



Hello, Penn-Jersey, and welcome to the new Chapter year December newsletter. In this edition, you'll find information on the following:

- **What's New**
- **Upcoming Events**
- [Newsroom - Government Affairs](#)
- [OSHA Quick Takes](#)
- [Howard Talks Tech](#)

## President's Message to Chapter

It's hard to believe that the Holiday Season is upon us and in full swing. The hustle and bustle of shopping, extra traffic, holiday parties, etc. create new hazards that we as Safety Professionals need to address with our staffs. With that being said, please ensure that we talk to our staffs and ensure that everyone is in the right frame of mind to safety complete our tasks.

Our next Technical Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2017. I look forward to seeing you all in 2018!

Safe and Happy Holidays!!

Michael McGowan, CHMM  
President, ASSE Penn-Jersey

## What's New

### OSHA News:

#### **OSHA REPORTS INCREASE IN FATALITIES IN 2016**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' Census of 2016 Fatal Occupational Injuries reports there were 5,190 workplace fatalities in 2016, a 7-percent increase from 2015. The fatal injury rate also increased from 3.4 per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers in 2015 to 3.6 in 2016.

More workers lost their lives in transportation incidents than any other event in 2016, accounting for about one out of every four fatal injuries. Workplace violence injuries increased by 23 percent, making it the second most common cause of workplace fatality.

#### **OSHA ACCEPTING ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED INJURY, ILLNESS REPORTS THROUGH DECEMBER 31**

OSHA will continue accepting 2016 OSHA Form 300A data through the [Injury Tracking Application \(ITA\)](#) until midnight on December 31, 2017. OSHA will not take enforcement action against those employers who submit their reports after the December 15, 2017, deadline but before December 31, 2017, final entry date. Starting January 1, 2018, the ITA will no longer accept the 2016 data.

#### **New and Revised Fact Sheets on Silica Now Available**

OSHA has released more than a dozen fact sheets that provide guidance on the respirable crystalline silica standard for construction. One fact sheet is an overview of the silica standard. The other fact

sheets provide employers with information on how to fully and properly implement controls, work practices, and if needed, respiratory protection for each of the 18 tasks listed in Table 1 — Specified Exposure Control Methods under the standard.

### ASSE Local Chapter News:

#### GET INVOLVED

The Penn-Jersey Chapter is always looking for assistance with the Chapter. Elections are coming up. Becoming engaged in Executive committee with the chapter will help you develop leadership skills that are transferable to the workplace. It will provide you an opportunity to network with other leaders in safety to find solutions to your latest challenges and share best practices. If you are interested in helping out on a committee or potential running for one of the elected positions, please let any member of the executive board know. The Chapter is always happy to have more volunteers.



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.



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](mailto:ddigironimo@hotmail.com).

## CHAPTER UPDATE

### November meeting:

During November meeting, the chapter recognized past presidents for their service as well as Long-Service Member Award Recipients for their service and membership with the Society. Following the recognition, a roundtable discussion was held on current events and attendees were very engaged. Thank you to all the participants.

### ASP Review Course Success:

Once again ASP workshop was held at at: Rutgers EcoComplex, Bordentown, NJ <http://ecocomplex.rutgers.edu/>. It was a success. 10+ attendees completed their training for ASP certification preparation.

### December meeting:

Executive Committee members met on December 21, 2017 to plan out remainder of the chapter year events. Prior to the meeting Committee members reviewed and updated chapter by-laws and are currently sent for review by ASSE Regional leads. Chapter Committee will be seeking nominations for upcoming elections during February.

## App of the Month



Easy to review safety information in a two-page summary. It has fully indexed and searchable chemical list by name and CAS#. It provides easy to review safety information in two-page summary. This app is free but available only for IOS devices.

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### Have Something to Share with the Chapter?

Contact our newsletter editor Dhruvi Thaker @ [dthaker@oled.com](mailto:dthaker@oled.com).