

AIHA  
**MID AMERICA LOCAL SECTION**  
**NEWSLETTER**

Volume 1, Issue 5

March 2009



## SPRING SYMPOSIUM

**March 30, 2009**

**March 30, 2009**

**8 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

HOSTED AT

**BURNS & McDONNELL**

Conference Room

9400 Ward Parkway

Kansas City, Missouri

***Introduction to the Design of Performance  
– based Exposure Assessment Strategies  
By: Dr. Paul Hewett, Ph.D***

**2008-2009**

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# AIHA request Study of NIOSH's place in Federal Agency

The American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) has sent a letter to Senator Ted Kennedy on February 2, 2009 to ask his support for Congress to request a Government Accountability Office (GAO) study on whether or not the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) should remain within the organizational structure of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

According to the letter, AIHA contents that "a GAO study is needed because of the ongoing changes that have taken place within NIOSH and CDC the past several years and the future challenges to both CDC and NIOSH."

The letter further states that in 2004, CDC announced it was planning to reorganize CDC's programs into four "coordinating centers" as part of the Agency's Futures Initiative. Under the plan, NIOSH would have been placed under one of these "centers". As a result of tremendous opposition, Congress recommended that CDC "maintain the status quo with respect to the direct reporting relationship of the NIOSH director to the CDC director" and that "CDC make no changes to NIOSH's current operating procedures and organizational structure".

AIHA also contents that although there have been several recommendations regarding the organizational "home" for NIOSH. One suggestion was to move NIOSH to the Department of Labor. AIHA believes a better suggestion is to retain NIOSH within the Department of Health and Human Services but move it to the National Institutes of Health (NIH)

While AIHA believes moving NIOSH to NIH has merit, there is uncertainty as to whether anyone has thoroughly looked at what impact a possible move could, or would, have on occupational health and safety.

A thorough study by GAO could look at the "pros and cons" of these alternatives and would provide NIOSH, CDC, stakeholders and others with the information and data on how best to address the issue of occupational health and safety in today's workplace.

The letter was signed by Lindsay E. Booher, CIH, CSP, AIHA President. The letter was also copied to Senator

Michael B. Enzi, Senator Patty Murray, Senator Johnny Isakson, Representative George Miller, Representative Howard P. McKeon, Representative Lynn C. Woolsey, and Representative Thomas E. Price.

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## REMINDER

**Next Local Section**

**Meeting**

**April 10, 2009**

**Location**

**TBD**

**\*Beauchamp on the Rail Closed**

# American Industrial Hygiene Association Sends Open Letter to President Obama

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January 20, 2009

The Honorable Barrack Obama  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Obama:

On behalf of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) we commend you and offer our support for your proposal to create more than three million new jobs for American workers. With 600,000 of these jobs intended for the construction industry and another 400,000 for manufacturing, AIHA believes it is vital that the appropriate number of health and safety professionals is included in this new labor force to protect these new workers. As you move forward, we urge you to direct the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to ensure that the new jobs created by your stimulus package have adequate workplace protections for these workers.

Each year, thousands of American workers die from preventable deaths, and 4.1 million occupational injuries and illnesses are reported. This is a public health epidemic that can be greatly improved through the creation and enforcement of effective workplace health and safety programs, and industrial hygienists are critical to that progress.

Workplaces with an industrial hygienist or other occupational health and safety professional on staff have fewer workplace injuries and illnesses; are usually rated as better places to work; and have more satisfied, more productive employees who are more motivated to create value for the organization. This can result in decreased medical and operational costs, increased quality and productivity, and stronger financial stability.

AIHA, and the industrial hygienists and other occupational health and safety professionals it represents, promotes and protects the health and well-being of workers, the community, and the environment. It is because of this mission that AIHA calls on you and your new Administration to protect the right of all workers and communities to a healthy and safe environment and the prevention of occupational disease and injury.

President Obama, AIHA is sure you will do the right thing as you help America get back to work and you have our support in putting the safety and health of our workers first. Industrial hygienists add value to business, to the workplace, and to people's lives. It is our hope that as your job creation stimulus package moves forward, your Administration and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration will work with employers, employee organizations, and professional associations to ensure that worker health and safety remains a goal.

AIHA stands ready to assist your Administration in any way possible.

Respectfully,

Lindsay E. Booher, CIH, CSP  
AIHA President

cc: U.S. Department of Labor, Secretary of Labor Nominee Hilda Solis  
AIHA Board of Directors, Peter O'Neil, Executive Director

**AIHA Mid-America Local  
Section**

**SPRING SYMPOSIUM**

**MARCH 30, 2009**

The Spring Symposium introduces the concepts and procedures necessary for estimating exposure assessment sampling sizes. In addition to designing performance-based exposure assessment strategies.

The focus will be on designing strategies that will reliably determine if an exposure profile for a Similar Exposure Group is acceptable or unacceptable, relative to a full - shift, TWA occupational exposure limit.

Included are several workshops where the participants will learn to generate strategy performance - curves and gain experience designing baseline, commissioning, or termination / reduction exposure sampling strategies.

