



ASSE News

Colorado Chapter

February 2010

Meeting Notice:

February Chapter Meeting
February 9, 2010

• Lunch & Learn 11:30am-1:30pm

Speaker: George Flynn

Subject: OSHA Update and New Leadership Direction

Garcia's Mexican Restaurant
5050 S. Syracuse St.
Denver, Colorado.

11:00 a.m. Meeting Registration

11:30 a.m. Lunch

12:00 p.m. Guest Presentation

RSVP to: dustin_richartz@hotmail.com

OSHA Update and New Leadership Direction

This presentation provides the freshest trends and news straight from OSHA including:

- New Leadership Direction
- Standards Under Development and/or Being Revised
- Cooperative Programs
- OSHA Enforcement Strategies

George Flynn has served with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration for 26 years as a Health Compliance Officer and Assistant Area Director. He is currently the Compliance Assistance Specialist in the OSHA Englewood Area Office, where he plans, coordinates, develops and implements a comprehensive compliance assistance program to provide integrated advice and assistance to businesses (particularly small businesses), labor affiliates and other stakeholders within the Area Office jurisdiction.

2010 Executive Board

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Northern Colorado Chapter Section Update

March 2010 Northern Colorado Section Meeting

Tuesday, March 2, 2010 - 11:00am - Platte River Power Authority

Cognitive-Behavioral Safety: The Importance of Understanding How We Make Change

Presentation by Dianne Stober, Ph.D.

Let's face it, we all have to deal with change. Whether we are trying to lose weight, change our golf swing, improve communication with our spouse, or adopt a new safe work procedure, important change takes energy. And we know that people do not expend energy without sufficient motivation to do so. Dianne will outline a model of the predictable stages people go through to make significant change from igniting motivation to sustaining change for the long term. We will discuss the tasks and practical applications associated with each stage to help individuals from the workforce to senior management strengthen safety for themselves and others.

Dianne Stober, Ph.D is the Managing Partner of Cognitive Change Concepts, Inc. and a licensed psychologist. She has over 18 years' experience applying psychological concepts to improving individuals' lives and organizations' performance. She has written a number of articles and is the co-editor of the Evidence Based Coaching Handbook: Putting Best Practices to Work for Your Clients (Wiley, 2006). She's presented to groups ranging from the American Society of Safety Engineers, the National Construction Safety Executives, and The Association of Union Constructors, to the American Psychological Association, the British Psychological Society, and Harvard Medical School conferences.

Everybody must present a government-issued ID when entering the building. No exceptions. A company photo ID will not be allowed!

Location:

Platte River Power Authority
2000 East Horsetooth Road
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 226-4000

Lunch: Jimmy John's boxed lunch, includes chips and drink. Please specify if you will need a vegetarian boxed lunch with your RSVP.

Cost:

- Students - \$5
- Members - \$20
- Non-Members - \$25

Payment required at the door for attendance at the meeting. Cash or check only, no credit cards.

Please RSVP by February 15th with Kamran Azad at kazad@golder.com so we can secure lunch.

ASSE Members On The Move

Rick Zellen Awarded ARM Designation by Insurance Institute of America

Colorado Chapter ASSE member Richard "Rick" C. Zellen, Jr. has been awarded the Associate in Risk Management (ARM) designation and diploma by the Insurance Institute of America for successfully completing courses and examinations that test for knowledge of risk management programs, the risk management process, loss exposures, and risk financing.

Rick is currently employed by Willis North America as the South Central Regional Construction Risk Control Manager and is an Assistant Vice President, Sr. Risk Control Consultant. Prior to working with Willis NA, Rick also held positions as a Corporate Safety Director with American Civil Constructors, District Safety Manager with the Pacific Structures District of Kiewit and a Safety and Health Supervisor with Bechtel.

Rick earned his Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice/Communications from Stonehill College. Rick also has earned his Associate Safety Professional and working toward his Certified Safety Professional designation.

Jack Cain becomes a Certified Safety Professional® (CSP®)

Encore Electric Safety & Health Manger Jack Cain has completed all requirements for certification as a Certified Safety Professional (CSP). This highly respected certification is awarded to individuals who meet academic standards, satisfy professional safety experience requirements, and have passed two rigorous examinations. The examinations cover engineering and management aspects of safety, applied sciences, legal and regulatory matters, professional affairs, and other safety-related topics.

