

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS



ASSP



PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

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April 15th Meeting

Using Movement to Decrease Low Back Strain Risk

Location: WebEx Meeting
Time: 11:30am-1:00pm
Fee: Free

Presented by: Lori Frederic, Balance Biometrics

Lori Frederic, known as The Movement Ninja, focuses on protecting physical workers from injury and pain through movement mechanics and badassery. Lori aims to raise the importance of posture and movement work in high hazard industries. Founder of Balance Biomechanics this EHS professional set out to improve the well-being of workers and inspire personal responsibility. Lori has a strong passion for teaching, maintaining expertise in manual therapies, and human movement. Speaking on both regional and national level. She is truly enthusiastic to inspire the “old and stubborn” along with the “young and bulletproof” in high hazard industries.

Using Movement to Decrease Low Back Strain Risk - The spine is meant to bend and twist. It's actually very resilient when used and moved properly, but we often preach to lock it down in order to protect it. Material handling, imbalanced tool belts, and heavy, awkward lifting is commonplace for many blue-collar industries. Unfortunately, so are low back strains. Providing back safety education that includes movement-based prevention will lower the risk of injury, and in the case of an injury, decrease the time it takes to get back to usual work.

Please RSVP for the meeting at our website.

<https://pensacola.assp.org/>

You will be sent an invite for the WebEx meeting

ASSP PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

IH Corner **Global Asbestos** **Awareness Week**

What does GAAW mean for workers? Employees are part of this worldwide cooperation to focus on occupational health and safety. As the U.S. is one of the few remaining countries who have not put a national asbestos ban in place, that eliminates any production of asbestos, employees are still at risk.

Outbreaks of asbestos continue to remain an issue. Last year, during GAAW, the shock of discovering that over 10 Philadelphia school buildings tested positive for millions of asbestos fibers in frequently traveled areas was disclosed after an independent investigation. Throughout this incident, a local teacher was diagnosed with mesothelioma after years of classroom exposure.

Although schools aren't considered construction or industrial, the call of attention to all professions is vital, because contact with this carcinogen is possible. OSHA has enforced regulations to ensure that workers are not accidentally exposed to asbestos and that hazards are well-mitigated. However, the CDC reported that in 2012 the number of new cancer cases caused by occupational toxins approximated between 45,872 and 91,745.

While countries like Turkey, Australia, the United Kingdom, and most countries in Europe have banned asbestos, the U.S. is waiting on federal and state governments to enact the same legislation. Many of these regulations have included asbestos restrictions as part of a more comprehensive act that also manages air, water, and toxins such as the Clean Air Act and the James Zadroga 9/11 Health & Compensation Act and Reauthorization Act.

Transparency is one of the main purposes of these regulations. Exposure can happen today, even with evidence that asbestos is deadly and that there are safer alternatives. This is why advocacy for stricter laws is ongoing. The Further Asbestos Claim Transparency Act and the Reducing Exposure to Asbestos Database Act are two proposed pieces of legislation that could change asbestos legislation and potentially lead to an overall ban. States have also taken action to limit use in the meantime. For workers, the risks of exposure to asbestos are higher and Global Asbestos Awareness Week, a worldwide observance, includes advocacy for this population as a significant goal.

Need a good IH?

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Membership Benefits

ASSP is where OSH professionals find a vibrant community, one that helps them grow professionally through education, networking and advocacy for the profession. Through our member communities, ASSP connects OSH professionals across all industries, genders, generations and ethnicities, and enables them to engage with one another on a global scale. Safety Education and Training, Safety Publications, Career Support, Safety Advocacy, Safety Standards, Student Resources, Member Recognition. If you need some hints on convincing your boss, click here. <https://www.assp.org/membership/benefits-qualifications/employer-justification>

Membership Information

Ready to join? You can apply online:

<https://store.assp.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Membership/Join-ASSP>

Jobs

<http://jobs.assp.org/>

<https://jobs.bcspp.org>

<http://www.ehscareers.com>

<https://pensacola.assp.org>

If you have an opening at your organization you would like to share with the chapter and have posted for members to view, let Mario Crocetti or Matthew Parker know. Openings will be shared with ASSP Pensacola Chapter members prior to being shared to the chapter website or LinkedIn page.

ASSP PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Future Meetings: Third Thursdays

Mark these dates on your calendars NOW!

May 20th, 2020

"Influential Management – What is your role and how do you use it?"

-Craig Delwisch, Corporate Safety Manager, West Fraser

Open Call for Speakers

We are seeking suggestions, ideas, recommendations, proposals, hints, etc. for speakers for the ASSP meetings. Please contact us with your thoughts!