As well as designing an overall corporate baseline and surveillance strategy.

**Learning Objectives:**

- ✓ Principles of hypothesis testing
  - ✓ Rules-of-thumb for estimating sample sizes
  - ✓ Parametric and non-parametric calculation methods for estimating a reasonable sample size
  - ✓ Principles and steps for designing a performance-based strategy
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**SPRING SYMPOSIUM**

**Presented by:**

**AIHA Mid-America**

**March 30, 2009**

**Hosted at:**

**Burns & McDonnell**

**9400 Ward Parkway**

**Kansas City, Missouri**

**8 am to 4 pm**

**Featured Speaker**

**Dr. Paul Hewett, Ph.D**

**President and Founder**

**Exposure Assessment  
Solutions**

## SPRING SYMPOSIUM Continued

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**Dr. Paul Hewett,**

Founder and President of  
Exposure Assessment Solutions

Dr. Hewett has 25 years  
experience

as an Industrial Hygienist for  
NIOSH's Division of Respirable Disease  
Studies, specializing in the measurement of  
pneumoconiosis producing dusts.

His credentials include a doctorate in  
Industrial Hygiene from the University of  
Pittsburgh, School of Public Health (1991).  
Paul is also the author of numerous articles  
and chapters on exposure assessment and  
statistics for industrial hygienists,

as well as a past chair of the AIHA Exposure  
Assessment Strategies Committee.

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**SEND REGISTRATION  
INFORMATION  
To**

**[aihamidamerica@live.com](mailto:aihamidamerica@live.com)**

or

**Contact a Local Section Board  
Member.**

**REGISTRATION FEES:  
Payable to: AIHA Mid America  
Section**

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## The Mid-America Section of AIHA presents the Spring Symposium.

Earn 1.0 CM locally...without  
any travel costs! Don't miss  
out....



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## Course Fee

**AIHA Member           \$175**  
**Non-member           \$205**

Earn 1.0 CM for Participation in symposium  
workshop

***Bring a laptop computer to  
participate in the workshop***

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### Prerequisites:

- Participants should be familiar with the  
AIHA Exposure Assessment and  
Management Model IH statistics
- Each attendee should download and  
install the freeware program "Exposure  
Assessment Strategy Simulator"  
(available from [www.oesh.com](http://www.oesh.com))

## SPRING SYMPOSIUM SPONSORS



**Mr. John Zey**

[www.burnsmcd.com](http://www.burnsmcd.com)



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# HAPPENINGS

from

**Aaron K. Tripler, Director**  
American Industrial Hygiene Association  
Government Affairs Department

## ***Final Lawsuit on Hex Chrome Comes to an End!***

Many weren't even aware of it, but when OSHA finalized the Hex Chrome standard back in 2006 (finalized only because of a court mandate) the agency was again taken to court challenging the permissible exposure limit that was set in the standard. The lawsuit against OSHA stated that the exposure limit was "insufficient" to protect workers.

This past week a decision was issued by the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that upheld OSHA's action on this permissible exposure limit. The court ruled that OSHA reached a reasonable conclusion on why they chose the recommended exposure limit and their use of the health and economic analyses was proper.

Nearly everyone should be pleased this issue has finally come to an end. Just as important is the fact that the decision should provide OSHA, in my view, with a little more "confidence and credibility" in its deliberations on issues such as this. The agency did a very thorough vetting of the science and impact the exposure limit would have and the court justified the work conducted by OSHA.

Yet while most should be thankful the process has come to an end, it once again shows the problems an agency like OSHA faces when addressing workplace hazards.

Taking the agency to court on every issue that arises has become a routine and is costing valuable

resources, as well as possibly delaying the implementation of workplace standards that protect workers.

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## **Hilda Solis Confirmed as Secretary of Labor**

### **How Long Before We Have a Name for OSHA?**

Hilda Solis was confirmed as Secretary of Labor by an 80-17 vote of the Senate earlier this week. While the confirmation was delayed for several weeks because of some questions Secretary Solis was asked to answer, there was never really any doubt she would be confirmed.

It is a little too early to say what Secretary Solis considers to be her top priorities, but if her background is any indication she will focus on farm workers, fair pay for women, health care for children, green jobs and the right for workers to have a voice in the workplace.

She has been a strong supporter of the very controversial "Employee Free Choice Act" that is expected to test the strength of Labor in the new administration.

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***If you have news or notes  
you'd like us to bring you in the  
Newsletter please forward them  
to***

***[aihamidamerica@live.com](mailto:aihamidamerica@live.com)***

# JOB OPENINGS

## CORPORATE HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICER

**EMR, Inc.** provides environmental assessment-remediation, engineering, construction and industrial hygiene services to private and government clients' nationwide based in Lawrence, Kansas.

The successful candidate will oversee EMR's corporate H&S (health & safety) program including, developing and updating the corporate H&S plan, conducting H&S audits, conducting H&S training (40-hr, 8-hr refresher, and 8-hr supervisor). Will review project H&S plans and provide on-site project support where needed. Will perform hazard communication and right-to-know functions. Will manage medical monitoring program. Will maintain H&S records. Will provide support on proposals and business development efforts. Will develop, implement, monitor and control H&S practices that will result in reduction of workplace accidents and continuous improvement in Experience Modification Rating.

