Annual Meeting Prevails Over Wintry Weather

Old Man Winter really likes our annual membership meeting! The March 23 gathering, re-scheduled due to a blizzard earlier in the year, carried on successfully despite another bout of blustery weather.

Nearly 70 members gathered to hear about our activities this past year, elect new board members and connect with other attendees and our staff. The meeting also provided an opportunity to learn more about the new OSHA office in Sioux Falls from Area Director Sheila Stanley, CSP. Sheila provided a helpful update on upcoming OSHA initiatives and priorities, and answered questions from the group.

The morning also included an excellent training session from one of our most highly-regarded instructors, Chad Sheehan with Sheehan Strategic Solutions, Sioux City, Iowa. Chad focused on providing the skills to recognize and survive workplace violence.

Thanks to all who joined us — and thank you for your continuing partnership and support!

For details about injury in South Dakota and our activities last year, see the 2015 South Dakota Safety Council Annual Report on pages 9–12.
Regulatory Update from AIHA

BY STEVE GUTMANN, CIH CPE FAIHA

Thanks to Steve Gutmann, S.H. Gutmann Consulting, St. Paul, for this synopsis of the latest monthly regulatory update from the American Industrial Hygiene Association.

Budget proposal for 2017.

President Obama is proposing a 2017 budget including changes for OSHA, MSHA and NIOSH from fiscal year 2016. Note that these are proposals and the final budgets must be approved by Congress. Here is an overview of the proposals: OSHA — increase of $40 million; MSHA — increase of $20 million; NIOSH — decrease of $56 million.

OSHA announces final silica rule.

It's finally here! Here's an overview of the changes:

• **General industry and maritime:** PEL is reduced by 50%; companies have two years to comply with requirements
• **Construction:** PEL is reduced by 20%; companies have one year to comply with requirements

Other OSHA activity.

• **Beryllium:** Hearings were held in March including a proposal to lower the exposure limit by 90%. The last time OSHA had public hearings on this issue was in 1975. OSHA hopes to finalize the rule by January 2017, but it’s unclear if they will be able to meet that deadline.
• **Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines:** OSHA is planning to complete revisions in June. The guidelines were originally issued in 1989.
• **Guidance on data evaluation for “weight of evidence” determination:** The comment period has been extended to May 2. The guidance would help companies to classify chemical hazards and determine what must be disclosed on labels and safety data sheets.
• **Eye and face protection:** OSHA has published a final rule updating requirements for PPE to be used in general industry, shipyards, long shoring, marine terminals and construction.
• **EPA – OSHA prosecution update:** The Department of Justice has announced that a joint program announced in December to crack down on safety and environmental crimes has been working very well.

Congressional Activity.

Time is running short with the election season in full swing and debates about whether the Senate should take up President Obama’s Supreme Court nominee. Nonetheless, here are some items that may come up:

• **Safe patient handling:** Legislation has been introduced to require OSHA to enact a new rule on safe patient handling. AIHA has submitted letters in support of the legislation.
• **“Midnight” Rules bill:** Republicans are debating legislation that would bar federal agencies to finalize any regulation with $100 million or more in annual costs in the final months of a presidency. The final outcome of the legislation is unclear.
• **Bill to limit decisions on questions of law:** A House bill has been introduced that would restore the principle that courts decide “questions of law” instead of agencies. Proponents state the idea is to prevent “overreach” by the agencies, while opponents state the agencies have the expertise to make the decisions.
• **TSCA reform:** Two separate bills have been passed, but there is no word if the House and Senate can work out a compromise.

NIOSH Activity.

• **REL for diacetyl:** A new recommended exposure limit (REL) is expected by the end of the year.
• **Criteria document on heat stress:** NIOSH has revised this document with updated research information on a range of issues including physiological changes and the impact of drugs. The document was last issued in 1986.
More Federal OSHA News

Final rules: eye and face protection, silica. Federal OSHA has published a [final rule](#) that updates the references in OSHA’s eye and face standards to reflect the most recent edition of the ANSI/International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) eye and face protection standard. It also removes the oldest-referenced edition of the same ANSI standard. OSHA has also released a [final rule on silica dust](#), updating regulations established in 1971.

