



The American Society of Safety Engineers

Welcome to the

Southern Nevada Chapter



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# The Safety Net

Southern Nevada Chapter Newsletter

<http://www.asselv.org>

March 2006

## ATTENTION TO ORDERS!

By order of the Chapter Executive Board, your presence is requested at the next Chapter Meeting!

**Date: March 8, 2006**

**Time: opens @7:00 A.M.**

**Place: Main Street Station  
"The Pullman Grille"**  
At Main & Ogden Avenue

**Technical Presentation:**  
"Behavior Based Safety  
Recognition without Injury  
Hiding"

Speaker:

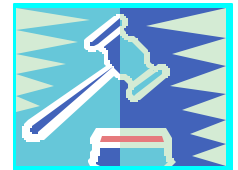
**Mr. Bill Sims, Jr.**, President of  
the Bill Sims Company in  
Columbia, South Carolina

Continental Breakfast will be  
provided courtesy of your  
Chapter. Thank you!

## President's Corner

**Dr. Gloria Heatherington, Chapter President 2005 -2006**

ASSE Members and their guests will not want to miss our Wednesday, March 8, 2006 Chapter Meeting at the Main Street Station "Pullman Grille". Mr. **Bill Sims**, from Columbia, South Carolina will be with us and making a presentation, "Behavior Based Safety Recognition without Injury Hiding", which promises to lend great insight to Safety Incentive Programs. Strong arguments can be made for rewarding safe work behavior with tokens, widgets and even cash (are there income tax implications here?). Could it be that such programs may create pressure on employees not to report accidents? And if so, failure to report incidents, even minor incidents and near misses, may defeat the whole purpose of a proactive safety program? You can plan on participating in what promises to be a lively interaction with an industry expert at our March meeting.



We would like to acknowledge several of our members who have served the Chapter above and beyond the call... a hearty **Thank You!** To **Robert Sahagun**, Kitchell Development, for his outstanding work in managing the Membership Sign-In and Raffle at February's Chapter Meeting; **Steven Ross**, Las Vegas Valley Water District, for design of our Chapter's brochure and Golf Tournament Sponsor Brochure; **Lisa Kane**, Perini West, for sponsoring our Program Speaker, **Bill Sims**, and to **Don "Stormy" Stormoen**, for providing his excellent expertise and instruction to attendees of the RM101 Educational series.

It is also my pleasure to welcome 7 new chapter members who have joined us within the past 30 days.  
**Welcome Aboard!**

**Louis Abacherli**, University of Nevada Las Vegas  
**Lewis Gordon**, Bechtel Nevada  
**David Mayfield**, KM Shoes  
**Robert Sahagun**, Kitchell Development  
**Michael Schnars**, Bechtel Nevada  
**James Wanser**, Monte Carlo Hotel & Casino  
**Margo Williams**, KB Homes

We hope to see another great attendance at our Chapter meeting. Bring a colleague, bring a friend, and come prepared for another great program and fellowship!

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### FUND FOR SLAIN METRO SERGEANT

Here is the information for Sergeant **Henry Prendes** fund. Wells Fargo will be taking donations for the next couple of months. The Injured Police Officers Fund (IPOF), the Police Managers and Supervisors Association (PMSA), the Latino Peace Officers Association (NLPOA), and the Police Protective Association (PPA) have opened an account in the name of slain LVMPD Sergeant **Henry Prendes**. Funds collected will be provided to the family of Sergeant Prendes. A donation in his memory can be made at any Wells Fargo Bank Branch. Donations should be made to the "Sergeant Henry Prendes Memorial Fund," also known as "The Officer Down Fund". [Note: As many of you may already know, Sgt. Prendes was killed in the line of duty protecting his community. Chapter member **Dan Fegel** sent this to us. He may be reached at D7720F@lvmpd.com if you have any questions concerning the fund. Thanks Dan.]

**"The pain passes, but the beauty remains."**  
— **Pierre Auguste Renoir**

Also, we were saddened to hear of the passing of long-term ASSE member, **Bruce Sannar**, on February 22, 2006. **Marvin Menesini**, Safety Coordinator and colleague, remembers Bruce as "very much a safety professional, having worked for many years as a lineman for Nevada Power". Bruce also served as an associate with ASSE member **Hector Silva**, at ESCI, Electrical Safety Consultants, Inc. Services were held February 27. We send our sincere condolences to the Sannar family.