Certified Safety Professionals specialize in protecting workers, the public, property, and the environment by identifying, evaluating, and controlling hazards. The CSP directs safety programs at a corporate level to reduce risk and loss. Steven Schoolcraft, BCSP Examination Director, said, "Becoming a CSP elevates a safety professional to the top of his or her field."

Fred Wilton becomes a Certified Safety Professional® (CSP®)

Haselden Construction Safety & Environmental Manager Fred Wilton has completed all requirements for certification as a Certified Safety Professional (CSP). This highly respected certification is awarded to individuals who meet academic standards, satisfy professional safety experience requirements, and have passed two rigorous examinations. The examinations cover engineering and management aspects of safety, applied sciences, legal and regulatory matters, professional affairs, and other safety-related topics.

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Please e-mail notices of your professional achievements (new job announcements, promotions, professional certifications, company safety awards, etc.) to coloradoasse@gmail.com for inclusion in upcoming chapter newsletters.

Mark Semonisck Awarded 2010 Colorado Chapter ASSE Safety Professional of the Year

DENVER, CO (January 26, 2010) – The American Society of Safety Engineers' (ASSE) Colorado chapter recently honored Mark F. Semonisck, CSP, AVP, with the annual Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) award for his ongoing contributions to his community and his commitment to protecting people, property and the environment. ASSE is a 99-year-old safety society with more than 32,000 occupational safety, health and environmental (SH&E) professional members located worldwide.

Semonisck joined ASSE as a student member in 1979 and became a professional member in 1980. He served as president of the Colorado Chapter from 2006-2007 and has a B.S. degree with a Fire Science minor and an M.S. degree in Industrial Safety Engineering from Central Missouri State University.

Semonisck is an assistant vice president and senior loss control consultant for Lockton Companies, LLC, in Denver. He provides loss control services to clients, including safety program management and construction safety subject matter expertise and assists clients in organizing their safety efforts and program implementation. Semonisck is also active in the Denver Local-Regional Construction Industry Safety Community.

In 2009, while visiting a construction site where students in Pickens Technical College's Home Construction Program were building a house, he and another ASSE member, Mary Lee Gibson, noticed several students working at the site were wearing tennis shoes instead of appropriate footwear-sturdy work boots, which protect workers from injuries. They organized a program at Lockton to raise money to purchase work boots for the disadvantaged students in the school's construction classes and later expanded it to include the automotive programs. Lockton and Gibson raised enough money to purchase 70 pairs of boots for students. The students were pleased and also responded by sending thank you notes.

"Mark singularly drove Lockton's program to provide safety equipment donations to the Pickens Technical School. The program will have a long lasting impact on both these students and local workplaces," Christine Sullivan, CSP, ASSE member, and Semonisck's supervisor at Lockton Companies. "What is also exciting is that Mark's father was also a very celebrated safety professional. Robert Semonisck, Ph.D., CIT, was an ASSE vice president of the finance and professional development committees and received the Society's highest honor – Society Fellow."

The SPY awards, voted on by peers, are given annually to the most outstanding safety professionals for contributions to service and leadership within their regions and chapters – for "making a difference". There are eight ASSE regions, each containing anywhere from 15 to 20 chapters. ASSE members volunteer their time to assist their chapters and the society in promoting work safety and the safety, health and environmental (SH&E) profession.

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Alan Pitney Awarded 2010 Colorado Chapter ASSE Safety Professional of the Year

DENVER, CO (January 26, 2010) – The American Society of Safety Engineers' (ASSE) Colorado chapter recently honored ASSE member Alan S. Pitney, CSP, with its annual Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) award for his ongoing contribution to protecting people, property and the environment, his chapter, and the Society. ASSE is a 99-year-old safety society with more than 32,000 occupational safety, health and environmental (SH&E) members located worldwide.

Pitney has been an ASSE member since 1981 and became a professional member when he earned his Certified Safety Professional (CSP) designation in 1990. He served as chapter president from 2004-2005 and during his tenure the chapter established the Northern Colorado section. In 2006, Pitney received the ASSE Chapter Stars Recognition Award at the Society's annual professional development conference held that year in Seattle, WA. He also served as Region II assistant vice president for chapter and regional affairs from 2006-2008. Pitney was a member of the first AIHA-RMS/ASSE Colorado Joint Fall Technical Conference committee. The two-day annual technical conference for safety and health professionals combines technical talks with a vendor expo and draws health and safety professionals from around the region.