Comment period extended on chemical guidance. OSHA has extended the comment period for the draft guidance on determining potential health hazards of chemicals to May 2, 2016.

Working safely with scissor lifts. OSHA’s [new Hazard Alert](#) on working with scissor lifts emphasizes fall protection, stabilization, and positioning.

News and Resources from NIOSH

Comment sought on 1-Bromopropane. The National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health (NIOSH) and the Environmental Protection Agency are seeking public comments on worker exposure to 1-Bromopropane, a potentially hazardous chemical found in manufacturing, dry cleaning and other industries. Comments are due by April 29.

Updated ladder app. The [new improved NIOSH ladder app](#) includes step ladder safety and additional interactive tools. The free app can be downloaded in English or Spanish.

Working in hot environments. National Safety Council reports that NIOSH has updated its 30-year-old document on hot work environments to better reflect the latest research and knowledge.

OELs. A recent [NIOSH Science Blog](#) offers links to ten articles that focus on underlying principles for developing and interpreting occupational exposure limits (OELs).

Hazards of tank gauging. A new [hazard alert](#) from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and federal OSHA identifies health and safety risks to oil and gas industry workers who manually gauge or sample fluids on production and flowback tanks.

Respiratory protection in health care. A new NIOSH document focuses on proper use of respiratory protective devices to protect health care workers from infectious diseases. See [Preparedness through Daily Practice: Myths of Respiratory Protection in Healthcare](#).

Traumatic brain injuries in construction. The construction industry has the greatest number of both fatal and nonfatal traumatic brain injuries (TBIs) among U.S. workplaces. Learn more about the problem and prevention strategies from the NIOSH Science Blog.

NEW Toolbox Talks in Spanish and English

The Center for Construction Research and Training has expanded its collection of toolbox talks, adding Spanish versions that were developed with the support of the American Society of Safety Engineers. Covering 52 topics, the talks include case studies, discussion questions, and site-specific actions.
How to Put Leading Indicators into Practice

BY JOY INOYUE
Research Associate,
the Campbell Institute of
the National Safety Council

The use of leading indicators is a growing hot topic in occupational and environmental health and safety. The Campbell Institute at the National Safety Council has been studying leading indicators for the past two years to help more organizations take advantage of their predictive power. The Institute defines leading indicators as proactive, preventive, and predictive measures to identify and eliminate risks and hazards in the workplace that can cause incidents and injuries. Consider an indicator as a concept that a company would like to measure, such as “employee engagement.” In contrast, a metric is a way of actually measuring this concept, such as “number of employees leading safety meetings.”

While the Institute’s research described leading indicators, explained their importance and provided specific examples of indicators, many organizations were still unsure about how to start using them.

This became the focus for the most recent stage of research released by the Campbell Institute in a new white paper, Elevating EHS Leading Indicators: From Defining to Designing. The paper describes how eight Campbell Institute members and partners used leading indicators and outlines important lessons learned along the way.

Four common themes and takeaways arose among the Institute participants:

• Leverage what is already being measured
• Just get started – don’t spend too much time deliberating
• Make sure indicators communicate meaningful and actionable information
• Secure leadership support

Leverage what is already being measured

There’s no need to reinvent the wheel. Take an inventory of all your existing indicators to see what might work well. Schneider Electric started looking at safety training hours because this was already being measured. Don’t be afraid of the “bottom up” approach. The tracking of training hours as a leading indicator was first adopted at individual Schneider Electric sites before being rolled up to corporate.

