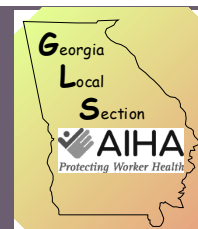


Georgia Local Section

Quarterly Newsletter

For electronic versions, see the [GLS Web page](#).



GLS President's Column – April 2012

It is spring time, and along with the budding buds and leafing leaves, the Georgia Local Section is moving on to new leadership. We look forward to announcing the newly elected board members at the upcoming GLS meeting, on April 26. Leaving the board at this time are Jenny Houlroyd (past-President) and Kate Nichols (Board of Directors). On behalf of all our members, I would like to thank these two individuals who have contributed so generously of their time and talents. We are a better organization for their efforts. Alex Lehocky will begin to serve as our president, while I am let out to pasture as the past-President. As of this writing, our punctilious secretary (Della Ridley) and calculating treasurer (Pat Brogan) have put their pocket protectors into the ring once again for election serve in those capacities. Our new president-Elect and Board of Directors member will be announced at the upcoming GLS meeting, following our current vote.

It has been a great year in the GLS, with lots of opportunities to explore the inner and outer reaches of industrial hygiene. This January's Bayesian statistics workshop with

John Mulhausen and Perry Logan was truly an experience to be savored, as only an IH could savor it. Our summer field trip to the Savannah River Site was a great opportunity to see both history and future work that will be done by IHs. Thanks to everyone who participated in making all the events of this past year worthwhile.

In the coming year please take time to let the new board know your thoughts about the management of our group, and the sorts of programs you would like to see. In this new year we will be signing, for the first time ever, a memorandum of understanding with national AIHA, which will have the intent of clarifying the respective roles and obligations of these entities to each other. We draw many benefits from our national association, including our

voice in national affairs, educational programs, research agendas, and professional recognition, to name just a few. The national organization benefits from our GLS efforts to have a significant presence in our local and regional communities. We look forward to working with national staff to enhance the value of our local section.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the April 26th Vendors' Day meeting where we will have a chance to meet vendor

continued on page 3

Reminder

*The GLS Spring Meeting and
Vendors' Day is
Thursday, April 26, 2012!!*

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OSHA Revises Hazard Communication Standard

WASHINGTON – To better protect workers from hazardous chemicals, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has revised its Hazard Communication Standard, aligning it with the United Nations' global chemical labeling system. The new standard, once implemented, will prevent an estimated 43 deaths and result in an estimated \$475.2 million in enhanced productivity for U.S. businesses each year.

"Exposure to hazardous chemicals is one of the most serious dangers facing American workers today," said Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis. "Revising OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard will improve the quality, consistency and clarity of hazard information that workers receive, making it safer for workers to do their jobs and easier for employers to stay competitive in the global marketplace."

The Hazard Communication Standard, being revised to align with the United Nations' Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals, will be fully implemented in 2016 and benefit workers by reducing confusion about chemical hazards in the workplace, facilitating safety training and improving understanding of hazards, especially for low literacy workers. OSHA's standard will classify chemicals according to their health and physical hazards, and establish consistent labels and safety data sheets for all chemicals made in the United States and imported from abroad.

The revised standard also is expected to prevent an estimated 585 injuries and illnesses annually. It will reduce trade barriers and result in estimated annualized benefits in productivity improvements for American businesses that regularly handle, store and use hazardous chemicals, as well as cost savings of \$32.2 million for American businesses that periodically update safety data sheets and labels for chemicals covered under the standard.

"OSHA's 1983 Hazard Communication Standard gave workers the right to know. As one participant expressed during our rulemaking process, this update will give them the right to understand, as well," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, Dr. David Michaels.


During the transition period to the effective completion dates noted in the standard, chemical manufacturers, importers, distributors and employers may comply with either 29 Code of Federal Regulations 1910.1200 (the final standard), the current standard or both.

