



Safety Emphasis

A Monthly Newsletter of the Columbia - Willamette Chapter of
THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS

www.assecwc.org

February 2005

February General Membership Meeting Change of date due to Valentine's Day!

By Tony Howard

The next CWC membership meeting will be held on Monday, 2/21/05 at the Days Inn City Center. The gathering will start at 4:00pm, dinner at 4:15pm, Business meeting at 4:30, and the presentation from 5-6:00pm. This is our annual partnership meeting with the OCC Health Nurses. Our presenter is Gwen Dayton / V.P. & General Counsel for Oregon Association of Hospitals and Health Systems The topic: "HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) and Employers / Access to Employee Medical Records". Attendees are encouraged to RSVP to Tony-Howard@earthlink.net by Thursday, 2/17/05.

Chapter Announces Candidates

Submitted by Dave Parsons

The Columbia Willamette Chapter is pleased to announce the following candidates for the 2005-2006 year.

President ----- Frank Upham
President-Elect ----- Tony Howard
Vice-President Bill Wood, Jamal AbuSneineh
Treasurer ----- Lee Briney-Ekman
Secretary ----- Michelle Potter
DAL* ---- Stan Strickland, Gordon Kroemer
HOD* ----- Jill Jones, Dave Parsons
*DAL ----- Delegate at Large
*HOD ---- House of Delegates

Happy Valentine's Day ♥

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Safety Emphasis

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VOLUNTEERS ARE THE KEY TO OUR SUCCESS

Columbia Willamette Chapter Members Recognized for Recruitment Efforts

We were pleased to see four of our members honored by ASSE National as Membership Recruiters. Recruiting is an easy job and our future as an organization begins with new members. Those honored were **Fred Caron**, Longview Fiber for recruiting more than 60 members since 1980. Recognized for their efforts last year were **Al Arguedas**, Skanska, four new members, **Brian Clarke**, Hoffman Corporation and **Walter Want** of Norwest Marketing with three new recruits. You might want to ask one of these fellows, "What's the secret of recruiting for ASSE"? They would probably answer with a simple "Just Ask". If the organization is important to you and you keep an application with your signature and member number on hand, it is easy to "Just ASK". Fred has handed the application to the same person more than three times. Jack Durkin, (deceased) is the all time ASSE-CWC recruiter.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS ALERT MEMBERS ABOUT POSSIBLE FAULTY FALL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

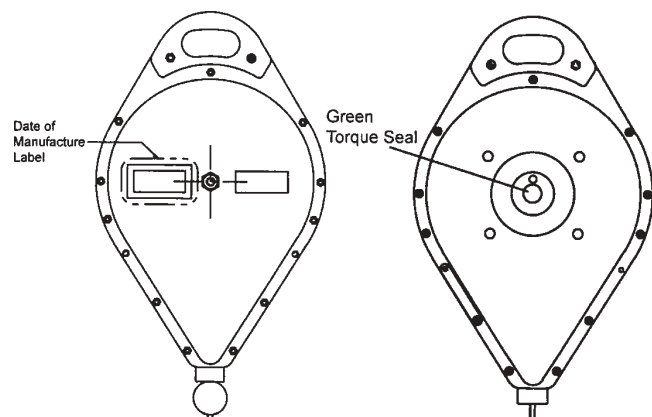
Submitted by Diane Hurns

The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is urging its members and the public to stop using fall protection products Dyna Lock Self Retracting Lanyard (SRL)/Dynevac, Dynevac II and Lynx Rescuers manufactured between June 1 and September 30, 2004 and January 1, 2001 through October 8, 2004 due to safety risks. According to a notice issued by the manufacturer, Mine Safety Appliance Company (MSA), and forwarded by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), although the units will lock in the event of a fall, the line extension exceeds the MSA specification of 40 inches.

The MSA products affected are the Dyna-Lock Self-Retracting Lanyard – 10m (30 ft.) and 16m (50 ft.) types and Dynevac, Dynevac II and Lynx Rescuers – 16 m (50ft) Types manufactured between June 1 and September 30, 2004. Also affected are the Dyna-Lock Self-Retracting Lanyard – 22m (70 ft) and 30m (95 ft) and Dynevac, Dynevac II and Lynz Rescuers – 30m (95 ft) types manufactured between January 1, 2001 and October 8, 2004.

In its recent stop use and return notice MSA notes that their internal investigation found some of the housing sub-assemblies of the SRLs and Rescuers were improperly manufactured allegedly by their supplier.

