AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Utah Chapter

September 2026 Newsletter

Message from the Executive Committee

ASSP Utah Chapter Members,

Welcome to the September newsletter. As we head into fall, thanks to everyone who showed up this year, at events, behind the scenes, or just sending feedback our way.

We put together programming, but you're the ones who make it worth attending. Every event that goes well, goes well because members showed up and engaged. Please let us know what events you would like to see in the upcoming chapter year.

Inside this issue: upcoming events, professional development opportunities, and a few ways to get more involved. If you've got ideas or want to volunteer, reach out. We mean it.

Thanks for being part of the ASSP Utah Chapter!

OUR VALUES

Our CLEAR values guide our behavior, decisions and actions.

- **Community:** We provide a welcoming and collaborative environment that creates belonging and inclusivity for all.
- **Leadership**: We exemplify integrity and empower others.
- **Excellence:** We strive always to deliver our best.
- **Accountability:** We are ethical, reliable and trustworthy in all we do.
- **Respect:** We act with humility, listen to others and foster strong working relationships.

Learn more: How CLEAR Values Guide Our Behavior, Decisions and Actions

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

Current Member Count

- 386

Welcome New Members!

- Ramon Alexander Samaniego, CSHM
- Caleb Nathan Crawford
- Lauren Black, CSP, ASP
- Emma Messenger

UPCOMING EVENTS

September Chapter Event

Coming soon...

October Chapter Event

Breakfast before the Utah Conference on Safety and Inustrial Hygiene
October 15th 6:00 AM
Ray Olpin Student Union
200 Central Campus Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84112
Registration: Coming Soon...

October Event

Utah Conference on Safety and Inustrial Hygiene
October 15th and 16th
Ray Olpin Student Union
200 Central Campus Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84112
Registration: Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health - 43rd Annual Utah Conference on Safety and Industrial Hygiene

Our Last Meeting

Site Tour at Prinova Nutrition

Troy Pilivi of Prinova Nutrition graciously hosted our August Chapter Meeting and provided an outstanding tour of his facility from a safety professional's point of view. We learned how the nutritional products, like creatine, are mixed, processed and packaged safely. Troy also walked us through how he's ensured safe pedestrian and forklift traffic throughout his expansive warehouse. Thank you to Troy and his team for the support of our chapter.



Technical Article or Review

Making the Most of Your ASSP Membership: ASSP Connection

Professional Safety, the American Society of Safety Professionals' flagship monthly journal and top member benefit, covers the latest safety management and injury prevention trends. Each edition contains a section titled **ASSP Connection**. If I don't have time to read the full edition when it hits my inbox, I do try to check out this section to keep me in the loop. Here are a few of my highlights from the year so far.

In January I was reminded of the On-Demand Annual Pass offered by ASSP to give members the flexibility to learn at your own pace, anytime, from anywhere. This resource gives users access to an extensive library of educational content tailored to the needs of safety professionals, ranging from concise 1-hour webinars to in-depth courses. New courses are added throughout the year, ensuring access to the latest

insights and strategies. The pass also includes access to select sessions from ASSP's annual professional development conference and exposition. You can find additional options in the Journal's Continuing Education section each month.

I was also reminded of the ASSP's member referral program. As an ASSP member, you are part of a vibrant community of safety professionals working to create a safer, stronger future. You can share the benefits and resources of ASSP membership with safety colleagues by using ASSP's suggested referral messaging or directing potential members to the ASSP website to encourage them to learn more and join the Society. The more people you refer, the more rewards you can earn, from a 1-year membership extension to an on-demand webinar, a $50 Amazon gift card or even a 2-year membership extension.

I shared with my construction colleagues the February Connection article which highlighted a newly signed memorandum of understanding with the Construction Safety Research Alliance (CSRA) at the University of Colorado Boulder. ASSP members can now have easier access to CSRA research, tools and learning opportunities.

Is your organization using Z10, ISO 45001 or another standard in operation? ASSPs Standards-Based User Groups (SBUGs) are designed to help organizations apply consensus standards in real-world settings. I forwarded this reminder from April to a colleague who is newly assigned to their internal team on this. The SBUGs provide structured feedback loops and shared peer implementations.