The final rule revising the standard is available at <http://s.dol.gov/P1>.

Further information for workers, employers and downstream users of hazardous chemicals can be reviewed at OSHA's Hazard Communication Safety and Health topics at <http://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/index.html>, which includes links to OSHA's revised Hazard Communication Standard and guidance materials such as Q and A's, OSHA fact sheet and Quick Cards.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance.

For more information, visit <http://www.osha.gov>.



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GLS President's Column – April 2012 (continued)

representatives and look at the latest IH equipment from our sponsoring companies. We will also be greeting a representative of Georgia's Occupational Health Nurses, and hearing a presentation on their association. Other presenters will include CDC's Constance Franklin speaking on Total Work Health program, Adwoa Commodore from UGA presenting her research in Peru, Kirk Knight from Georgia Power presenting on Workplace Violence, Alex Lehocky—our new GLS President—speaking on "Green" cleaning products, and Stephen Ndiritu from Kennesaw State discussing a LEED baseline survey. Hope you can make it. Remember there is ALWAYS plenty of hot coffee at the GLS meeting.

Best regards,

—Art Wickman, CIH
President, GLS

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New OSHA Memo on Employer Safety Incentive and Disincentive Policies and Practices

On March 12, 2012, OSHA issued a memorandum to "provide guidance to both field compliance officers and whistleblower investigative staff on several employer practices that can discourage employee reports of injuries and violate section 11(c) of the OSH Act, [which prohibits an employer from discriminating against an employee because the employee reports and injury or illness], or other whistleblower statutes."

[Read full memo...](#)

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Your 2011–12 Board of Directors

Thank you to the members who are serving in these important positions. Here is your current Board:

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art.wickman@gtri.gatech.edu
404.407.8088

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Alex.Lehocky@usg.edu
404.657.7406

Past President: Jenny Houlroyd, MSPH
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Capitol Hill: The Role of AIHA & Aaron Trippler

Ever wondered how the AIHA national conducts its government affairs? Does AIHA work with Members of Congress? Does AIHA work with OSHA? And what about the many related legislative issues at the State level?

Aaron Trippler, AIHA Director of Government Affairs, and staff of one has served in this capacity since 1992, when he developed the AIHA government affairs program. In his role at AIHA, Aaron is the chief liaison with Congress and federal agencies. This means he is responsible for following all federal legislation and regulations, as well as drafting AIHA Congressional testimony and working with numerous federal agencies on the public policy issues of AIHA.

However, Aaron's responsibility does not stop at the national level, he also directs state government affairs for more than 70 local sections. On an annual basis, he reviews nearly 7,500 pieces of

continued on page 9



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OSHA News Release: Formaldehyde in Beauty Salons

In November, OSHA issued citations and fines to two salons for failing to implement precautions to protect workers from exposure to formaldehyde when using certain hair-smoothing products. Salon owners who decide to use products that may contain or release formaldehyde must follow the requirements of OSHA's formaldehyde and hazard communication standards to keep workers safe.

"We want to make sure that salon owners are aware that if they use these products, they have to

implement protective measures such as air monitoring and training," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Dr. David Michaels. "What is very troubling to the agency is that some of these products clearly expose workers to formaldehyde even when the label states they are 'formaldehyde free.'"

OSHA continues to respond to complaints and referrals of formaldehyde exposure in salons, beauty schools and manufacturing facilities. To date in calendar year 2011, federal OSHA has issued citations to 23

salon owners and beauty schools in Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, Florida, Illinois, New York, New Jersey and Ohio, with fines ranging up to \$17,500 for failing to protect workers from overexposure and potential exposure to formaldehyde.

[Read more...](#)





Georgia Local Section American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)

Spring 2012 Vendor's Day Meeting

DATE: April 26, 2012 (Thursday)

TIME: 8:30 AM - 4:45 PM (check-in and registration begin at 8:00 AM)

LOCATION: Georgia Tech Research Institute Conference Center
250 14th Street, NW, Atlanta, GA 30318 (free parking in attached parking deck)

COST:

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| Pre-registration – members | \$20.00 |
| Pre-registration - non-members | \$25.00 |
| Late Registration – members | \$25.00 |
| Late Registration - non-members | \$30.00 |

PARKING IS FREE!

