



**AMERICAN  
SOCIETY OF  
SAFETY  
ENGINEERS**

**GREATER  
CHICAGO  
CHAPTER**



[WWW.ASSECHGO.ORG](http://WWW.ASSECHGO.ORG)

May, 2003

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## Greater Chicago Chapter Presents A Behind-the-Scenes Tour of O'Hare Airport Tuesday, May 13, 2003

The Greater Chicago Chapter will provide a tour at the world's busiest airport. We will begin our tour at the Chicago Fire Department's (CFD) Fire Training Facility. Our members will be able to watch a Suburban Fire Department conduct live burn exercises, which provide them with essential skills necessary in order to maintain their skills in the event of an emergency. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) under Part 139 of the Federal Aviation Regulations requires that fire fighters, who may be expected to respond to an aviation emergency, must perform these exercises in order to maximize safety at the airport in the event of an emergency.

CFD's facility is one of a few across the country that provide fire/rescue training and it trains fire fighters within the Midwest who must maintain certification. Two plane fuselages are utilized and controlled by computer to provide propane fuel to ignite flames at specified vectors of each plane. Fire fighters are then required to use their skill to determine wind and flame direction in order to douse the flames within a specified time frame. Members will be able to see the almost complete state-of-the-art indoor simulation facility and the specialized equipment essential in an airport emergency.

Another tour stop will include the O'Hare AMC Building, which houses all construction and snow fleet equipment. A brief explanation of the equipment will be provided to understand the magnitude of efficiency and training needed by vehicle drivers in order to keep operations running smoothly during snow and construction operations.

**See page 2 for further details.**

## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS UPDATE

### OSHA Announces Limited Reopening on Two General Industry Rulemaking Records

#### May 1, 2003--WASHINGTON -

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration today announced it would reopen for 90 days its rulemaking records on proposed revisions to the Walking and Working Surfaces standard and fall protection provisions of the Personal Protective Equipment standard.

OSHA first proposed revisions on the two standards together in 1990 because of the interdependent nature of the hazards and working conditions that they address. Since then, technology has changed, industry practice has evolved and the costs of controls have been affected. OSHA is reopening the record to gather data and information on these advances and to invite public comment on specific issues concerning each proposal.

The Walking and Working Surfaces standard provides general industry requirements for employers to protect their workers from slips, trips and falls that may cause serious or fatal injuries. OSHA is seeking further comment on the issues of rolling stock and self-propelled, motorized equipment, in addition to qualified climbers, rung width on fixed ladders, hierarchy of fall protection controls, scaffolds and controlled descent devices, and anchors for suspended work.

**(continued on Page 3)**

## {May Meeting Details—continued from Page 1}

### Meeting Agenda

- 10:00 a.m. Hub Caps Restaurant
- 10:20 a.m. Leave by Airport Bus to O'Hare
- 10:35 a.m. Arrive at Fire Training Facility
- 11:30 a.m. Leave for AMC Building
- 12:15 p.m. Return to Hub Caps Restaurant
- 12:15 p.m. Lunch & Elections
- 1:00 p.m. Executive Board Meeting

Hub Caps Restaurant  
4663 N Ruby  
Schiller Park, Illinois

Since there will be a limit placed on registration, please reserve to Evite.com or your call and leave a message with Maribeth Anderson at (773) 894-7065.

## Newsletter Note

Just a reminder, if you know someone who is not currently getting this newsletter via email and would like to be reached by email, please advise that member to promptly send his or her email address to our Treasurer, Jim Smith at [jsmith@alberto.com](mailto:jsmith@alberto.com). Jim will then add the member to our electronic mailing list.

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The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) standard for general industry contains requirements covering the use and maintenance of PPE, as well as specific provisions on requirements for various types of PPE such as eye, face, head and respiratory protection. OSHA is interested in comments on whether the agency should prohibit the use of body belts for fall arrest and on fall protection amendments to several existing general industry standards.

OSHA is seeking comments on these specific issues, and on the costs of compliance, especially for small employers. OSHA also will publish, in the future, a revised economic analysis for public comment. The agency will use the information from the two reopenings to determine how best to proceed with these rulemakings. Persons wishing to comment should send three copies of their comments, postmarked not later than July 31, 2003, to: Docket Office, Docket S-029, Room N2625, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210. Comments of 10 pages or less may be faxed to the Docket Office at (202) 693-1648.

Comments may also be submitted electronically to <http://ecomments.osha.gov>. Further information on submitting comments can be obtained by calling the Docket Office at (202) 693-2350.