Just get started

It may seem overwhelming to start a leading indicators program, but even Institute members admit they began with very small programs. Don’t get tied up in trying to find the “perfect” leading indicator, as a universal one doesn’t exist. You really won’t know the true value of an indicator until you give it a chance. Knowing that most leading indicators will have to be adjusted in the future makes it even more practical to just begin somewhere.

Cummins, Inc. started small by tracking health and safety assessments and corrective/preventive actions. The main reason for choosing these two indicators was that these data were readily available at the site level and worksites would not be burdened by gathering additional information.

Track meaningful and actionable information

Leading indicators should provide a clear path forward on how to improve safety. Over time, Schneider Electric realized that merely tracking training hours was not as predictive as it had been at the beginning. They shifted their focus to instead track the effectiveness of training by periodically quizzing employees in the months following the training. They found that retention of training information was more indicative of injuries and near misses. continued on page 5
Secure leadership support

Leadership support for leading indicators is crucial. It’s great when the mandate comes from top management, as it was for Johnson Controls and ExxonMobil. However, this isn’t always the case. A couple of participants noted that getting buy-in from different parts of the organization (management, human resources, frontline workers, engineers, etc.) required speaking “different languages” to appeal to their unique needs. Jeff Ruebesam of Fluor states, “Most people understand the concept of identifying and managing risk. Would you rather be chasing incidents or would you rather be proactive about addressing hazards? No matter what function you’re in, you can wrap your head around that.

Differences among the research participants were few, but raise some interesting points for future discussion. Not all participants agree that near misses should be considered leading indicators, or that individual sites should determine their own leading indicators. There is also not consensus that leading indicators should be tied to leadership’s performance evaluations.

Any successful safety management system should have a balance of predictive leading indicators as well as more outcome-based lagging indicators, such as fatality and injury rates. However, the research shows that every organization’s journey is slightly different, and a strategy that works for one may not be relevant to another. The key is to just dive in and find what makes sense for you.

For more details on this paper, and all of the stages of leading indicators research from the Campbell Institute, visit thecampbellinstitute.org/research.

Articles of Interest

▶ One-person safety teams.
What are the issues when an organization’s safety team is just one person? Read more in the latest issue of National Safety Council’s Safety + Health magazine.

▶ The problem of informal social power in industrial safety.
Thoughtful new post in the OHS Online blog explores forms of social influence that can undermine safety efforts, and offers solutions.

▶ Tips for getting management support.
A recent blog post/podcast on the Safety + Health website offers three tips for gaining more supervisor and management support for safety.

▶ Steps to prevent workplace violence.
Attorney and HR consultant Kathleen Bonczyk highlights three steps that can minimize the potential for workplace violence:
1. “Safety committee’s commitment. An effective and efficient safety committee that meets regularly and is proactive about ensuring safe working conditions for all employees is fundamentally important.

2. Implement employee reporting procedures. If you want to know what’s going on in the workplace, simply ask your employees. Employees are a source of invaluable information regarding safety as well as other issues.

3. Avoid hiring problem employees. One of the best ways to prevent workplace violence is to exercise caution in the recruiting and hiring process and avoid mis-hires."

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  - Quick Guide included
- S.A.M.E. technology
  - (specify alerts for your area)
- One-touch
  - local weather
- AC adapter included
  - (AA battery backup)

To order, contact Moira at 605-361-7785/800-952-5539 or e-mail her at moira@southdakotasafetycouncil.org.

MEMBER PRICE: $34.95

Important AED Maintenance: Time for New Pads or Battery?

It may be time to change the pads or battery for your Philips automated external defibrillator (AED) — take a moment to check the expiration dates. If you need new pads or a battery, order through us for a discount (good on any accessories). Don't have an AED? We can help! And when you purchase Philips AEDs from us, you'll receive more than $400 of free accessories.

For more information, contact Moira at moira@southdakotasafetycouncil.org; 605-361-7785/800-952-5539. Find details about other first aid resources and our First Aid/CPR/AED training online.

