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Worcester County Chapter Green Mountain Section American Society of Safety Engineers Newsletter

March 2017

Presidents Message



Troy Gonyon, President

Quick question for all of my Worcester County Chapter & Green Mountain Section ASSE friends...

What are you doing March 31?

I hope your answer is joining me at our Chapter/Section PDC in Worcester.

Keep reading for more information. It is sure to be a fun-filled, educational day.

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UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS

- [04/06/17: Ergo Assessment Certification](#)
- [05/19/17: Golf Outing for ASSE Foundation](#)

Oh, and did I mention, you can earn **0.6 CEUs** for attending the PDC!!!

06/??/17: Chapter Member Outing
Check out [Events Page](#) for continual updates

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATES

[Government Affairs Update](#)

[State Legislative Report](#)

[State Regulatory Report](#)

OPEN JOB LISTING

Want to see your your companies safety job openings listed here and on our website?

Then [click here to be brought to our Job Submission Form](#) or email your job

description

to worcesterasse@worcestercounty.asse.org.

Chapter / Section PDC - March 31, 2017

Topics Include:

- Keynote Speaker: Complacency
- Safety Metrics that Really Count
- Return on Investment
- Emotional Intelligence
- Regulatory Update: EPA/DEP
- Regulatory Update: OSHA

To Register for this event: <http://worcestercounty.asse.org/events/march-2017-chapter-pdc/>

Why Should I Attend?

- Build Your Professional Network
- Learn From Each Other
- Learn From Presenters
- Continuing Education
- Build upon skills and knowledge
- Practical solutions to challenges

Participants can earn 0.6 CEUs

(Bring your ASSE membership number with you)

Learn from speakers covering a wide range of relevant safety topics that will expand your

Who Should Attend?

- Administrators
- Environmental Managers
- Human Resources Personnel
- Occupational Health and Safety Personnel
- Plant or Facility Managers
- Risk Managers
- Safety and Health Committee members
- Safety Directors
- Staff Development
- Supervisors

knowledge and perspective

- Employee Health Managers

Thank you to our PDC Gold Level Sponsors:



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Chapter & Section Nominations & Elections

Our Chapter & Section is in search of safety professionals like yourself that are willing to step up and contribute to your very own Chapter and Section by joining the Executive Board. Although many of our current Executive Committee members are willing to come back and fulfill their role again, you can run for any position that has your interest. We also have to appointed positions that are available, meaning, other non-elected and non-voting positions on our Executive Committee are open to volunteers. So, if you or someone you know is interested in other opportunities to be involved in the leadership of our chapter, please let us know as well.

If you know of someone who you believe would make a good officer, and they wish to be nominated, please email the chapter at worcesterasse@worcestercounty.asse.org prior to March 31, 2017. You may also self nominate. For those of you still on the fence or interested in opportunities on the executive board, below is a list of positions:

Elected Officers Positions:

- President Elect – Program Chair (As of July 1st 2017)
- Secretary (As of July 1st 2017)
- Treasurer (As of July 1st 2017)
- Membership Chair (As of July 1st 2017)
- Delegate (As of July 1st 2017)
- Vermont Section Chair (As of July 1st 2017)
- Vermont Secretary (As of July 1st 2017)
- Vermont Treasurer (As of July 1st 2017)

Appointed Positions:

- Foundation Chair (available immediately)
- Sponsorship Chair (available immediately)

We will be publishing a slate of qualified nominees in our April Newsletter. Qualified candidates will be asked to prepare a platform statement (only if running opposed) that will be sent to members in our April Newsletter and posted on our website. An online election vote will take place in May, and all incoming officers will take office effective July 1, 2017 for a two (2) year term (one

year for the Green Mountain Section).

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Welcome New Members

The Executive Committee for the Worcester County Chapter & Green Mountain Section of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) want to welcome all of our new members that have joined us between January and March 2017:

Mark	Remillard	January 2017	Worcester County
Cynthia	Vanasse	March 2017	Worcester County

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Fact or Myth!

Written by: J. Werbicki, M.S., CSP

Consider the following, and decide if they are fact or myth. Or, are they just excuses?

- Accidents just happen
- Being safe takes too much time and effort
- You cannot create a hazard-free workplace

Starting in reverse order, I contend that we can create a hazard-free workplace. Perhaps “create” is not the best word to use. We can surely “work toward” a hazard-free workplace. To do so requires that each employee be alert to potential hazards, avoids them, and, most importantly, reports them so that action can be taken to eliminate them.

Does it really take time and effort to create a safe workplace? The obvious direct medical and worker’s compensation payments are not the only costs associated with accidents. The hidden costs (lost productivity; cost of recovery and lost wages; impact on family life) can add up very quickly to 3 – 10 times the direct costs. There is a definite cost/benefit to having fewer accidents.

