



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF  
**SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Utah Chapter

## October Newsletter

- Message from the Board
- Chapter & Regional News
- Upcoming Events
- Career Opportunities

### MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Ed Henkels, Newsletter Editor

Our annual conference on Safety & Industrial Hygiene is now just days away. Most of us know how important it is to our careers to "sharpen the saw" and stay informed about S&H trends affecting our companies. Hopefully you've already registered. If you decided not to go this year, you may want to reconsider. There are several reasons safety and IH professionals should make attending this conference a priority:

- Location: The conference is conveniently located at the U of U. Most of us won't have to get on a plane or book a hotel room to attend.
- Topics: With 20 concurrent sessions and 12 Short Courses, there are a wide variety of topics to choose from.
- Lectures: This year we have two very interesting Key Note lectures.
- Networking: You get to meet other nearby safety professionals and reconnect with people you already know.

- Quality: As Dave Holland pointed out in last month's newsletter, the quality of the presentations at our conference is on par with the national PDC events.

If your schedule does not allow you to attend the entire conference, consider one of the many Short Courses or a one-day registration.

Hope to see you there.

See attached link for more information:

<https://ce.rmcoeh.utah.edu/wconnect/ace/ShowSchedule.awp?Group=CONF&Title=Annual+Conference+on+Safety+and+Industrial+Hygiene>

## CHAPTER & REGIONAL NEWS

### September Meeting

Our September meeting on 9/19 was at the Rio Tinto Kennecott Smelter. Eric Johnson, was lead facilitator discussing Potential Fatal Injuries (PFIs) and Critical Risk Management (CRM). According to the presentation, fatality rates do not follow the injury rate and Heinrich pyramid. There was discussion of critical risks and task, and implementation of Critical Control checklists to address the risks. It was a very informative meeting. Thank you Eric for hosting this event.

### Member Spotlight

Suyanka Neupaney, Safety and Environmental Analyst, Swire Coca Cola

How many years in Safety & Health?                      3 years

Education                      MSc in Environmental Science and Policy

Certification(s):              Working on ASP certification for 2020

### **Why did you become a safety professional?**

I worked with the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection and did an assessment on the Mass DEP health and safety program while I

was getting my graduate degree in Env Science and Policy. I got interested in hazardous waste management, policies and was able to get 24 HR HAZWOPER training. This project also became my final project which got me more involved in this field.

**What do you like most about your profession?**

I like the safety culture that we have established at Swire Coca Cola. Safety comes first here and that makes me feel like an important part of my company.

Safety as a profession is important to me because it means valuing the safety of every individual at work and ensuring everyone gets home safely to their loved ones. I do safety reporting and analysis for the company and ensure we are driving process improvement and creating efficiencies as we go.

**What are you most proud of in your career?**

I am still waiting to do something significant because I started my safety career a few years ago, before that I worked for Goldman Sachs. The proudest moment would be to see something I initiated coming into fruition. I am working to establish Chapter WISE for Utah which is on its way :)

**If you could be anything other than a safety professional what would you be?**

I think I would become an entrepreneur and provide jobs to those people whose potential is not realized, push them to become better and make a difference in the community.

**What do you like to do when you're not working?**

I love working out, listening to music, traveling and spending quality time with my husband and baby girl who will turn 1 in a few weeks.

## **Technical Discussion**

**Our responsibility as safety professionals to promote safety culture at home**

Being a new parent and a safety professional, I always wondered how I can promote safety and teach my child on how to stay safe in dangerous and unanticipated situation. Teaching children about safety at home, school and community starts at an early age. Younger children will learn best if we introduce new safety ideas through fun and engaging activities.

I support Utah Safety Council initiatives, and the one that recently caught my attention was the "Take Safety Home" Activity book for kids. This activity book has four different sections with focus on falls, poisoning, choking, drowning, fires and burns. Each section has chutes and ladders, crossword puzzle, crack the code, coloring page, word search, spot the difference, finish the picture and home escape plan. All these activities are focused on how to stay safe every day. There is also a certificate on last page for kids of sign and be a Certified Safe Kid! I was able to get multiple copies and distribute to my friends who lived in my neighborhood.

While teaching safety is good, we still need to address larger safety issues to all members of our family. Here are some that I consider:

- Fire safety: Checking smoke alarms and where they are located. 911 number to call in an emergency and emergency exits at home.
- Storage of chemicals and harmful substances to keep them away from small children and pets.
- Wearing proper PPE when doing yard work such as weed trimming or using equipment.
- Practicing good housekeeping rules such as cleaning and disinfecting your home.

These safety concerns should be addressed because each of us are safety professionals trying to promote safety culture at work and our goal is to ensure employees reach home safely. Similarly, our duty as a parent, a wife, or a husband is to promote safety culture at home. We also need to evaluate how we perform tasks at home. One example I can give as a safety professional is using proper lifting techniques I learned from work at home. At Swire Coca Cola, we recently received training on Pristine Condition, based on Olympic lifting techniques. It focuses on proper lifting techniques such as inside base, lift your big engines, twist not turn, and dip and drive. I

have started using these techniques at home, while I am lifting products and moving furniture. I feel accomplished because I do my job safely; and proud because I am passionate about the subject. Practicing and promoting safety is not only what I do for living, but also, something I believe in!

Suyanka Neupaney

Safety, Environmental and Sustainability Analyst

Swire Coca Cola USA

Thank you to Suyanka Neupaney for contributing this article.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Annual Conference on Safety & Industrial Hygiene**

Wednesday, October 9 - Friday, October 11

University of Utah, A. Ray Olpin Union Building, Salt Lake City, Utah

<https://ce.rmcoeh.utah.edu/wconnect/ace/ShowSchedule.awp?Group=CONF&Title=Annual+Conference+on+Safety+and+Industrial+Hygiene>

### **October Chapter Meeting**

Thursday, October 10, 7am - 8am at University of

Utah, <https://utah.assp.org/events/chapter-meeting-oct-2019/>

### **November Chapter Meeting**

Thursday, November 21, from 11:30 AM – 1:00 P

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Currently, there are 4 openings for Safety Professionals posted on our website.

We will post the jobs in the Environmental, Health & Safety, and Industrial Hygiene fields to our website at no charge, but the chapter is always accepting donations to our scholarship fund.

<https://utah.assp.org/current-openings/>



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