Newsletter Information

Please forward this newsletter to any other in the chapter area that might be interested. If you wish to be added to our mailing list, please email mario.crocetti@gmail.com

ASSP Shifts Annual Conference from June to September

The American Society of Safety Professionals has moved its annual safety conference to a new date and location, while adding a hybrid component to it. The [Safety 2021 Professional Development Conference and Exposition](#) will take place Sept. 13-15 both online and in-person in Austin, Texas.

Due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the last national safety conference to be held in the United States was *EHS Today's* Safety Leadership Conference in November 2019. Interestingly, that conference was also held in Texas (Dallas). This year's [Safety Leadership Conference](#) will be a hybrid event held in Cleveland, Ohio, November 9-11.

ASSP plans to incorporate heightened safety and health measures to protect all attendees, said ASSP president Deborah Roy. Attendees will be required to wear face coverings at the convention center, and the society also plans to integrate other safeguards into its plan and will closely monitor pandemic-related developments in Austin. If the public health situation doesn't improve as expected, ASSP will shift the conference to an all-virtual event.

DHS Invests in Respirator Research

This week, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded a \$14 million grant to a federal laboratory researching personal protective equipment and workplace safety technology.

The National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory in South Park, Penn., has been researching whether a reusable respirator could be used in health care settings, especially during global health emergencies. The elastomeric respirators are made of thick silicon and features protruding filters on each side that can remove 99.7% of airborne particles. They are bulkier than N95 respirators and have been used more in industrial workplaces rather than health care settings.

"The important role of PPE in providing potentially life-saving protection to workers has never been clearer," John Howard, director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Tallahassee Meetings

Attention Tallahassee Members. We will be holding supplemental meetings at your end of the Chapter territory this year. We will try to do a full chapter meeting there, but at a very minimum will do a local meeting for you to facilitate local networking. If you know a location for the meeting or have an idea for a speaker or topic, contact Matthew Parker or Mario Crocetti.

Photo of the Month



Securing the ladder means different things to different people.

ASSP PENSACOLA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Last year, the laboratory partnered with area health care network Allegheny Health Network and manufacturer MSA Safety to study the masks.

The results so far are encouraging. In a study, published in the June issue of the Journal of the American College of Surgeons, MSA Safety lead scientist Zane Frund found the elastomeric masks cost Allegheny Health network fit about 94% of the time and cost at least 10 times less per month compared with disinfecting and reusing N95 masks.

Quote of the Month

“Tomorrow: your reward for working safely today.” – Robert Pelton

A Near Miss is a Safety Learning Opportunity

When there’s a near miss, how do you view it? Do you view it as a lucky break? Or do you view it as a golden opportunity? If you’re not taking the latter view, you may be missing your chance to get everyone on the same safety page.

Get Supervisors Thinking About Safety

Supervisors are in the best position to see and correct hazards—so whenever workers narrowly avoid accidents and injuries, don’t let your supervisors off the hook. Get the attention of your supervisors, and ask them:

- Did you know the situation was unsafe? Why wasn’t it corrected?

- Did you try to correct the situation? What prevented the supervisors’ solution from being effective?
- Have you disciplined workers, if needed? Either before or after the near miss, were supervisors practicing effective safety coaching and discipline?
- How could management have helped you? What support do supervisors feel they need from management to keep workers safe? Was there a management or other systemic failure?
- What are we going to do differently in the future? Prompt them to think preemptively about safety.

Get Workers Thinking About Safety

Complacency is one of the biggest challenges facing safety. Before workers shake off that “close call” feeling, call a safety meeting. Talk about what happened, what could have happened, and how to make sure it doesn’t happen in the future. Get workers thinking about:

- What could have happened to them. Not just death, but physical disability, brain injury, chronic pain, and a loss of their ability to work.
- What could have happened to their coworkers. No one wants to be responsible for causing harm to others.
- Whether there were warning signs they could have reported. Did they know the situation was dangerous? Did they make an effort to report the hazard? Were their concerns heard?
- Which pressures contributed to the hazard. Are they under production pressure that caused them to take shortcuts? Are they unable to repair or replace equipment when they need to? Which facility or equipment factors do they think contributed to the accident?
- Which worker factors contributed to the hazard. Did worker actions affect the situation? How? What would they do differently in the future? When discussing this, it is also important to remember: Do not take a stance that blames the worker. Instead, frame it as an opportunity for everyone to help improve safety.