"The mind and emotions are auxiliary to each other"

### Announcements

Nominations for your Company and Supervisor for recognition at our April 12<sup>th</sup> "Company Appreciation Event" can be emailed to Dr. H. at: drhisin@cox.net. Names can be submitted up to March 31<sup>st</sup> to allow time to create the award. Please invite your nominee to attend this important Chapter event.

**Writing pens — donations needed!** Last month we published an article on the SNFPA Youth Firesetter Program (Newsletter, February 2006). We have been informed that the program would dearly like donations of writing pens. If you or your company would be gracious enough to donate a box or two, or three... of writing pens (blue or black ink), it would be greatly appreciated. Please contact **Gloria Heatherington**, Ph.D. (ph: 702-562-0877, or email: DrHisIn@cox.net) for additional information and arrangements for picking up the pens. Chapter members, again, thank for your help.



**Future Safety Engineers Arrive in Las Vegas!** Introducing **Thomas William Perry** and **Sara Rose Perry**, born February 5th to ASSE Chapter Member **Linda Perry** (Managed Pay) and husband, **Michael**. Congratulations Linda and Michael.

### Reminder to Employers: Post Injury/Illness Summaries

If you didn't do it, as of February 1st, employers must post a summary of the total number of job-related injuries and illnesses that occurred last year. Employers are only required to post the Summary (OSHA Form 300A) -- not the OSHA 300 Log -- from February 1 to April 30, 2006. OSHA information and Forms 300, 300A and 301 are available on the OSHA web page: <http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/>.

**Slip Resistance Provision Removed from Steel Erection Standard** — OSHA is revoking a provision of the steel erection standard that addresses the slip resistance of walking surfaces of coated structural steel members. The provision required that coated structural steel meet a specified level of slip resistance when measured using ASTM test methods. Details on the provision's revocation appear in the Jan. 18 Federal Register.

### **Hearing Conservation Focus of New Safety and Health Information Bulletin**

*Hearing Conservation for the Hearing-Impaired Worker* [<http://www.osha.gov/dts/shib/shib122705.html>] is the focus of a new OSHA Safety and Health Information Bulletin (SHIB). Industrial hearing conservation programs may not fully address the specific needs of hearing-impaired workers for hearing protection, communication and for hearing warning signals. The SHIB raises awareness about issues associated with protecting hearing-impaired workers in noisy environments, and provides employers, workers and professional organizations guidance on accommodating hearing-impaired individuals in the workplace when exposed to high levels of noise.

**Job Announcement:** Bechtel SAIC Company, LLC is posting 4 Environmental, Safety and Health jobs on the Southern Nevada Chapter's website ([www.asselv.org](http://www.asselv.org)). If you need a job, check it out. For more information, please contact **Cindy Raleigh** or **Tim Rotert** at (702) 821-7211. [Submitted by **Cyndi Harris**, Human Resources, Bechtel SAIC Company, LLC, email: [Cynthia\\_Harris@ymp.gov](mailto:Cynthia_Harris@ymp.gov)]

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SPONSORSHIP of the Wednesday, **March 8, 2006** ASSE Chapter Meeting generously provided by:  
(*This could be your company's recognition*)

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### **Chapter Meeting**

[*Note:* The Editor is sorry to report the February 8, 2006 meeting photographs did not cooperate in presenting clear pictures.]

Chapter meeting line-up for March 8, 2006 is as follows:

- 07.00 – 07.30 Set-up, Registration, Breakfast and Networking concludes at 7:30.
- 07.30 – 08.00 Chapter Business
- 08.00 – 08.45 Technical Presentation: "*Behavior Based Safety Recognition Without Injury Hiding*"  
Speaker: **Bill Sims, Jr.**
- 08.45 – 09.00 *Raffle*, Announcements
- 09.00 Adjourn

