



Hello, Penn-Jersey, and welcome to the January 2017 newsletter. In this edition, you'll find information on the following:

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President's Message to Chapter

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!! Welcome to 2017! On behalf of the Penn-Jersey Executive Team, I hope you have had a relaxing holiday season with family and friends. With the new year, resolutions are a plenty. Some are kept and some are broke by the end of January. Let's resolve to continue to push forward and create a safe working environment for our staffs and families, lets resolve to not be afraid to speak up and stop something that is unsafe. Most importantly, let's resolve to volunteer time and promote our Chapter. We are always looking for new members and future leaders of our Chapter. I look forward to seeing you at a meeting this month.

Slainte!

Michael McGowan, CHMM
President, ASSE Penn-Jersey

What's New

OSHA News:

Provisions call for employers to electronically submit injury and illness data that they already record

This simple change in OSHA's rulemaking requirements will improve safety for workers across the country. One important reason stems from our understanding of human behavior and motivation. Behavioral economics tells us that making injury information publicly available will "nudge" employers to focus on safety. And, as we have seen in many examples, more attention to safety

will save the lives and limbs of many workers, and will ultimately help the employer's bottom line as well. Finally, this regulation will improve the accuracy of this data by ensuring that workers will not fear retaliation for reporting injuries or illnesses.

The new rule, which takes effect Jan. 1, 2017, requires certain employers to electronically submit injury and illness data that they are already required to record on their onsite OSHA Injury and Illness forms. Analysis of this data will enable OSHA to use its enforcement and compliance assistance resources more efficiently. Some of the data will also be posted to the OSHA website. OSHA believes that public disclosure will encourage employers to improve workplace safety and provide valuable information to workers, job seekers, customers, researchers and the general public. The amount of data submitted will vary depending on the size of company and type of industry. Additional information can be found at: <https://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/finalrule/index.html>

ASSE News:

SeminarFest is fast approaching. The evolution of safety management brings out the realization that your role requires the complex skills and knowledge of high-level professionalism. SeminarFest will provide you with safety training and expertise you need to make a difference now and prepare for the future.

SeminarFest is your opportunity to explore and learn managerial, leadership, technical, and skill-building topics that are at a level of thought unique to this event. Highly recognized instructors and leaders will guide you in your choice of over 90 in-depth seminars. It's also a time to act on your career development – gain recognition from one of five ASSE Certificate Programs or prepare for a certification exam that will take you to the next level of professionalism. All while earning 5.6 CEUs in one week and one location.

Join us in Las Vegas, February 9-16, to immerse yourself in a dynamic community of over 1,200 OSH professionals who choose SeminarFest to achieve their goals. To register visit the ASSE website at: http://seminarfest.asse.org/?ref=asse_home

ASSE Local Chapter News:



Check out the latest [Howard Talks Tech](#) written by our very own Howard Spencer. These articles are perfect discussion starters that are useful in guiding others to safety so please take a moment and explore the collection of topics. Howard's latest article is titled *ALERT! The Hazards of Icicles!* Icicles and rooftop snow are the latest danger facing anybody who ventures outside this winter. With the recent snow and the rest of winter ahead of us it is important to keep the hazards of icicles in mind.



If you are currently signed-up for LinkedIn don't forget to connect with the ASSE Penn-Jersey Chapter network. We have 61 members and counting! Will you be the next member?

Are you always wondering how to support the ASSE Foundation than look no further because we are still selling "I LOVE SAFETY" t-shirts for \$20/each. All proceeds from the sale benefit the ASSE Foundation. Please contact Danielle DiGironimo if you are interested in making a purchase at ddigironimo@hotmail.com.



Upcoming Events

Technical Session:

January's technical session will be present by Powell Stevenson and Anthony Moreale. The Purpose of this technical session is to inform you of new mandated federal regulations for all drivers of commercial vehicles (vehicles of 10,000lbs).

Beginning in Jan 2016 state of NJ has been issuing written warnings to companies that must comply but were in violation of the new regulations about companies and drivers of commercial vehicles over 10,000lbs to 26,000 lbs.

These regulations were only required of vehicles between 10 to 26 thousand lbs. that crossed state lines. The adoption of these NEW regulations now requires these vehicles, companies, and drivers to be in total compliance by Jan 1st, 2017 even if they never leave the State. Authorities will begin issuing citations for any violation of any company or driver regarding these violations beginning Jan 1, 2017. The fines are significant and in some cases may warrant a further investigation into the company by the authorities. Companies will now be required to comply with all federal regulations except drug testing. Attend the technical session for a full list of the requirements.

App of the Month

Federal Emergency Management Agency, or FEMA, has its own app. This free application is packed with all sorts of emergency preparedness tips for all kinds of situations. It also provides information on emergency shelter locations and gives you the opportunity to plan out emergency meeting places in case you get separated from friends or family during an emergency.



If you survive a disaster, there is a place in this app where you can receive information on where to go and what to do to receive help, or if you'd like to contribute to disaster relief, there is info on how to donate and where to bring emergency supplies.

The app also includes an emergency supplies checklist so that you can make sure you are prepared in the event of a disaster. There is also a section that tells you what to do before, during and after a disaster so that you're prepared for anything.

Have Something to Share with the Chapter?

Contact our newsletter editor, Julia Toth at jtoth@pppl.gov.