



ASSE Energy Corridor Section Newsletter

July 2016

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Links:

[ASSE Energy Corridor Section](http://gulfcoast.asse.org/energy-corridor-events/)
<http://gulfcoast.asse.org/energy-corridor-events/>

[ASSE Gulf Coast Chapter](http://gulfcoast.asse.org)
<http://gulfcoast.asse.org>

[ASSE](http://www.asse.org)
<http://www.asse.org>

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Current Events

Welcome to the July 2016 edition of the ASSE Energy Corridor Section Newsletter! We're very excited about our growing Section and the meetings, events and speakers we have coming up for you in the coming months!

Starting in 2017, we'll be moving to our new home at Spring Creek Barbeque; until December 2016, we'll continue to meet at the Wood Group-Mustang facility.

As always, we appreciate and look forward to your feedback, input and engagement. If you have any suggestions or recommendations that you'd like to see in our newsletter or at our meetings, please feel free to let us know. Our aim is to ensure our Section is as value-added as possible to you. Please let us know your thoughts!

Thank you for your dedication to safety!
Your ASSE Energy Corridor Section Team

ASSE Region III

Professional Development Conference

The ASSE Region III Professional Development Conference will be in San Antonio, TX from August 28-31, 2016! Located at the Grand Hyatt in San Antonio, the annual PDC is sure to be full of great engagement, communication, learning opportunities and networking! Learn more about it [here](#).

NSC Congress and Expo

October 15-21 (Expo 10/17-10/19)

Anaheim, CA - Anaheim Convention Center

[Registration Information](#)

Get Involved!

- Are you a speaker?
- Are you a writer?
- Have an idea for the Section?
- Have a topic you'd like to see addressed?
- Have something to share?

Let us know!

- Please get in touch using our contact information above to let us know your thoughts. We'd love to hear from you!

An Opportunity!

- The Energy Corridor Section has an opening on the leadership team for our Secretary position
- If interested in pursuing this position, please feel free to get in touch with us at the contact information listed above - we'll look forward to hearing from you!

Coming Up!

On August 11, the ASSE Energy Corridor Section is proud to host Norman Ritchie, Director of vPSI and his presentation on "Pragmatic Inclusion of Human Factors in Incident Investigation."

About the Presentation: Much has been done to reduce the likelihood of death or injury at work to current levels and we now face dealing with relatively intractable Human Factors issues if improvement is to continue. Unfortunately, such issues may be complex and can cover a broad range of disciplines. It can be difficult to know where to start addressing Human Factors in the organization and limited resources make it impossible to tackle everything.

Investigating unplanned events from a Human Factors perspective requires a different approach than conventional methodologies allow, but there is no need to accept being overwhelmed by all the possible complexities this may introduce. This presentation offers a pragmatic set of human factors sensitive tools that can be applied through the entire process of responding to the learning opportunities presented by incidents and near misses, including post-event data acquisition, analysis, developing and implementing appropriate and optimized corrective actions.



About Norman: Norman Ritchie has worked in oil and gas for over 30 years. Educated as a Mechanical Engineer at the University of Glasgow in Scotland, he has gained broad expertise through engineering and management positions in exploration, production and capital projects. Ritchie's experience covers the full hydrocarbon development life cycle from conceptual design to decommissioning. Since 1997, Ritchie has consulted in project management and enterprise risk management. As a Director of vPSI group, LLC, which he co-founded in 2003, Ritchie provides consulting and training in performance measurement and improvement, principally in the areas of risk, loss prevention, safety, problem solving and human factors.

Last Month....

In July, the ASSE Energy Corridor Section was proud to host Shawn Galloway, COO of ProAct Safety; with 43 in attendance and a lively raffle going on throughout the meeting, a good time was had by all! With his presentation covering how organizations across all major industries are leveraging a universal strategy for identifying, prioritizing, and solving safety problems to achieve excellence in safety performance and culture, Shawn's presentation was beneficial for all industries.

Thanks to Shawn for joining us in July and we're looking forward to seeing everyone again in August! Please remember to spread the word and bring your friends and colleagues!

Safety Perspectives

Perceptions: The Importance of Employee Engagement in Safety

Cory Worden, M.S., CSHM, CSP, CHSP, ARM, REM, CESCO

Safety begins and ends with perceptions. Each of us must perceive the risks associated with our work. Some may see a slip, trip or fall as a potentially life-threatening injury while others may shrug it off. These perceptions play a large role in our decisions to use hazard controls; if we don't perceive a risk, we may not take the time, regardless of how little time it is, to find and use a hazard control such as equipment, processes, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or another. Another influence on this decision may be our perceived value of safety within our organization. If we don't believe safety to be a value and we perceive it to be less important to our leaders than other priorities, we're less likely to identify, assess and control hazards when they appear in the workplace. Perceptions of hazards, risks and culture play huge roles in whether we work safely.

Furthermore, our organization's culture may determine how we perceive our ability to speak freely about safety. If we perceive that our leaders will reprimand us for bringing up a safety concern, we certainly won't perceive a value of safety. If we perceive that we'll be labeled as 'malingering' for bringing up a safety concern, we likely won't bring it up. These perceptions dictate our ability to openly discuss safety and, by default, our ability to improve safety. As healthcare professionals and as leaders, whether formal or informal, it is imperative that we develop positive perceptions of safety, perceptions that allow for open communication, consistent identifications of hazards, and awareness of risks and the importance of hazard control use. This, in turn, allows for an increased perception of the value of safety.

With this, one simple action can begin the process of developing positive safety perceptions. There are many aspects to developing a safety culture, but one simple action can get it started: ask the team for their thoughts. We can ask employees for safety concerns. We can ask for recommendations. We can ask for feedback. We can ask for close call/near-miss events. We can ask for and accept this information as beneficial, value-added input towards safety improvement. We can actively encourage it. We can incentivize it. We can reward employees for discussing safety. In reality, focusing on accident rates can lead to reductions because employees may be simply scared to report an accident. However, focusing on engagement and accident prevention encourages safety thinking and safe behaviors. With this, accident rates can decrease by default. If we don't encourage open communication, some employees won't discuss it for fear of being called a complainer or being labeled as refusing to work. This is not only bad for morale but prevents communication of valuable information through employee perceptions. As leaders, engagement is imperative to safety. It's up to us to shape these safety perceptions and to open the door for communication; the whole team will benefit for it. The next step, though, is the most important: once we have our team's engagement and input, we have to *do something* with it.

Inclement Weather

With the continuing inclement weather situation in Houston and surrounding areas, the City of Houston has developed an Emergency Information Center available online.

This online resource contains important information on storm notifications, information, news and recovery information.

The City of Houston Emergency Information Center is located [here](#).