May Chapter Meeting | Reopening Safely: What Are We Doing?

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed focus of our world, and particularly the safety profession during this unprecedented time. In looking forward with all the known unknowns faced by our organizations, safety is of primary importance to reopening safely. At our virtual Chapter meeting, we will discuss the safety challenges we face as restrictions differ, challenges posed, and how we can traverse this new landscape safely together. This will be an interactive virtual talk that will center on:

- What does the science currently say about the coronavirus (SARS-2)
- Risk assessing and areas of focus
- Elements of your response and social distancing plans
- Challenges of implementation particularly with PPE, screenings and cleaning
- Resources from ASSP

The speaker for this meeting will be James Boretti, CSP and Regional Vice President of Region I for the American Society of Safety Professionals.

Cal/OSHA Guidance | Requirements to Protect Workers from Coronavirus

Workplace safety and health regulations in California require employers to take steps to protect workers exposed to infectious diseases like the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), which is widespread in the community. Cal/OSHA has posted guidance to help employers comply with these requirements and to provide workers information on how to protect themselves and prevent the spread of the disease.

Factsheets and guidance for various industries can be found on the Cal/OSHA website. Visit www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/coronavirus to find the documents for your industry.

Member Spotlight | Marianne Cinfel

Marianne is adapting to the new normal! She is doing her part to keep others safe by sporting a beautiful handmade cloth mask.

Way to go Marianne!

If you would like to share a picture of you working safely, or any other safety related photos, please send them in with a brief description to communications@centralvalley.assp.org.

Upcoming Events

May Virtual Meeting
05/28  12:00 pm—1:00 pm
Zoom Meeting (See the events page on centralvalley.assp.org for the link)
Reopening Safely
Speaker: James Boretti

June Virtual Mixer
06/25  It’s Gotta Be 5:00 pm Somewhere!
Join us for happy hour and a virtual mixer. Incoming officers will be introduced, and the vision for the 2020-2021 year will be shared.

Member Milestones

25 Year Members
Michael Casey

20 Year Members
John Pallen
Larry Lopez

10 Year Members
Eric Anderson
Worker Fatigue | Turlock Worker Dies After Falling Asleep on Production Line

A worker died in an accident on 4/27 at a Foster Farms in Turlock. An email statement from Cal-OSHA said the agency was told that Salazar had fallen asleep and was awakened by coworkers several times before the accident. “He was later pulled into the production conveyor by his neck, resulting in fatal crushing injuries to his skull, and pronounced dead at the scene,” Cal-OSHA said.

During these trying times, many essential workers may be subject to longer shifts and a heavier workload. It is important that safety professionals communicate the dangers of worker fatigue to management. The following tips can help reduce worker fatigue:

- Assign regular, predictable schedules
- Avoid long shift lengths (no longer than 12 hours, 8-10 hours is better)
- Provide adequate time to recover between shifts
- Provide frequent breaks within shifts
- Adopt policies that discourage work-related activities (like email) during off hours
- Educate employees about the importance of sleep

Seeking Employment? | Central Valley Seeking Employment Page

The ASSP Central Valley Chapter has added a new Seeking Employment page to our website. We will post resumes for ASSP members (full or student members) who are seeking employment. Resumes will only be posted for 60 days.

People who are hiring new employees are encouraged to use this area to find qualified candidates and help fellow ASSP members who may have been adversely affected by Covid-19.

If you wish to have a resume posted here, send it in Word or PDF format to president@centralvalley.assp.org.

Member Achievements

If you achieved a safety certification or job promotion, we want to know about it! Please send information to communications@centralvalley.assp.org
Ten Steps All Workplaces Can Take to Reduce Risk of Exposure to Coronavirus

All workplaces can take the following infection prevention measures to protect workers:

1. Encourage workers to stay home if sick.
2. Encourage respiratory etiquette, including covering coughs and sneezes.
3. Provide a place to wash hands or alcohol-based hand rubs containing at least 60% alcohol.
4. Limit worksite access to only essential workers, if possible.
5. Establish flexible worksites (e.g., telecommuting) and flexible work hours (e.g., staggered shifts), if feasible.
6. Discourage workers from using other workers’ phones, desks, or other work tools and equipment.
7. Regularly clean and disinfect surfaces, equipment, and other elements of the work environment.
8. Use Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)-approved cleaning chemicals with label claims against the coronavirus.
9. Follow the manufacturer’s instructions for use of all cleaning and disinfection products.
10. Encourage workers to report any safety and health concerns.

For more information, visit www.osha.gov/coronavirus or call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742).