Please pre-register by Monday, April 23, 2012

TO RSVP: Members & Non-members may register at the GLS AIHA Web site:
<http://www.georgiaaiha.org/> - Click on Events

| Agenda | | |
|---------------|---|---|
| <i>Time</i> | <i>Topic</i> | <i>Speaker</i> |
| 8:00 - 8:30 | Registration | |
| 8:30 -8:45 | Welcome and Announcements, Election Results | Art Wickman, CIH President, AIHA-GLS |
| 8:45 - 9:45 | Occupational Health Nursing | Beverly Turner, BSN RN, COHN-S/CM |
| 9:45 – 10:45 | Total Work Health Program | Constance Franklin, Public Health Analyst, NIOSH/OD, |
| 10:45 – 11:00 | Break and Vendor Exhibits | Vendors |
| 11:00-11:30 | Vendor Presentations | Vendors |
| 11:30 – 12:15 | Characterization of Household Air Pollution from Cook Stove Related Wood Smoke in San Marcos, Peru | Adwoa Commodore, PhD Candidate, UGA-CPH |
| 12:15 – 1:15 | Lunch and Vendor Exhibit Viewing | Vendors |
| 1:15 – 2:00 | Violence in the Workplace | Kirk Knight, Strategic Security Agent-GPC |
| 2:00-2:15 | Regional AIHA updates | Barb Epstien, CIH, Reg. Rep. |
| 2:00 – 3:00 | Red, Black and Green: How Green Cleaning Has Improved the Environment, Worker Safety and Bottom Line at UGA | Alex Lehocky, MS, CIH EHS Manager, USG |
| 3:00 – 3:30 | Break and Vendor Exhibits | Vendors |
| 3:30-4:30 | A Post-Construction, Pre-Occupancy Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) Baseline Survey for LEED Construction | Stephen Ndiritu, MS, CIH EHS Mgr, Kennesaw State University |
| 4:30 – 4:45 | Closing Remarks | GLS Board |

For further information about the meeting, please contact
Art Wickman at 404-407-8088 or art.wickman@gti.gatech.edu.

This event contains 5.5 hours and may be eligible for ABIH CM credit. See ABIH Web site for CM credit criteria.



AIHA News Release: Silica Standard Development

FAIRFAX, VA, (November 10, 2011) — The American Industrial Hygiene Association® (AIHA) wrote a letter to the Honorable Jacob J. Lew and the Honorable Hilda L. Solis expressing concern for the recent decision by the OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) to extend the Executive Order 12866 review of OSHA's proposed crystalline silica standard. AIHA encourages OIRA to complete its work without additional delay so OSHA may begin the public rulemaking process on a comprehensive standard covering the construction industry and issue the rule as quickly as possible.

AIHA asks the OMB to release the rule for publication in the Federal Register so the public, including industry groups and all others with interest in silica, can comment on and debate it in an open public forum. The publication of OSHA's proposed rule provides an important starting point for additional discussion and input by industry, labor, and the safety and health community. Typically, these groups provide OSHA with significant input that is used to develop a final rule.

In summary, AIHA encourages OMB to release the rule, defer to OSHA's scientific judgment as much as possible, and publicly reassure stakeholders that they will have plenty of opportunity for comment and input into the development of a final rule on silica. To read the full letter, please visit <http://www.aiha.org/news-pubs/govtaffairs/Pages/PublicPolicyComments.aspx>.



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New Hazard Alert Series Kicks off with Silica

CPWR - The Center for Construction Research and Training, has introduced the next generation of Hazard Alert cards and the inaugural topic is **silica**.