Important MSA information on these products can be found at <http://www.msanet.com/msanorthamerica/msaunitedstates/usnoticeindex.html> or by calling MSA customer service at 303-975-2314 (U.S. and Mexico) and 1-888-396-1067 (Canada).



**GOSH
CONFERENCE
2005**

SAFETY & HEALTH EXPEDITION

*Advancing industry
knowledge and practices*

Register for the GOSH Conference

The 2005 GOSH Conference is only a few weeks away. Be sure to register early to get the classes you want. To register online go to www.b-there.com/breg/GOSH2005 or you can link to this website via the Oregon OSHA (www.or-osh.org) or ASSE (www.assecwc.org) web sites. Registration packets have been mailed so that you can still register via hard copy.

No Cheaters Here!!!

By Tony Howard

Forensic Toxicologist, Mr. Kent Johnson of Legacy MetroLab, presented "Challenges of Occupational Drug Testing" at the January general membership meeting.



Mr. Johnson discussed the step-by-step procedures used in drug testing, starting at the collection site. Not only do employers want unadulterated specimens collected, but also of equal importance is the assurance that the chain of custody remains intact from start to finish. Steps taken to assure specimen quality during collection include washing of hands, emptying of pockets, removal of jackets/fanny packs, bluing of water in stool, no water supply in room, specimen temperature and visual examination.

Once the specimen hits the lab, the gas chromatography/mass spectrometry (GC/MS) technology takes over. This technology measures quantities as small as 1/1,000,000th. We're talking nanograms here. The accuracy rate is 99.999>>>% GC/MS technology can identify each substance qualitatively and quantitatively.



Every drug has a different mass ion or "fingerprint". This is how substances are identified. Depending on what form the drug was taken (i.e. smoked, snorted, intravenous) can effect how long the substance stays in the body. Because of legislative law enactment, "positive" results are now reported as "non-negatives".

Confidentiality is of utmost importance. Typical of most businesses, once no longer needed paper is shredded. For further protection the plastic containers the specimens come to the lab in are also shredded. Communication between the lab and employer is conducted mostly by telephone using name verification, passwords and secured fax machines.

Before "non-negatives" are officially reported, a Medical Review Officer (MRO) contacts the donor to see why this may have happened. Many times a legally obtained prescription medication is the culprit, other times not.

With the recent uprising in steroid use among athletes comes the increase of testing for growth hormones, although not yet being tested for on an occupational basis.

Drug testing through oral fluid (saliva) and hair specimen is still being tried. Quality control issues continue to present many roadblocks in these arenas of testing.

By Mary
Goranson



Each year the ASSE Foundation supports the advancement of the safety, health and environmental professions through grants for scholarships, applied safety research, fellowships and professional development programs and accreditation.

This year the Foundation will award nearly \$110,000 thanks to the support of generous ASSE members, chapters, regions and corporations.

Specifically, programs include:

- **Over \$60,000 in scholarships;** Professional development grants available to ASSE members wishing to advance their professional credentials;
- **Research fellowships;** candidates will study at the Liberty Mutual Research Center during summer 2005;
- **Research grants** - recently funded studies include Effective Safety Communication Among Non- English Speaking Equipment Operators
- **Funding for the Future Safety Leaders Conference**
- **Funding for the Career Guide to the Safety Profession;** Second Edition Assistance to universities seeking ABET accreditation

Programs like these need your support. Show your commitment to the SH&E profession. Invest \$50, or any amount that you would like to give. Visit the ASSE Foundation at <http://www.asse.org/donations/foundation.asp>

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to receiving your response soon. For more information on ASSE Foundation programs, visit our website at <http://www.asse.org/foundat.htm>

The ASSE Foundation is a 501 (c) (3) organization. Generally, contributions to ASSEF are considered charitable contributions under IRC section 170 and are tax-deductible as provided by law.



Al Arguedas reading Trivia Quiz

SAFETY
FIRST

SAFETY TRIVIA

A paint storage area where flammable paints are present in closed containers that is located adjacent to, and communicates with, a spray booth requires which of the following types of electrical fixtures.

- A. Class I, Div 1
- B. Class I, Div 2
- C. Class II, Div 3
- D. Class I, Div 1, Group P

We selected answer B because:

This area would require Class I, Div 2 electrical equipment in accordance with OSHA 1910.107. Also see NFPA 70 Article 500.