Upcoming Safety Observances

APRIL
28 Workers’ Memorial Day
American Federation of Labor & Congress of Industrial Org. (AFLCIO)

MAY
Water Safety Month
National Water Safety Month Coalition
National Bike Month
League of American Bicyclists
Clean Air Month
American Lung Association
National Electrical Safety Month
National Electrical Safety Foundation
May 23 – June 5
Click It or Ticket Campaign
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
21–27 National Safe Boating Week
National Safe Boating Council

JUNE
National Safety Month
National Safety Council
1–7 National CPR and AED Awareness Week
South Dakota Safety Council

SEPTEMBER
National Preparedness Month
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
18–24 National Farm Safety and Health Week
National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS)
18–24 Child Passenger Safety Week
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration

► 2016 Calendar of Safety Observances
A new report from UL details the health conditions and workplace safety rates in every state, as well as their financial impact. Here’s how South Dakota stacks up.

Report Compares Health, Workplace Safety in All States

PREVALENCE OF HEALTH DETERMINANTS AND WORKPLACE SAFETY CONDITIONS AS COMPARED TO THE NATIONAL AVERAGE

DIRECT AND INDIRECT IMPACTS OF THE PREVAILING HEALTH DETERMINANTS AND WORKPLACE SAFETY CONDITIONS

COST OF EMPLOYER PROVIDED INSURANCE AS A PERCENT OF TOTAL COMPENSATION 2008-2012

ON THE JOB
Wear It! Safety Tips for Spring Boating

Many people enjoy recreational boating and fishing in the spring. Yet, what looks like a perfect day can quickly become hazardous if you end up in frigid water. The annual Wear It! boating safety campaign reminds spring boaters to take extra precautions and wear a life jacket.

Life jackets are available in inherently buoyant or inflatable styles. Inflatable life jackets rely on CO2 cylinders that provide buoyancy when inflated versus inherently buoyant life jackets that use foam or other buoyant materials to stay afloat.

**Safety Tips for Spring Boating**

- Make sure everyone — even experienced swimmers — wears a properly fitting U.S. Coast Guard-approved life jacket appropriate for the water activity.
- Follow navigation rules, such as maintaining a proper lookout and safe speed.
- Never boat under the influence. Alcohol is responsible for 21 percent of boating fatalities.
- Keep in touch. Cell phones, satellite phones, emergency position radio beacons, VHF radios and personal locator beacons can all contribute in an emergency.
- Don't panic if you fall into the water. Stay afloat with the help of your life jacket, regain control of your breathing, keep your head above water in vision of rescuers, and stay with the boat if possible.

Additional boating and water safety information can be found on the National Safe Boating Council website.

Source: National Safe Boating Council
Working Together to Make South Dakota a Safer Place to Live

Unintentional injuries are a leading cause of death, disability and economic loss in our state. 2015 marked our 66th year of providing injury prevention programs and services to employers and workers, families and communities.

With our members we have created the largest safety network in the state — more than 400 members strong — and we continue to work together to make a significant impact on worker safety and the safety of all South Dakotans.

Examples of our partnership this past year include:

- A forum on workplace violence prevention, organized in May in response to the tragic shooting at Sioux Steel in Lennox earlier in the year.
- The South Dakota Safety & Health Conference, which set a new attendance record for the fourth year in a row, drawing more than 600 people dedicated to making their workplaces safer.
- The first full year of joint South Dakota Safety Council/National Safety Council membership, which provided greatly expanded resources and benefits to support members on their journey to safety excellence.
- The new East River Safety Coalition, involving 35 member organizations, created opportunities to meet, learn and share solutions that work.

Traffic safety is another key focus:

- As the state’s designated motorcycle safety training center, we offered 326 courses throughout the state to help motorcyclists enhance their skills and prepare for license tests.
- Our classroom defensive driving courses helped drivers of all ages refresh their skills and make our roads safer for everyone.
- The South Dakota Operation Lifesaver railroad safety program raised awareness throughout the state.

