



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Great Plains Chapter

2021 - 3rd Quarter Newsletter

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Welcome New Members

June New Members

Jose Castro

Brian Hacker

Mike Roberts

Jennifer Shavnoch

Kyle Wenske

Western Sugar

Kiewit

July New Members

Christopher Kerber

Union Pacific - Student

September New Members

Cadrien Livingston

Gallagher

Benjamin Thomburg

Drake-Williams Steel

October New Members

Jennifer Gdanov

Midland Scientific, Inc.

Lucas Simpson

Ash Grove Cement

Madeline Young

Student

Jacob Cech

Student

Beau Murray

Student

Welcome New Board Members



FOUNDATION & SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR

Todd Grumley

EHS Specialist

Conagra

[Email](#)



NEWSLETTER CHAIR

Jeff Beck

EHS Administrator

Tri-Con Industries LTD.

[Email](#)

Dear Great Plains Chapter Members,

Fall is upon us again and our Chapter year has started. As you probably know we faced a significant issue over the summer. In managing the issue, it caused a cascade effect, with some board members changing positions and needing to backfill openings. We finally have all positions filled and are moving forward with programs for the rest of the year. Thank you to those who have stepped up either by agreeing to change positions or by volunteering to join the Board. A list of the current Board members can be found in this newsletter.



We know there are still many issues with Covid-19 and we are working as a Chapter Board to provide meetings and training opportunities with this in mind. We are exploring options for hybrid / in-person meetings. Because OSHA is looking to start focusing on various industry sectors, the Board has put together a program for the remainder of the Chapter year including topics like; Fall Protection, Covid-19, and how OSHA will handle the mandates and Heat Illness. Additionally we are finalizing a Holiday Party and plan to hold our SPY and Awards Banquet in May. We are also working on a one day hybrid PDC in conjunction with the three ASSP Chapters in Iowa. Please plan to attend these meetings. Later this Chapter year we will look to conduct another survey to determine best how to meet our Chapter Members' program needs.

I attended the Fall Region V Regional Operating Committee Meeting October 7 and 8. The Operating Committee is made up of all Region V Chapter Presidents, two Area Directors, AVP-Finance and Deputy Regional Vice President. Many items were covered, including how can chapters work together to provide joint learning sessions in order to provide more member value. One focus was Student Sections. Covid-19 has impacted them and many are not as strong and vibrant as they were. I am not sure how many know but we have a Student Section at Wayne State, however it has been idle since the Spring 2020 and has not yet been able to get back up and running. We need to encourage students and grow the profession as there are many professionals who are reaching the latter years of their careers.

Another Item covered was the State of the Society. As we know ASSP, like many others, has faced many challenges over the last 2 years. These challenges are behind the move to change the Governance of ASSP. The initial roll out of proposed changes did not go smoothly. ASSP is taking feedback and will look to adjust their planned changes. The Society has an updated FAQ page relating to the Governance changes.

I will go more into the challenges being faced by the Society in a future letter.

Thank you all for being members of the Great Plains Chapter and your continued support not only of the Chapter, but for your continued efforts as Safety Professionals to ensure the safety of all who are in the workplaces you serve.

Regards,

Jim Nelson, CSP

ASSP Great Plains Chapter President
ASSP Region V DRVP

New OSHA REP

On October 1, 2021, OSHA Region VII issued a new a new Region Emphasis Program (REP). It was published with little fanfare. The new REP - Top 50 Workplace - Health Hazard (CPL 2-21-001) will focus on a variety of health hazards, though it appears it will be more focused on chemical versus noise, though noise will definitely be a part of it. The following comes directly from the REP:

“During the opening conference, the CSHO shall review the employer’s exposure monitoring program and records in accordance with 1910.1020 and shall review the OSHA 300 injury and illness logs for any standard threshold hearing shifts, skin disorders, respiratory conditions, poisonings, and all other illnesses. The CSHO shall evaluate the employer’s safety and health programs, including but not limited to: ventilation, occupational noise exposure, non-ionizing radiation, hazardous materials included in Subpart H, personal protective equipment, permit required confined spaces, medical services and first aid, toxic and hazardous substances as included in Subpart Z, and hazard communication.”

Some of the chemicals listed as examples of what they will be watching for include ones that should be of no surprise to most Safety and Health Professionals. Chemicals listed include:

Asbestos
Benzene
Hexavalent Chrome
Ethylene Oxide
Formaldehyde
Nickel

As with other REP, if OSHA comes in for another reason, they will typically include this as part of the inspection. The Appendix A contains “FY 2021 Top 50 High Hazard Health Industries”. These are by NAICS and will be part of the process for determining the programmed inspection list.

The REP is currently scheduled to last 5 years. Here is the link to the REP:
https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/enforcement/directives/CPL_2-21-001.pdf



MOST CITED VIOLATIONS

1. Fall Protection – General Requirements (1926.501): 5,295 violations
2. Respiratory Protection (1910.134): 2,527
3. Ladders (1926.1053): 2,026
4. Scaffolding (1926.451): 1,948
5. Hazard Communication (1910.1200): 1,947
6. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147): 1,698
7. Fall Protection – Training Requirements (1926.503): 1,666
8. Personal Protective and Lifesaving Equipment – Eye and Face Protection (1926.102): 1,452
9. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178): 1,420
10. Machine Guarding (1910.212): 1,113