- Class I areas deal with gases, vapors and liquids.
- Class II areas deal with dusts.
- Class III areas deal with fibers and flyings.

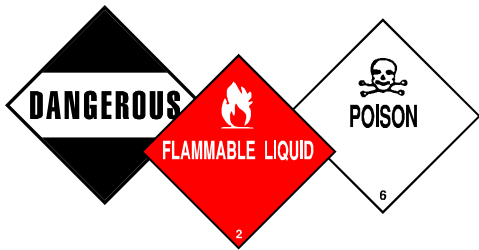
Division 1 means the substances are normally present in an explosive concentration or ignitable quantity.

Division 2 means the substances are not normally present in an explosive concentration or ignitable quantity (but may accidentally exist).



Next Santiam Section Meeting February 1

Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 1, 2004, 7:00am the Chalet Restaurant - 3875 Market NE, Salem. Our speaker will be Don Fleck with the Salem Fire Department who also owns a consulting firm called Safety & Compliance. Don will be discussing various hazards including Chemical Storage, Spray Finishing, Compressed Gasses and others in order to illustrate how their management should be included in an overall emergency preparedness plan.



Mt. St. Helens Section News

The January meeting was held 1/20 at the Monticello Hotel in Longview, WA. The topic was Experience Modification Rates (EMR). Dick Claeys, a Risk Consultant with Marsh was the presenter. He explained what an EMR is and how that formula is calculated.



Santiam Section News

By Tim McDonald, CSP

The January 4 meeting was held at the Chalet Restaurant - 3875 Market NE, Salem. We began at 7:10 am. Business items included a description of CERT by Tony Brace. CERT stands for Community Ergonomics Resources Team and is comprised of experts from diverse industries who pool their knowledge to tackle tough ergonomic challenges in business. The team conducts assessments, free of charge, for companies who request their assistance and synergetically develop solutions which are often "outside of the box". Some companies benefiting from CERT have been A-dec (Newberg), Furniture Factory (Lebanon), Albany General Hospital (Albany), Wood Castle (Corvallis), and Spirit Mountain Casino (Grand Ronde). If a visit from CERT would benefit your company, please contact Tony Brace at (503) 373-8380.

The meeting featured Craig Hamelund, Trainer with Oregon OSHA. Craig covered the topic of "Safety Committee Basics" with an informative and refreshing look at this subject. He combined the OSHA requirements with interesting and humorous examples on how to operate an effective safety committee. Scope included formation, responsibilities, functions, and recordkeeping. Great visuals supported the program and Craig provided ample time at the end of his discussion to field questions from the membership.

Mark Your Calendars for Upcoming Chapter Meetings

February 21 Joint Meeting with Occupational Health Nurses-Topic: HIPPA Regulations
(Note 3rd Monday in Feb.)

Feb. 28 – March 3, 2003 GOSH Conference

Workers' Memorial Scholarship deadline is March 1

By Kevin Weeks

The Department of Consumer and Business Services, Occupational Safety and Health Division (Oregon OSHA) is offering assistance to Oregon students through the Workers' Memorial Scholarship for the 2005-2006 academic year.

The Workers' Memorial Scholarship is open to any high school graduate, graduating high school senior, GED recipient, current college undergraduate or graduate student who is a dependent or spouse of an Oregon worker that has been fatally injured, or permanently disabled, while on the job. Scholarship funds are available for use at colleges within the United States.

The deadline for submitting an application for the 2005-2006 school year is March 1, 2005.

Application forms are included in the 2005-2006 Scholarship Application packet available from the Oregon Student Assistance Commission (OSAC) on their Web site, www.osac.state.or.us. Your local high school guidance counselor or Oregon college financial aid departments should also have forms available. On-line applications are also accepted at the OSAC electronic application Web site, www.GetCollegeFunds.org. Applicants must be Oregon residents receiving fatality benefits, a dependent or spouse of a fatally injured worker, or be the dependent or spouse of an Oregon worker who has incurred a permanent total disability and whose claim for workers' compensation benefits has been accepted.

For more information concerning the Workers Memorial Scholarship program, contact Kathy Mossbrucker with Oregon OSHA, (503) 947-7992 or Alan Baas with the Oregon Student Assistance Commission at 1-800-452-8807.