In addition to medical expenses, economic losses include wage and productivity costs, lost time, insurance and legal costs, uninsured costs and property damage. The cost of South Dakota motor vehicle crashes alone is estimated at $400 million annually.

Despite the work of many partners, including the South Dakota Safety Council, too many still suffer the effects of an unintentional injury. We want to help our members create even safer workplaces. And we want to help all South Dakotans recognize, and hopefully avoid, situations at work, on the road, at home and at play that could lead to injury, or worse. We look forward to working together to achieve these goals.

Our Mission

To improve the quality of life for the people of South Dakota by reducing incidents, injuries and occupational illnesses from preventable causes.
About Injury in South Dakota

Unintentional injuries are the leading cause of death in South Dakota from age one through 44 and the third leading cause overall. In 2014 (most current data) 461 South Dakotans died from unintentional injuries, an increase of nearly 10 percent over the previous year. Tens of thousands more required medical care.

Falls were the leading cause of unintentional injury death in 2014, taking the lives of 170 people, compared with 146 in 2013. Motor vehicle crashes were second, with 151 deaths (149 in 2013), followed by unintentional poisoning, with 58 deaths, an increase of 14 over the previous year.

Unintentional Injury Deaths in South Dakota, 2014

Abuse of prescription drugs, particularly pain killers, is a significant factor in unintentional poisoning deaths. Other leading causes of unintentional-injury death include threats to breathing (asphyxiation, aspiration, etc.), accounting for 24 deaths in 2014, drowning (8 deaths), and smoke/fire/flame (5 deaths).

Since 2011, unintentional injury has moved from the sixth leading cause of death to third in South Dakota. However, a break-out by racial group shows that for whites, it continues to rank as the sixth leading cause of death; for the American Indian population it is third. Men are more likely to die from unintentional injuries than women, accounting for 60 percent of unintentional-injury deaths in 2014.

Another way to view the burden of unintentional injury is to look at years of potential life lost before age 75. The chart below shows the rate of years lost per 100,000 population for the top ten causes of death.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cause of Death, South Dakota Residents, 2014</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cancer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unintentional Injury</td>
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<td>Heart Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suicide</td>
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<td>Liver Disease, Cirrhosis</td>
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<tr>
<td>Diabetes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chronic Lower Resp Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cerebrovascular Disease</td>
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<tr>
<td>Influenza, Pneumonia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alzheimer’s Disease</td>
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Source: South Dakota Department of Health

According to preliminary data, 28 work-related deaths were reported in 2014, compared to 20 (an all-time low) the year before. Twelve of the deaths were transportation-related, including both motor vehicle incidents and airplane crashes. Other leading causes were slips, trips and falls, and contact with objects and equipment.

Workplace Violence Prevention Forum

A daylong forum on workplace violence prevention, recognition and response drew more than 220 management, safety and human resources representatives from 90 South Dakota companies to the Sioux Falls Convention Center in May. In addition to learning about the latest in policy, procedure and technology, attendees gained valuable insights from crisis management experts and from Sioux Steel Company concerning the challenges faced following a February shooting that left two dead and two critically injured.

The South Dakota Safety Council coordinated the event, working closely with Raven Industries and Sioux Steel. Additional support was provided by Sioux Empire Society for Human Resource Management (SE-SHRM) and the Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce.

“The shooting at Sioux Steel was a wake-up call that it can happen here, and we are all in this together,” said Cary Swenson, Executive Director of the South Dakota Safety Council. “The goal of this event was to provide helpful information and resources, but also to discuss how we continue to communicate and address this issue as a community.”
2015 Program Highlights

**Occupational Safety and Health Training**

- For the fourth year in a row, attendance at the South Dakota Safety & Health Conference set a new record, with more than 600 people packing educational sessions and the sold-out exhibit hall. We know that the success of this event is directly related to our members’ commitment to safety, and that those 600-plus people reached thousands more with the information they took back to their workplaces.