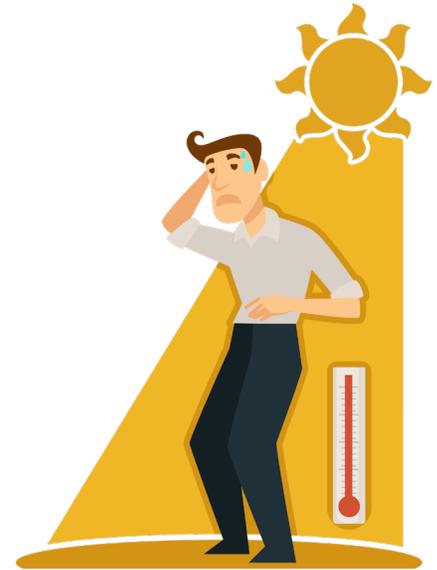
OSHA Initiates Rulemaking To Protect Workers From Dangerous Heat

In 2021 the U.S. experienced record-breaking heat endangering millions of worker exposed to heat illness and injury in both indoor and outdoor work environments. Deputy Assistant Secretary Jim Frederick said in an Oct. 26 press release: "While heat illness is largely preventable and commonly underreported, thousands of workers are sickened each year by workplace heat exposure, and in some cases, heat exposure can be fatal..."

Among all weather-related workplace hazards, heat is the leading cause of death. According to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS); from 2011 to 2019 environmental heat cases resulted in an average of 38 fatalities per year and an average of 2,700 cases with days away from work. OSHA has conducted approximately 200 heat-related inspections each year between 2015 to 2020 and about 15 heat-related fatality inspection annually. Many of these resulted in citations under the general duty clause, Section 5(a)(1) of the OSH Act, for exposing workers to heat-related hazards.

OSHA's rulemaking to protect workers from dangerous heat will apply to indoor and outdoor worksites where there is potential heat-related hazards. All major industry sectors of employers, including general industry, construction, agriculture, and maritime will be affected by the proposed rulemaking. According to the standard interpretation on Inspection Guidance for Heat-Related Hazards published on September 1, 2021:

"Typical indoor worksites where heat-related illnesses may occur include foundries, brick-firing and ceramic plants, glass production facilities, rubber products factories, electrical utilities (particularly boiler rooms), bakeries, confectioneries, commercial kitchens, laundries, food canneries, warehouses without adequate climate control, chemical plants, and smelters. Outdoor work activities impacted by heat include agriculture, landscaping, construction operations, refining gas/oil and well operations, asbestos and lead removal, waste collection activities, package and mail delivery, and any other activities that require moderate to high physical exertions or the wearing of heavy or /bulky clothing or equipment on a hot day..."



Currently OSHA has no standard to address heat stress, however a national enforcement initiative on heat-related hazards was implemented on September 1, 2021. OSHA is also developing a National Emphasis Program for heat-related inspections.

For more details on this topic check out the [OSHA National News Release](#) and [OSHA's Standard Interpretation on the Inspection Guidance for Heat-Related Hazards](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

OSHA's COVID-19 Standard - What You Need to Know

OSHA is expected to issue an Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) within days. President Biden announced on September 9th, it will require employer with more than 100 employees to mandate COVID-19 for their employees or be subject to weekly testing. Although he provided some basic information, many questions remain to be answered until the ETS is actually issued and studied.

ASSP - Great Plains Chapter will be hosting an event via Zoom on Friday November 12, 2021 from 12:00 - 1:00 PM to cover:

- The basic requirements of the ETS
- How “100 employees” is determined (FTEs? Per location, or company wide?)
- Details about the “testing” option, such as -
 - Does the employee have the option to test or be vaccinated?
 - Who pays for the tests (the employer or employee)?
 - What type of test is acceptable?
 - Is being tested “working time” employers must pay?
- Will accommodations for religious and medical / disability reasons be permitted
- What are the Enforcement dates?
- What are the possible outcomes of court challenges to be brought to invalidate the ETS?

Presenter:

R.J. (Randy) Stevenson | Partner
Baird Holm LLP



R.J. (Randy) Stevenson is Chair of the firm's Labor, Employment and Employee Benefits Law Group. He counsels and represents private and public employers in all aspects of labor relations and employment law, including Matters involving workplace safety and health (OSHA) across the United States.

Randy is one of only a handful of labor and employment lawyers in the region who has been elected a Fellow of “The College of Labor and Employment Lawyers,” the premier peer-selected organization of labor and employment lawyers in North America. Admission is by invitation only, following a rigorous screening process.

Click the Registration button below to register for this event.

REGISTER NOW

Chapter Meeting Schedule and Topic Planner 2021 - 2022

DATE	TIME	TOPIC	FACILITATOR / SPEAKER
10/15/2021	12:00 - 1:00 PM	ASSP ACTIVITIES AND STANDARDS	TIM FISHER
11/12/2021	12:00 - 1:00 PM	OSHA COVID ETS	DOUG FLETCHER
12/16/2021	4:00 - 6:00 PM	MEETING AND HOLIDAY SOCIAL GATHERING / JOINT MEETING WITH RIMS	
JANUARY 2022	TBD	FALL PROTECTION	TBD
FEBRUARY 2022	TBD	COMBUSTIBLE DUST	TBD
MARCH 2022	TBD	HEAT STRESS OSHA NATIONAL EMPHESIS	TBD
APRIL 2022	TBD	TBD	TBD
MAY 2022	TBD	ELECTIONS	
JUNE 2022	TBD	AWARDS BANQUET	
JULY 2022			
AUGUST 2022			
SEPTEMBER 2022			



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