Pitney is a senior environmental health and safety (EHS) professional for Questar Market Resources in Denver, CO, and has earned degrees from Colorado State University and the University of Denver where he received his Masters in Environmental Policy and Management. He also holds an Advanced Certificate in Environmental Management from the University of Denver.

As an SH&E professional for Questar Exploration and Production company's mid-continent (Tulsa and Oklahoma City) and southern Rockies (Denver-Legacy) divisions, Pitney supports operations managers and their 13 field foremen in CO, NM, TX, OK, AR and LA.

"Alan is the consummate safety professional," Holli Merchant, CIH, CSP, Colorado chapter president said. "He is extremely knowledgeable and willing to engage in educating individuals and groups. He is also very committed to protecting people, property and the environment."

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Upcoming Education & Professional Development:

Colorado Chapter Spring Technical Conference: Environmental Regulation Basics for the Safety Professional

Date: March 17, 2009
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 pm
Location: CCA Conference Center
6880 S. Yosemite Ct, Suite 200
Englewood, CO 80155

Instructors: Janet Burgesser – Denver PPP – General Regulations
Edward Smith – CDPHE – RCRA Hazardous Waste Generation
TBD – US EPA – SARA Title 3
Jeffrey Citrone – IMA – Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures
TBD – AGC – Storm Water

Registration Form is attached on page 9 of this newsletter.

Questions? Contact Jeff Citrone at 303.615.7561 or jeff.citrone@imacorp.com



February 14-20, 2010
Flamingo Las Vegas Hotel

[SeminarFest](#) is an excellent opportunity to earn up to 5.0 CEUs/COCs in one week. With over 50 seminars ranging from one to three days in length, [SeminarFest](#) offers essential technical, management, and skill development topics for the Safety, Health, and Environmental professional. Whether you join us for one day or the full week, this event will satisfy your continuing education needs in safety and health. [Click here](#) for more information.



- Dozens of peer-reviewed scientific studies have demonstrated the risks associated with using a cell phone while driving, including a significantly increased crash risk.
- Drivers who use a cell phone - either handheld or hands-free - are four times more likely to be involved in a crash, according to a 1997 *New England Journal of Medicine* examination of hospital records, and a 2005 study funded by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety linking injury crashes to cell phone records.
- About 30 research studies conclude that there is an increased crash risk when using a cell phone while driving. Many of these studies further conclude that using a hands-free phone while driving is just as risky as talking on a handheld phone.
- Many businesses and organizations understand the risk and are taking action. Among NSC members that responded to a 2009 survey, 58 percent (1,163 out of 2,004 respondents) said their organization had some type of a cell phone policy, and the majority of them reported that the policy had a positive impact. Over 70 percent of companies that prohibit the use of all wireless communication devices while driving, including hands-free phones, did not see a decrease in productivity; over 20 percent saw decreases in employee crash rates and property damage.
- Cell phone use contributes to an estimated 25 percent of injury and property damage-only crashes.
- Thousands of deaths each year are due to cell phone-related crashes, according to the Harvard Center for Risk Analysis.
- Hundreds of millions of people use cell phones while driving. According to CTIA, The Wireless Association, there are more than 275 million cell phone subscribers.⁸ A 2008 Nationwide Insurance public opinion poll showed 81 percent of cell phone owners admitted to talking on a cell phone while driving.
- Talking to a passenger while driving is significantly safer than talking on a cell phone for adult drivers, according to a University of Utah study.¹⁰ Passengers, unlike cell phone conversations, can make the driver aware of changing road conditions they might not see and can stop the conversation if traffic conditions warrant.
- The annual cost of crashes caused by cell phone use was estimated at \$43 billion in 2003, according to the Harvard Center for Risk Analysis.

Upcoming Webinars

Visit www.asse.org/education/schedule.php for details on upcoming professional development seminars, workshops, and webinars.

ASSE Offers Hardship Membership Option

ASSE is currently offering a hardship membership option for those who are currently unemployed and would like to continue their membership. If you are in this unfortunate situation, please contact ASSE's Membership Development Coordinator, Geri Golonka, at ggolonka@asse.org and she can assist you with continuing your membership with ASSE.

Job Postings:

Check out www.coloradoasse.org/jobs.php for details on local job listings or visit www.nexsteps.org. With just a few clicks of the mouse, job seekers can easily post their resume on Nexsteps for employers to view, and receive automated notifications when jobs are available that match your interests. There is no cost to post your resume or search available positions. Employers can post listings for available positions, search resumes online and setup a resume agent to alert you when new resumes are posted that match your criteria. Job posting prices vary.