- Lt. Governor Michels and National Safety Council President Deborah Hersman spoke at the Governor’s Workplace Safety Awards Luncheon, which recognized 42 South Dakota employers for excellence in safety.

- Our partners in presenting the conference were Sioux Empire Society for Human Resource Management, Chiropractic Associates of South Dakota, South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation, Avera and Sanford Health.

- Our staff worked with members to meet their safety compliance and management needs, providing training and consultation, including onsite safety audits. Among the most popular sessions were OSHA, MSHA and forklift training, and accident investigation. Professional development programs helped individuals support their organizations and expand their skills at the same time. Fifteen people completed the Workplace Safety Certificate series. Another ten achieved the Advanced Safety Certificate in 2015, a nationally recognized designation coordinated by the National Safety Council.

- Training sessions were held throughout the state, and in response to member requests, we established the East River Safety Coalition, which met quarterly to discuss safety issues and solutions. We also provided safety training materials and other safety products through partnerships with J.J. Keller, ManComm, Kidde, CLMI and Philips.

- Through our First Aid/CPR/AED program we trained more than 1,000 people — a 50 percent increase over the year before! We also trained and certified 21 new First Aid instructors, and distributed nine AEDs.

- Our member retention rate of 97 percent reflected strong partnerships, as we worked with members to reduce injuries and costly claims, increase productivity and stay competitive.

**Traffic Safety**

- The National Safety Council’s classroom Defensive Driving Course reached more than 1,200 adults in workplace and community training sessions. The training helped drivers refresh their skills and develop safe habits and attitudes.

- In partnership with the Department of Public Safety and the State Patrol we offered “Alive at 25” — a program proven to increase safe driving behavior in young adults 14-25. The program reached 200 students statewide.

- Through an ongoing contract with the state of South Dakota, we continued to coordinate the South Dakota Motorcycle Rider Education Program. We offered 326 classes statewide, training 1,674 motorcyclists in an effort to reduce motorcycle-related crashes, injuries and deaths. The program’s director, Rick Kiley, received the 2015 Outstanding Contribution award from the National Association of State Motorcycle Safety Administrators.

- Operation Lifesaver works to change people’s behavior around railroad tracks and crossings with the national “See Tracks? Think Train!” campaign. The program reached more than 15,000 people through safety presentations and awareness campaigns throughout the state. The number of volunteer presenters increased by a whopping 90 percent!
We invest every membership dollar in the promotion of safety and health. Your membership provides the foundation for developing safety programs that work. And our community programs help keep your employees safe away from work. Protecting lives and protecting your bottom line are closely linked.

More than 400 employers have formed partnerships with the South Dakota Safety Council — which now includes membership in the National Safety Council. Whether you’re updating an existing safety program or starting from scratch, membership in the South Dakota Safety Council gives you access to the resources you need:

- Free use of more than 250 industry-specific DVDs/videos.
- Discounts on all occupational, first aid/CPR/AED and driver training classes.
- Special pricing on training and reference materials, and safety products.
- Free workplace safety toolkits from National Safety Council (NSC).
- Free phone and e-mail consultation from our in-house safety and health experts.
- Access to NSC “Members Only” content, including downloadable posters, safety talks and presentations.
- Free NSC safety webinars.
- Free e-newsletters which summarize the latest national and local safety and health news, issues and regulatory developments.
- NSC’s Safety + Health magazine mailed to your designated employees for free.
- The annual South Dakota Safety & Health Conference, a great opportunity for education and networking.
- Packaged training programs, manuals, and other safety resources, discounted for members.
- Local safety networks, developed to give members throughout the state training and networking opportunities.

There’s still lots to do. Thanks for helping to make South Dakota a safer place to live!