Trigonometry
PM Review of Fundamentals—Physics, Probability, and Statistics

Day 2: AM Safety, Health and Environmental (SHE) Engineering
PM Evaluating, and Controlling SHE Hazards

Day 3: AM SHE Training and Management
PM Business Principles, Practices, and Metrics

:: Certified Safety Professional (CSP) ::

When: April 11–April 13
Where: Houston Area Safety Council
5213 Center Street
Pasadena, TX 77505
Cost: $625

Register by visiting the events page on our website @ http://gulfcoast.assce.org

Day 1: AM Probability, Statistics, Engineering Economy
PM Collecting SHE and Security Risk Information

Day 2: AM/PAM Assessing Safety, Health, and Environmental (SHE) and Security Risk

Day 3: AM/PAM Managing Safety, Health, and Environmental (SHE) and Security Risk

ASP Registration can be found: http://gulfcoast.assce.org/events/asp-prep-workshop/
CSP Registration can be found: http://gulfcoast.assce.org/events/csp-prep-workshop