**Required Skills, Experience, Certifications, and Education:** Ability to manage Corporate H&S Programs, and Project H&S practices, including development of H&S plans and activity hazard analyses. Use of Microsoft Windows, MS Office package, internet, e-mail. 10 years professional experience including 3 years administering a corporate H&S program. Experience in environmental and construction related health and safety issues including environmental general health and safety experience on CERCLA sites. Must interact well with personnel at all levels, be able to manage others, and must have excellent written and verbal communication skills. OSHA Instructor Certification. BS in Industrial Hygiene, Life Science, Engineering or other comparable discipline. Position requires traveling an average of 25% of the time.

**Preferred Skills, Experience, Certifications, and Education:** Certified Industrial Hygiene preferred. Preference will be given to candidates with experience in both environmental/hazardous waste and construction domains. MS or higher degree preferred.

Apply by obtaining an application at the EMR, Inc. web site (<http://www.emr-inc.com>) and forwarding application/resume per instructions at the web site.

## CERTIFIED INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST (CIH)-SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER

**OCCU-TEC, Inc.**, a Kansas City based Environmental, Occupational, Health & Safety, and Energy systems consulting firm is seeking interest in a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) senior project manager position.

**Position Summary:** Conducts health & safety program review in industrial settings or governmental organizations to recognize, eliminate, and control occupational health hazards and diseases: Collects samples of dust, gases, vapors, and other potentially toxic materials for analysis.

Investigates adequacy of ventilation, exhaust equipment, lighting, noise and other conditions which may affect employee health, comfort, or efficiency, and recommends measures to ensure maximum employee protection. Prepares technical reports including observations, analysis of contaminants, and recommendations for control and correction of hazards.

**Responsibilities include:**

- Provide and manage services in the areas of industrial hygiene, environmental investigations, and occupational, chemical, noise, and biological safety; Assist with Asbestos and Lead Management project management; Perform Indoor Environmental Quality (IEQ) assessments;
- Serve as Instructor for learning solutions and training classes (both classroom, and instructor led online courses);
- Continue to grow our successful industrial hygiene and safety practice; Help our existing clients solve their occupational health and safety problems; Expand the Corporation's reputation and client base.

**Requirements:**

- Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in industrial hygiene or other related discipline;
- 5 to 9 years experience in performing industrial hygiene exposure monitoring, bio-aerosols and indoor air quality investigations;
- Must be a current Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH), or have ability to obtain certification within 6 months;
- Posses an entrepreneurial spirit and willing to market, promote, and grow the company are preferred.

**Interested candidates should forward their resumes including salary requirements, and references to [glemke@occutec.com](mailto:glemke@occutec.com). **NO****

**PHONE CALLS** please.

## **Upcoming Events of Note**

### **AIHA Mid America Local Section April Meeting-UCM Student Presentations**

April 10, 2009  
Location: TBD

### **MO/KS PRIMA Conference**

April 22-24, 2009  
Lake of Ozarks, Missouri  
[www.moprime.org](http://www.moprime.org)

### **NAOSH Week (North American Occupational Safety and Health Week)**

May 3-9, 2009

### **Mid-America Environmental, Health & Safety Conference,**

May 5-9, 2009  
Tan Tar A Resort  
Osage Beach, Missouri  
[www.missourisafetycouncil.org](http://www.missourisafetycouncil.org)

### **Region VII VPPPA Chapter Conference**

May 11-13, 2009  
Westin Crown Center  
Kansas City, Missouri  
[www.regionviiivpp.org](http://www.regionviiivpp.org)

### **PRIMA 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference**

May 31-June 3, 2009  
Dallas, Texas  
[www.primacentral.org](http://www.primacentral.org)

### **AIHcE 2009**

May 30-June 4, 2009  
Toronto, Canada  
[www.aiha.org](http://www.aiha.org)

### **ASSE—Safety 2009**

June 28-July 2, 2009  
San Antonio, Texas  
[www.asse.org](http://www.asse.org)



*Update your Website information!*

*Updated membership contact information is needed. Please contact **Greg Lemke** to update your contact information. This is a great opportunity for you to network with other industry professionals, and we want to help make sure that you have the contact information you need to be successful in your efforts.*

# 2009 MID-AMERICA SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONFERENCE AND EXPOSITION

May 5 thru May 8, 2009



## Tan-Tar-A Resort and Golf Club & Spa Osage Beach, MO

The 2009 Mid-America Safety, Health and Environmental Conference and Exposition celebrates its' 38th Anniversary this year under the sponsorship of the Missouri Safety Council in cooperation with all of Missouri's other local councils and Chapters of the National Safety Council.

2009 Conference theme:  
"Safety is Our Driver"



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- MAIN FLOOR "WINNER'S CIRCLE" LOCATION ALLOWS VENDOR AREA TO STAY OPEN FOR "HEAVY TRAFFIC" ALL DAY LONG
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