## April 28<sup>th</sup> Statement of John L. Henshaw Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health

(WASHINGTON) -- April 28 is Worker Memorial Day. On this day we pause to recognize and remember those workers who lost their lives making a living, supporting their families and contributing to their communities. They worked in a whole host of jobs and spoke a multitude of languages. But they had one thing in common. One day they went to work and never came home. It is in their memory that we strive to keep improving the safety and health of America's workforce.

In fact, our workplaces are safer and more healthful than ever before. Over the past 30 years worker fatalities have been cut by more than 60 percent, and injury and illness rates have declined by over 40 percent. More and more employers, trade associations, labor unions, workers, and safety and health professionals are committed to reducing injuries, illnesses and fatalities on the job. We applaud their efforts. The progress is good, but we must do more.

Every day 16 workers die in this country, and many more become injured or seriously ill. We must challenge those who are not doing their part to step up to the plate. And we must challenge those who are doing well to do even better. Everyone must make a contribution if we are to drive down injuries, illnesses and fatalities even further.

Safety and health add value to businesses, workplaces and people's lives. OSHA is working hard on several fronts to accomplish its mission of improving job safety and health. Our priorities are strong, fair and effective enforcement; expanded outreach, education and compliance assistance; and increased partnerships and voluntary programs.

Our efforts also involve attention to new and emerging issues in order to improve our effectiveness in reducing injuries, illnesses and fatalities in the workplace. These include:

- **Hispanic Outreach** - OSHA is continuing its focus on reaching Spanish-speaking workers, who continue to suffer disproportionately higher fatality rates than others in this country. Today the agency is launching a national campaign with the release of two public service announcements to over 650 Spanish radio stations across the country. One spot is meant for employees and their families; the other targets employers. In coming months OSHA will follow up with additional Spanish language outreach through the Hispanic Radio Network.
- **Toxic Exposure and Illness** - The long term health effects of exposure to chemicals and other toxins can take years and even decades to determine. OSHA recognizes the heavy toll of occupational illness and is taking a number of steps to improve worker health in America. One is a respiratory disease study being undertaken in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health to improve outreach, compliance assistance and enforcement efforts relating to specific contaminants and industries. The agency is also working on a health targeting system, similar to one used to guide enforcement efforts in general industry. **(continued on Page 4)**

## Message from the National Safety Council

### June is National Safety Month.

If you are a member of the National Safety Council you can get information and posters at the members log-in area at [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org). There are free posters which you can download and print.

Also, don't forget that The National Safety Council's Congress and Expo is in Chicago this year: September 5-12 at McCormick Place.

Book Early! Registration is Open!!!! Register by June 27 and save 42% off on-site fees.

### Just a Reminder

Since April began Daylight Savings time for all of us in the Midwest, please remind everyone in your personal life and at work to change the batteries in their smoke detectors. This simple exercise can save many lives!



## {April 28<sup>th</sup>—continued from Page 3}

- **Enhanced Enforcement** - Last month the agency announced its Enhanced Enforcement Program to target employers who have a history of the most severe safety and health violations. The new approach is helping OSHA focus on employers who willfully and repeatedly expose their workers to the most serious hazards, refuse to correct violations and violate their safety and health agreements. The concentration on high gravity violators strengthens the agency's enforcement program and enhanced focus on corporate-wide offenders.
- **Construction Partnerships** - Despite the best efforts of many in industry, labor and government, fatality rates in the construction industry have remained stubbornly high. A new focus on construction partnerships is beginning to show dramatic results. In Idaho, Ohio and Wisconsin, partnerships are significantly bringing down injury and illness rates on a number of construction sites, including the Lambeau Field remodeling project in Green Bay. In St. Louis contractors and unions joined with OSHA in a program recognizing construction sites that enjoyed zero fatalities.
- **Emergency Preparedness** - With the threat of terrorist events of grave concern, OSHA is working with other government agencies to prepare for a national response in the event of a crisis or attack. This week the agency released an Evacuation Planning Matrix to help employers plan for emergency response. The on-line resource provides tools to help employers assess risk and develop evacuation plans to protect their workers. It is modeled on the Anthrax Matrix that OSHA developed last year.

OSHA is dedicated to assuring worker safety and health. Safety and health add value to business, the workplace and life. For more information, visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

## 2003/2004 Candidate Slate

Remember that the Greater Chicago Chapter will hold its officer elections this month. Be sure to attend the May meeting and cast your vote. Candidates for officers of the Greater Chicago Chapter during the 2003 / 2004 Chapter Year are as follows:

President	Dawn Boisvert
First Vice President	Al Borzych
Second Vice President	Maribeth Anderson
Secretary	
Treasurer	Jim Smith
Delegates	Leslie Batterson Linda Rhodes
Alternate Delegate	Rich Moscato