Oregon OSHA presents annual scholarships to assist in the post-secondary education of spouses or children of permanently disabled or fatally injured workers. The Workers' Memorial Scholarship was established by the 1991 Legislature at the request of the Oregon AFL-CIO with support from Associated Oregon Industries.

Oregon OSHA is committed to partnering with employers and workers to keep Oregon's injury rates low, and workers' compensation costs under control. One of the best things an employer can do to prevent injuries is to properly train employees. Oregon OSHA offers free training, free safety and health consultations, and education and training materials from the OR-OSHA Resource Center. Keep your employees and workplaces safe through a commitment to training, education and elimination of hazards.



Steve Gass explaining the Saw Stop

That's one injury every nine minutes....

By Tony Howard

The US Consumer Product Safety Commission reports that every year table saws are involved in:

- ⇒ Over 60,000 injuries
- ⇒ Over 3,000 amputations
- ⇒ \$2 billion in injury-related costs



At the January general membership meeting Mr. Steve Gass shared with the group his latest invention called "SawStop". A SawStop saw is equipped with a safety system that detects when someone accidentally contacts the spinning saw blade, and then stops the blade in milliseconds. In most cases, such an accident would result in just a nick in a SawStop saw, instead of the devastating injury which would likely occur on an ordinary saw. For more information on this amazing new device go to www.SawStop.com

Presidents Message

As many of you know the Environmental Health and Safety program at Mt. Hood Community College (MHCC) was, like many low enrollment programs at community colleges throughout the State of Oregon, under review for elimination. Community colleges statewide are facing a 5% budget cut this year, which was the reason for the potential program elimination.

ASSE spearheaded a letter writing campaign to demonstrate support for MHCC's EHS program. So far we have succeeded. The program will continue to be offered to students at MHCC. To those of you who participated – Thank you.

During this letter writing campaign some underlying differences of opinion regarding environmental safety and health were exposed. One such issue that came to the forefront was how the environmental health and safety profession expects community colleges and universities to sustain EHS programs when we ourselves cannot agree on the basic requirements for entry level safety and health professionals.

I decided I would investigate further. While I haven't had an opportunity to properly research the subject, I discovered that the 2004/2005 Occupational Outlook Handbook published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics has two distinct job classifications for the environmental, health and safety profession. The handbook classifies health and safety professions as *Industrial Engineers, including Health and Safety* and *Occupational Health and Safety Specialists and Technicians*.

The Outlook claims that; *Health and Safety engineers job duties are similar to that of industrial engineers in that it deals with the entire production process. Health and safety engineers promote worksite or product safety and health by applying knowledge of industrial processes, as well as mechanical, chemical, and psychological principles. They must be able to anticipate, recognize, and evaluate hazardous conditions as well as develop hazard control methods. They also must be familiar with the application of health and safety regulations.* There were an estimated 194,000 industrial engineers in 2002 and the job outlook for health and

safety engineers is expected to grow more slowly than average through 2012.

Occupational Health and Safety Specialists analyze work environments and design programs to control, eliminate, and prevent disease or injury caused by chemical, physical, and biological agents or ergonomic factors that involve the impact of equipment design on a worker's comfort or fatigue. They may conduct inspections and enforce adherence to laws, regulations, or employer policies governing worker health and safety. There were an estimated 41,000 occupational health and safety specialists and technicians in 2002 and the profession is expected to grow about as fast as the average for all occupations through 2012. Which means an increase of 10 to 20 percent.



The Occupational Outlook Handbook implies that Health and Safety Engineers are more focused on product safety, but otherwise the two are very similar. Why then are there two different job classifications? Is it possible that the Bureau of Labor also doesn't know where or how to classify the environmental health and safety profession?

If the BLS cannot classify our profession and we cannot agree amongst ourselves, how then will we grow the profession? How can we convince a high school student to pursue this profession if we cannot provide some straight information? It's no wonder the high school (and in some cases even college) counselors don't seem to direct students to EHS professions. They don't have the information necessary. Until we solve

this dilemma, we should expect a shrinking pool of qualified applicants and available EHS academic programs.

To address this issue locally, on Tuesday, March 1 during the GOSH conference there will be a session for high school, vocational school and vocational rehabilitation counselors. The focus will be to inform this group of the opportunities for employment and the educational requirements for the environmental health and safety profession.

As we begin to plan for the transition of this chapter's officers to the incoming group, one agenda item for our long-range plan should include *growing the profession*. If you have some suggestions please contact me. I'd like to hear them.

Kimberly Dambit CHST