### **Speaker Biography**

**Bill Sims, Jr.** is the President of the Bill Sims Company in Columbia, South Carolina. The company has over 50 years of experience in developing employee behavior change programs at Coca Cola, JA Jones, DuPont and many others. Bill has personally developed over 1,000 programs since 1981. The Bill Sims Company, Inc. has offered employee motivation and recognition programs that have helped large and small firms like yours not waste valuable clock time or money. We provide your business with more than 50 years of employee recognition, motivation and appreciation experience that will help you develop an employee appreciation, employee recognition reward and employee suggestion programs you need to inspire better employee performance, meaningful morale, sales incentive results and bottom-line profits. With employee motivation and morale improvement, you will have sales and performance improvement as well. Through our employee appreciation, recognition reward and employee suggestion programs, your company will continue to improve in employee performance, meaningful morale, sales incentive results and bottom-line profits. For more information call **Bill Sims, Jr.** at (800) 690-1860 or email: [bill@8006901860.com](mailto:bill@8006901860.com)

## ASSE Southern Nevada Chapter Meeting Dates

Chapter Year 2005-2006 Confirmed Dates and Location

*Chapter Meetings* now are held in "The Pullman Grille" at Main Street Station, 12 Ogden Street [at Main and Ogden]. A complimentary continental breakfast will be served to all attendees.

*Executive Board Meetings* now are held at The Riviera Hotel, 2901 Las Vegas Blvd South. Call or email **Mary MacDonald** <mary.macdonald@lvvwd.com>, Executive Board Secretary, for meeting room location.

### Chapter Meetings

(begin at 07.00)

**2006**

April 12

May 10

June 14

### Executive Board Meetings

(begin at 07.00)

**2006**

April 26

May 24

June 28

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"If we listened to our intellect, we'd never have a love affair. We'd never have a friendship. We'd never go into business, because we'd be too cynical. Well, that's nonsense. You've got to jump off cliffs all the time and build your wings on the way down." — **Annie Dillard**, Writer and Poet

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SPONSORSHIP of the Wednesday, **March 1, 2006** Hospitality Industry Committee Meeting generously provided by:



### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

(EHS), a Las Vegas based firm founded in 1991, offers environmental safety and health consultant services throughout the West. EHS is a growing company committed to helping our clients achieve EPA and OSHA compliance while increasing productivity, morale and safety awareness.

Our **MISSION** is to provide exemplary environmental, industrial hygiene and safety related services to our clients. In keeping with the goal of OSHA, we want to assist employers in providing a safe workplace for their employees. We believe we can make safety and health expertise affordable to any organization, regardless of size or budget.

We *specialize* in: Industrial Hygiene and Safety Consulting; Mold Contamination and Monitoring; Asbestos and Lead Control; Litigation Support; Environmental Assessments and Programs; Loss Control Programs; Workers Compensation Management; Laboratory Services; EPA and OSHA Training Programs

For more information contact us at: Environmental Health Services, 3660 North Rancho Dr., Ste 102 Las Vegas, NV 89130. Phone: (702) 645-1521; Fax: (702) 645-0088; or <http://www.ehsnevada.com/>

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### Hospitality Industry Committee Report

Our speaker on 2-1-06 was (Randy) **Randell Bouton Hirschmann** from Oberon Company

<p>March 1 , 2006  Location: Four Queens Hotel-Casino  Room: TBA  Time: 07.00 – 09.00  Speaker: Suzanne Thomas, Indepnt Consultant for ADA Issues  Subject: Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) – Regulations, Violations, and Updated Requirements  Contact Person: <b>Kenny Blanche</b> at (702) 387-5115</p>	<p>April 12 , 2006  Location: Joint Meeting with the Chapter Meeting  Room: Pullman Grille  Time: 07.00 – 09.00  Speaker: TBA  Subject: Company Appreciation Day, "Bring Your Boss"  Contact Person: <b>Wayne Matherly</b> (702) 794-9381</p>	<p>May 12 , 2006  Location:  Room:  Time: 07.00 – 09.00  Speaker: TBA  Subject:  Contact Person:</p>
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Two workmen were digging foundations when one of them started shouting and jumping about. The other one thought his partner had hit an underground power cable and was being electrocuted so following good H&S practice used a shovel to separate him from the electricity. Luckily for the first worker he wasn't getting an electric shock but was panicking after a wasp had flown up his trousers (well wouldn't you panic?). Luckily he didn't get stung but the second worker hit him so hard with the shovel that his shoulder was dislocated. [Submitted by **Joe Olson**]

