



North American Occupational Safety and Health Week

May 4 – 10, 2008

North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week is May 4 – 10. This week is set aside annually to observe the cooperation and commitment of professional, trade, and labor organizations to safety in the workplace.

NAOSH Week is meant to remind the working community of how we can positively impact the overall safety of everyone – which in turn can lead to an injury-free workplace and lower healthcare costs.

During this week, occupational safety and health professionals are honored with their very own day to mark their contributions to the vast improvements in workplace safety. May 7 is when we take the time to stop and say “thank you” to our safety and health professionals by recognizing Occupational Safety and Health Professionals Day. These individuals work every day to make a difference by helping to prevent accidents and implementing practices that can save lives. We very much appreciate their efforts.

In recognition of NAOSH Week, I would like to share a few suggestions that can help us create a safer work environment.

Maintain a Clean Work Environment - Not only will you remove many hazards from a work area by keeping it clean, but you will also provide a more productive work environment for your employees.

Carry Carefully. Think before picking up something large or heavy. Lift with your legs, not your back. People vary in the amount of weight they can safely lift, depending on their physical body structures. In general, avoid lifting heavy or awkward objects.

Work Smart. Standing or sitting, worktops are best at elbow height. Chairs should have supporting backrests.

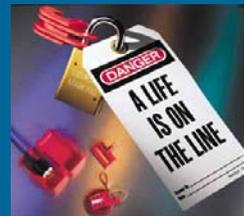
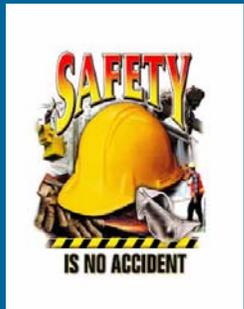
Be Responsible. Observe all safety policies, regulations, safe work practices, and job instructions.

Know Your Way Out. Familiarize yourself with the emergency evacuation plan for your facility. Know how to report a fire and know your escape route.

We all have responsibility to maintaining a safe work environment – both for ourselves and for our co-workers. It is important to take this responsibility seriously.

I encourage you to take time this week to consider how you can help make your work environment a safer one!

Gerald Boyd, Manager



Please see Attachment 1 for more information from the American Society of Safety Engineers.

ATTACHMENT 1

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS

Today millions of people go to and return home safely from work every day due, in part, to the work of occupational safety, health and environmental professionals. As part of the North American Occupational Safety and Health Week (NAOSH), which runs from May 4- 10, 2008, Occupational Safety and Health Professionals will be recognized with their own day on May 7th, Occupational Safety and Health Professionals Day.

Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day is intended raise awareness and pride in the occupational safety, health and environmental profession. The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) was formed in 1911 following the tragic Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire in New York City. On March 25, 1911, nearly 150 women and young girls died in the factory fire because of locked fire exits and inadequate fire extinguishing systems. This was a major turning point in worker safety history as the tragedy led to changed government regulations and new worker protection laws.

"We still have a long way to go in increasing workplace safety for all," ASSE Past President Eddie Greer, CSP, of Texas, said. "Many women perished in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory in 1911, yet even 80 years later we had 25 workers die and 49 more injured in North Carolina when a fire broke out at a chicken processing plant and more recently, the 8 deaths in Georgia at the Imperial Sugar Company. We are making a difference and workplace fatalities have gone down over the years, but we need to reach the businesses that don't have or ignore workplace safety and health processes."

We take time on May 7, 2008, to say thanks to those invisible heroes, who work to make your workplace safer and healthier. It doesn't happen often, but when a call is made to a family member that their loved one has been injured or killed on the job several lives change forever. Work with your occupational safety and health professionals to make sure you and your family never receives that call.

Safety and health professionals follow a Code of Professional Conduct and possess technical knowledge, skill and expertise along with management abilities that have been developed through years of continued education and practical experience. Currently there are about 100,000 occupational safety, health and environmental practitioners in the U.S. today in what is one of the most challenging, growing and rewarding career fields.

ABOUT THE ASSE

Founded in 1911, the Des Plaines, IL-based ASSE is the oldest and largest professional safety organization and is committed to protecting people, property and the environment. Its 30,000 occupational safety, health and environmental professional members manage, supervise, research and consult on safety, health, transportation and environmental issues in all industries, government, labor and education.