The April Connections also brought to my attention the new white paper published by ASSP's Artificial Intelligence (AI) Task Force. "AI and the Evolving Role of EHS Professionals" highlights how members are using AI to support better decision-making and address real-world EHS challenges.

The most recent September 2026 edition of the Journal invites members to share their expertise by presenting at Safety 2027 or pursuing ASSP leadership opportunities.

I have truly valued my now 15+ years with ASSP and hope you are able to take advantage of all of the resources available as well! Have a safe and happy Fall season!

Check out your issue of *Professional Safety* today! Each peer-reviewed issue of *Professional Safety* offers practical guidance, techniques and solutions to help occupational safety and health (OSH) professionals identify hazards, protect people, prevent injuries, improve work environments and educate management that investing in safety is a sound business strategy. Annual subscription is included with ASSP

membership. Members can download the PSJ app or review digital editions while logged into their account in addition to electing to receive a printed copy each month.

Rachel Michael CPE, CHSP

ASSP Utah Chapter Treasurer

Would you like to host a chapter meeting?

We are looking for companies willing to host a facility tour as part of our chapter meetings. Is your organization interested in taking part?

Contact jchristiano@divalsafety.com to discuss further.

Local Authors

Joseph Knickerbocker of Okland was published in the PSJ magazine.

Article: CONTROLLING CONFINED SPACE HAZARDS WITH POLICY & PERMITS

Chris Johnson of Salt Lake City was published in the PSJ magazine.

Article: ADDRESSING COMPLACENCY BIAS in Film & Television Production

Eric Lewis of Cedar Hills, UT was a guest on ASSP's National Podcast to discuss the collaborative group he helped run at last year's conference.

Podcast: https://www.assp.org/resources/the-case-for-safety-podcast/episode-177-providing-effective-training-to-every-generation-of-the-workforce

ASP/CSP Monthly Question

Under OSHA's Hierarchy of Controls, which of the following represents the most effective method for reducing or eliminating a workplace hazard?

A) Personal protective equipment (PPE)

B) Administrative controls

C) Elimination

D) Engineering controls

Solution

Correct Answer:

Answer: C

Rationale: The Hierarchy of Controls ranks hazard control methods from most to least effective: elimination, substitution, engineering controls, administrative controls, and PPE. Elimination removes the hazard entirely, which is why it sits at the top. PPE

is considered the least effective control because it depends on proper fit, consistent use, and doesn't address the hazard itself, only the exposure to it.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Our local chapter has scholarships available to members for advancing in the field of safety. This can be for a degree, the CSP exam, travel to an ASSP event, and more.

Please use our contact us form to request a scholarship: Contact Us – ASSP Utah Chapter.

National ASSP Foundation Scholarship

We're pleased to share that this year's recipients of the **ASSP Foundation Scholarship, funded by ASSP Utah Chapter for $1000** is **Brinley Openshaw**, a bachelor's degree student studying Public Health: Industrial Hygiene Emphasis at Brigham Young University, as well as **Claudia Romero**, a doctorate degree student studying Occupational Injury Prevention at the University of Utah.

The 2027 ASSP Foundation Academic Scholarship application opens on October 15, 2026 and closes on February 15, 2027. Through one application, students are considered for more than 100 scholarships made possible by donors like you.

The online application can be found here.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

We are always looking to network and find out if there are job openings. The jobs must be in an Environmental, Health, and Safety function. For example: Fleet Safety Manager, Director of Environmental, Health and Safety, Risk Manager, etc.

Please use our contact us form to submit an opening: Contact Us – ASSP Utah Chapter.

Visit the ASSP Utah Chapter Jobs Website Page

JOIN THE BOARD

Would you like to make a difference in your Utah ASSP Chapter?
We could use your help! Your board is made up entirely of volunteers who believe in the ASSP mission: to be a member-driven association that provides representation, promotion, and support for those engaged in the safety, health, and environmental professions as they work to protect people, property, and the environment.

Plus, we have a lot of fun doing it!

Please use our contact us form to inquire about joining the board: Contact Us – ASSP Utah Chapter.

NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS

The ASSP Chapter Newsletter is published monthly. If you have comments or contributions that you would like included in the newsletter, please send to jchristiano@divalsafety.com. Contributions will need to be submitted by the 15th of each month to be included in the following month's newsletter.

Jim Christiano, SEE



If you do not wish to receive these emails, please click here
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