AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS
Utah Chapter

October 2026 Newsletter v2

Message from the Executive Committee

ASSP Utah Chapter Members,

One of the greatest resources we have as safety professionals is each other.

A large study involving researchers from Harvard Business School, MIT, Stanford, and LinkedIn looked at the professional networks of more than 20 million people. One interesting finding was that connections outside our closest professional circles can be especially valuable because they introduce us to new information, perspectives, and opportunities.

That feels especially relevant for our ASSP Utah Chapter. We have professionals across industries, organizations, career stages, and areas of expertise who can learn a lot from one another.

I'll also admit that, as an introvert, networking is not exactly my natural habitat. Walking into a room and introducing myself to people I don't know is probably never going to be my favorite recreational activity. But I've also found that some of the most helpful professional relationships I have started with a pretty simple conversation.

A few things to consider this month:

- Introduce yourself to someone at the next chapter event you don't already know.
- Reach out to a safety professional you haven't talked with in a while.
- Share an idea, resource, or lesson learned that might help someone else.

· Look for an opportunity to mentor someone, even if it's just a 20-minute conversation.

· Don't hesitate to ask another member for advice or a different perspective when you're working through a challenge.

Our chapter gets stronger when we share what we know, learn from each other, and help one another succeed. With the experience represented across ASSP Utah, there is a lot we can offer each other.

And for my fellow introverts, we don't have to work the whole room. One good conversation is a pretty solid place to start.

Thanks for being part of the chapter and for finding ways, large and small, to support the people around you.

Dave Smith

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

- 381

Welcome New Members!

- Porter Craig Roskelley
- Baylie Messerly Marquart
- B'Elanna Scott
- Mitchel Lee Hansen, SMP

UPCOMING EVENTS

FYI - The start time of the breakfast has been corrected to 7:00 am

October Chapter Event

Breakfast **before** the Utah Conference on Safety and Industrial Hygiene
October 15th 7:00 AM
Ray Olpin Student Union
200 Central Campus Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84112
Registration: [Breakfast before the Utah Conference on Safety and Industrial Hygiene – ASSP Utah Chapter]

October Event

Utah Conference on Safety and Industrial 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.



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.

Technical Article

RECALIBRATING OUR SAFETY FOCUS

Now that summer has come to an end and we are transitioning into a new season, it is a good time to **recalibrate our mental focus on safety**. Long days, changing schedules, vacations, heat, and the normal demands of a busy work schedule can contribute to fatigue—both physically and mentally.

Safety fatigue can happen when we become comfortable with everyday tasks, routines, or hazards. We may begin to move through the day on autopilot and overlook things that we would normally recognize as potential risks. This is when taking a moment to pause and reset can make a meaningful difference.

TAKE A MOMENT TO RESET

As we move into the next season, challenge yourself and your team to:

- **Slow down and stay present.** Avoid letting familiarity turn into complacency.
- **Look at the work with fresh eyes.** Ask yourself, *"What has changed, and what could hurt someone today?"*
- **Revisit the basics.** PPE, housekeeping, access, fall protection, equipment inspections, and communication remain critical every day.
- **Watch for fatigue.** Tired employees may have slower reaction times, reduced concentration, and difficulty making good decisions.
- **Speak up.** If something does not look or feel right, stop and address it before continuing.
- **Start each shift with intention.** A good pre-task plan and meaningful conversation can help everyone mentally transition into the workday.

The changing of seasons gives us a natural opportunity to reset. Take a few minutes to step out of autopilot, refocus on the work in front of you, and remind your team that **safe production requires our attention every day**.

The goal isn't to work faster or simply get through the day. The goal is to go home safely at the end of it. **Pause. Recalibrate. Refocus.**

Naomi Recendez

ASSP Utah Chapter Fundraising Chair

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

A safety manager at an industrial facility is conducting an environmental risk assessment. The facility stores diesel fuel on-site in three separate aboveground storage tanks (ASTs) with capacities of 500 gallons, 1,000 gallons, and 1,500 gallons. Additionally, the facility maintains a single underground storage tank (UST) with a capacity of 10,000 gallons. The facility is located adjacent to a navigable waterway.

According to the EPA Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure (SPCC) rule (40

CFR Part 112), what is the primary regulatory threshold criterion that dictates whether this facility must maintain a written SPCC plan?

A. The total combined aboveground oil storage capacity exceeds 1,320 gallons.
B. The total combined aboveground and underground oil storage capacity exceeds 10,000 gallons.
C. The single largest aboveground oil storage tank capacity exceeds 1,000 gallons.
D. The total completely buried underground oil storage capacity exceeds 42,000 gallons.

Solution

Correct Answer: A

Rationale: Under EPA SPCC regulations, a facility is subject to the rule if it has an aggregate aboveground oil storage capacity greater than 1,320 gallons (counting only containers with a capacity of 55 gallons or greater) and could reasonably be expected to discharge oil into navigable waters. This facility's total applicable aboveground capacity is 3,000 gallons (500 + 1,000 + 1,500), which exceeds the 1,320-gallon threshold.

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
to unsubscribe from ASSP Utah Chapter messages.

American Society of Safety Professionals | 520 N. Northwest Highway, Park Ridge, IL 60068