Upcoming Events

July Low Country Chapter Meeting
Topic: Ergonomics
The next chapter meeting will take place Tuesday, July 17th at 2230 Technical Parkway. Lunch will be catered.

Context Root Cause Analysis Training in Charleston August 23rd
Peak Safety Performance will provide Root Cause Analysis Classes in Georgia and South Carolina in July and August. ASSP members qualify for discounted rates. Click here for more info.

ASP/CSP Prep Course offered prior to Region VI PDC September 16-18
Join Langlois & Weigand for 3 days reviewing OSH concepts and test-taking strategies for the ASP or CSP exam. Includes CEU credits, lunch & snack breaks, and workbooks. Early registration savings end August 15th.

32nd Annual ASSP Region VI PDC is September 19 – 21 in Myrtle Beach
The 2018 Region VI PDC will be held at Kingston Plantation in Myrtle Beach, SC. Click here for an event summary and registration info, or go to: http://region6.assp.org/pdc. Early registration savings end August 15th.

Thanks to Ken Warren – Certified Industrial Hygienist and Technical Principal/Vice President of S&ME, Inc. – who presented at the June 2018 Chapter meeting. Attendees learned about a string of deaths associated with exposure to methylene chloride (a.k.a. dichloromethane or DCM) when used in paint and coating removal. A 2014-15 EPA Risk Assessment deemed DCM “too dangerous for consumer use”. A few key chemical properties that make DCM so toxic:

1. Highly volatile – evaporates quickly for high concentration;
2. Heavier than air – collects in low, poorly ventilated areas;
3. Poor warning properties – odor threshold = 250 ppm, 10x the PEL; and
4. Acutely lethal – causes chemical asphyxiation.

Two more recent deaths occurred, including one in Charleston, SC this past October. The family of the Charleston victim met with local government representatives. Then, Senators Graham and Scott and Rep. Sanford of SC wrote to the EPA Administrator Scott Pruitt who proposed a rulemaking to ban use of DCM in “paint strippers, coating removers, adhesive removers and other [products] found on hardware store counters”.

On May 10th the EPA announced they intend to finalize this rulemaking, which:

1. Prohibits manufacturing, processing and distribution of all consumer uses and some commercial uses of DCM in paint and coating removers;
2. Prohibits most commercial uses of DCM in paint and coating removers; and
3. Requires that any products for paint and coating removal be distributed in volumes ≥ 55 gallons.

The rule currently does not apply to commercial furniture refinishing. It is expected that the EPA will submit the finalized rule to OMB before the end of the year. On May 29th, Lowe’s announced it will remove these products from their shelves.

For more information, visit: https://www.epa.gov/assessing-and-managing-chemicals-under-tsca/risk-management-methylene-chloride.
SC OSHA Publishes Amended Record-keeping & Reporting Requirements

In October 2017, the South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, proposed revisions to Chapter 71, Subarticle 3, to amend the requirements of the Occupational Injury and Illness Recording and Reporting Regulation to comply with current Federal OSHA requirements. This includes electronic submission of injury and illness data. The amendments were finalized and published in the SC State Register on May 25, 2018. Volume 42 Issue No. 5. Part 1904, Recordkeeping, was just updated to reflect the new electronic recordkeeping submissions that some South Carolina employers must now comply with. Many local employers fall into the requirement of 1904(a)(2), as it covers the manufacturing industry (NAICS Code 31-33). Although federal OSHA’s Injury Tracking regulation requires submission of 2017 injury and illness data by July 1, 2018, SC employers are being granted 6 months to comply with the changes to the newly adopted rule. For Calendar year 2018, all information must be submitted by March 2nd, 2019.


Helpful hyperlinks to learn about electronic submissions:

https://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/index.html
https://www.osha.gov/injuryreporting/index.html

For more information, please contact:
SC Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation,
Office of Occupational Safety and Health
Safety Standards Office
121 Executive Center Drive, Suite 230 Columbia, SC 29211
Telephone: 803.896.7682 Fax: 803.896.7670
Email: latashi.jones@llr.sc.gov
Website: www.scosha.llronline.com

Safe + Sound Week, August 13-19, 2018

Need to boost your workplace’s culture of safety, or start a new safety program? Participate in Safe + Sound week. This is “A nationwide event to raise awareness and understanding of the value of safety and health programs that include management, leadership, worker participation, and a systematic approach to finding and fixing hazards in the workplace.” Show your commitment to safety to your workers, customers, the public, and supply chain partners by participating. Click here for more information about Safe + Sound week. To host a public event or see who is hosting public events, visit: https://www.osha.gov/safeandsoundweek/#eventform.