The new hazard Alert card for silica can be downloaded from the [CPWR Web site](#).



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Fatal Exposure to Methylene Chloride

OSHA has identified 13 bathtub refinisher fatalities associated with methylene chloride stripping agents based on investigations in nine states during 2000–2011. Each death occurred in a residential bathroom with inadequate ventilation. Protective equipment, including a respirator, either was not used or was inadequate to protect against methylene chloride vapor, which has been recognized as potentially fatal to furniture strippers and factory workers but has not been reported previously as a cause of death among bathtub refinishers. Worker safety agencies, public health agencies, methylene chloride-based stripper manufacturers, and trade organizations should communicate the extreme hazards of using methylene chloride-based stripping products in bathtub refinishing to employers, workers, and consumers. Employers should strongly consider alternative methods of bathtub stripping

and always ensure worker safety protections that reduce the risk for health hazards to acceptable levels. Employers choosing to use methylene chloride-based stripping products must comply with OSHA's standard to limit methylene chloride exposures to safe levels.

[Read more...](#)

Source: *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly*, February 24, 2012 / 61(07); 119-122

Styrene Update

On June 10, 2011, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued the 12th Report on Carcinogens (RoC) in which styrene is listed as a likely cause of cancer in humans. The report determines that styrene is "reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen," a classification that sector officials have warned could have broad negative impact across multiple US industries. More than 60 members of Congress asked the department to revise or delay its styrene finding. With publication of its Report on Carcinogens, HHS has effectively rejected those appeals. Styrene industry groups were expected to file suit soon to seek court action to block or revoke the department's decision.

Styrene is used worldwide in the manufacture of products such as rubber, plastic, insulation, fiberglass, pipes, automobile parts, food containers, and carpet backing, among many others. The HHS report noted that "the greatest exposure to styrene in the general population is through cigarette smoking". Other than smokers, however, the department report said that the greatest risk of exposure was likely among "workers in certain occupations [who] may potentially be exposed to much higher levels of styrene than the general population."

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Capitol Hill: The Role of AIHA & Aaron Trippler (continued)

state legislation and regulations affecting the profession of industrial hygiene, submitting comments to legislators and state agencies, and testifying when needed.

Aaron keeps local sections and committee leadership informed of all of this activity. He also will keep local sections informed of specific state level issues. When Aaron has the time, he still finds the time to also make government affairs presentations to numerous local sections and OH&S conferences each year. We were fortunate to have Aaron come and speak at our local section in 2010, where he provided us an overview of the legislative activities and the directions of OSHA and EPA.

And finally, Aaron is considered one of the top movers and shakers in the health and safety industry, as presented in the 2012 ISHN "Power 101" list. If you are interesting in bringing related legislation forward, supporting position statements, or other related items, we recommend you contact Aaron for advice.



Do you use statistics in data analysis? A review of the Winter PDC

At the winter meeting, 53 of our members were treated to the PDC "Improving Exposure Data Interpretation and Professional Judgment" presented by Perry Logan, PhD, CIH and John Mulhausen, PhD, CIH, CSP, who have extensive experience in exposure assessment strategies. Perry and John have presented versions of this PDC to over 5,000 attendees and are consistently rated in the top 10 at the annual American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition. The course focused on human decision-making processes and advances in statistical tools with specific emphasis on the Bayesian based "IH Data Analyst" developed by Paul Hewett, Ph.D.

The software calculates standard descriptive and compliance statistics, as well as goodness-of-fit procedures and works very well with small datasets. The software provides increased accuracy and significantly enhances our professional judgment abilities. The software demonstration during the course was eye opening because of the potential mistakes that can be made using traditional approaches. From an attendee perspective, I really enjoyed the practical examples and ease in which the software can be used.

If you were wondering, the local section made \$1,500 in net revenues and many of the attendees provided positive feedback of the benefit and value

of the course. As a result of the course, several attendees have remarked that they are now using the statistical analysis in their reports.