Accidents don’t just happen. The great majority of accidents happen because individuals let their guard down when it comes to their own safety. Whether this is called human error, unsafe acts, or, simply, mistakes, does not matter. Keeping one’s focus on safe behavior is what matters.

The premise of the DuPont STOP™ Safety Training Program is that 90% of all injuries are caused by unsafe acts. If that number seem high, let’s drop the number to around 70%, reflecting the author’s experience.

I’ve heard of research that concluded that 99% of all accidents are preventable. Maybe not

always preventable, but definitely avoidable! If accidents were inevitable, we'd never get behind the wheel of an automobile.

Hazards and human errors are the reasons that people get hurt. Take away the hazards, and you take away that potential for injuries. Safe Operating Procedures, job training and Job Hazard Analyses are aimed at informing employees about known hazards, some of which may be part of the job.

Hazard-free can be attained only when everyone is actively identifying hazards, evaluating their impact, and applying the controls needed to negate the hazards. One example of eliminating a hazard is to replace fixed-blade box cutters with self-retracting cutters.

Safety is not passive. It doesn't just happen. Situations change, requiring keeping a constant eye out for hazards. By so doing, you can control the circumstances to which you may be exposed.

If you feel that your safety is just a matter of fate, you are a danger to yourself and to others. If you believe that you have no control, you are likely to be a victim of a hazard. You take fate out of the equation by taking the time to keep an eye out for hazards.

Joseph Werbicki is a Safety Consultant/Trainer/Author/Lecturer with over 50 years of manufacturing, environmental and safety experience. He holds a Master's Degree in Chemistry and is a Certified Safety Professional. He is a Past President and current member of the Board of Directors of the Safety Association of Rhode Island and a member of the Boston ASSE Chapter. Contact him at jwerbicki@comcast.net.

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New England Area PDC Call for Speakers

The ASSE Region VIII New England Area Chapters invite presenters for the 19th Professional Development Conference to submit proposals for review by the PDC Planning Committee. Our speakers provide attendees the opportunity to build professional skills and knowledge, tackle and provide solutions to new and existing challenges in the Safety, Health and Environment field, and promote the development of new entrants in our field. The PDC includes a variety of practical and technical programs which include management techniques and soft skills.

Speakers should design and practice their presentations to run inside of 60 minutes including the question and answer portion (e.g. 50 minutes plus 10 minute Q&A). The outline for submissions is on the following page, and in one document it allows the Committee to review your proposals.

An actual copy of your presentation is optional. You may type or paste into the outline itself for convenience. Please e-mail completed outline in Word format to: neapeakers@region8.asse.org

neapeakers@region8.asse.org

Subject line: NEA PDC 2017

For more information, or to download the Call for Speakers form, visit <http://region8.asse.org/encounters-news/2017-new-england-area-pdc-call-for-speakers/>.

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Non Worcester County / Green Mountain Events

May 9 & 10 - Human Factors Analysis Classification System (HFACS) Workshop

VA to host 2 Day Human Factors Analysis Classification System (HFACS) Workshop May 9 and 10, 2010 in Bedford, MA. The HFACS framework was developed by Dr. Douglas Wiegmann and Dr. Scott Shappell when they were in the United States Navy to identify why accidents were continuing to happen and how to reduce the accident rate. Today, HFACs is an advanced scientifically validated accident investigation tool used by the military, civilian airlines and other highreliability organizations. Dr. Scott Shappell, PhD and Dr. Douglas Wiegman, PhD, co creators of the HFACS system will be the instructors. For more info about HFACS, please to [www. Hfacs.com](http://www.Hfacs.com). To register for the 2 day workshop, please contact Dr. Doug Wiegmann, PhD, Founding Partner of HFACS, Inc. at wiegmann@hfacs.com or 608 609 1100. Please note that seating is limited, so early registration is suggested. The cost for the 2 day workshop is \$1250. The workshop will be held at the Bedford VA Medical Center in Bedford, MA.

June 13, 2017 - OSHA Summer Summit

For more information and/or to register, [click here](#)



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KARL STORZ Endovision in Charlton, Massachusetts, is the site for all U.S. development and manufacturing of fiber optic imaging systems used in KARL STORZ flexible endoscopes and light cables. Working under clean room conditions, highly trained technicians assemble and test the critical fiber optic imaging bundles. The KSE facility also contributes to electromechanical device design, development, manufacturing and repair, including several models of light sources, insufflators, orthopedic devices such as shavers, and other electronic accessories.

Chapter Gold Sponsors



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