**Training Opportunities**

<p><b><u>SAFETY 2006:</u> Your opportunity to earn additional CEUs!</b>  Maximize your CEUs, CM or CHMM points and choose from more than 40 topics at the <b>Pre-and Post-Professional Development Conference seminars</b> this June at Safety 2006 in Seattle. You can earn up to 4.2 additional CEUs! Plus...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare for your ASP, CSP, CHST or CHMM exam.</li> <li>• Complete required seminars for the ASSE Certificate in Safety Management or the Executive Program in Safety Management or other seminars that will satisfy the elective requirement for these programs.</li> </ul> <p>Register early and SAVE! Early registration ends 4/2/06.</p> <p>For more information or to register visit <a href="http://www.safety2006.org">www.safety2006.org</a> or call our Customer Service Department at: 847-699-2929.</p>	<div data-bbox="1084 884 1487 1102" data-label="Image"> </div> <p><b>SAFETY 2006</b>  <b>Pre-Conference Seminars:</b>  <b>June 8-11</b></p> <p><b>SAFETY 2006 Conference:</b>  <b>June 11-14</b></p> <p><b>Post-Conference Seminars:</b>  <b>June 14-17</b></p>
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**Excellence in Safety Leadership — March 30-31, 2006, Baltimore, MD**

Leadership is influencing your organization to take those actions that will further its success. Join us for this symposium to learn more about the essential strategies and skills that will:

- Improve your effectiveness as an influential leader in your organization,
- Enhance the delivery of your organization's safety program,
- Strengthen, through your leadership, your contribution to the core business objectives of your organization.

*Highlights:* You will participate in a highly interactive session where the DiSC instrument for leadership characteristic identification will be administered to you. DiSC (Dominance, Influence, Steadiness,

Conscientiousness) is a process that is completed with the guidance of an organizational psychologist facilitator to determine your characteristics as a leader. Dr. Joseph Badaracco, Jr., a leading authority on business ethics and professor at the Harvard Business School will discuss business leadership and ethics; Dr. John Howard, Director of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) will discuss how safety and health professionals have to demonstrate the best of both management and leadership to be effective in their organizations, 20 concurrent session presentations on leadership techniques and strategies such as: organizational politics, demonstrating ROI, the balanced scorecard tool for leadership, servant leadership, influencing organizational leaders, establishing your personal brand as a leader, courageous leadership, aligning safety and health programs to organizational objectives and more, Learn about leadership models that have been successful such as the United States Army leadership approach, the VOICE of Leadership and the "Four-Factor" Model for leadership, Share best practices and network with your peers. Click here for more information: <http://www.asse.org/safetyleadership/>.

### **Community College of Southern Nevada (CCSN) ES&H Program**

The CCSN Environmental, Safety and Health program offers both Associates and Certificate degrees in 4 areas of concentration: Environmental Technology, Occupational Safety, Water Treatment and Waste Water Treatment. The classes are held at the Henderson Campus. The ESH program is a part of the Applied Technologies Department. The Associates degree requires 61 total credits while the Certificate requires 30 – 39 credits, depending on the area of concentration.

The curriculum and the course contents are set with the practical application of the subjects in mind. Students will be able to apply what is learned in the classroom, during the semester, to their job situation. Additionally, should the student desires to pursue a baccalaureate degree, they will be able to build upon the knowledge acquired at CCSN. Some of the classes on the Fall 2006 schedule include: Safety Management I & II, OSHA HAZWOPER, Hazardous Materials for Emergency responders, OSHA 500 & 501. Starting this Fall 2006 semester various ESH classes would also be offered online on "WebCT," the CCSN's web service.

There are a couple of initiatives that are ongoing: 1) we are in the process of assembling a steering committee. The function of the steering committee would be to drive the curriculum content in the direction of the workplace skills that are currently needed and for the future. The Southern Nevada Chapter members are welcomed to provide inputs for this effort. 2) we are establishing a core group of adjunct faculty to teach in the program. Most of our classes are in the evenings 6 – 8:50 at the Henderson campus. Should you be interested or know of someone who might be interested in being an adjunct faculty, please contact me.

As CCSN celebrates our 35th anniversary, I would like to reaffirm our commitment in serving the needs of the community and would add — that we still are the best value for money! Thanks you for your interest. [Submitted by **Shankara V. Babu**, M.Tech, CHMM, Director ESH Program, CCSN Henderson Campus. He can be reached by phone at (702) 681-3068.]

### **OSHA 7600 Disaster Site Worker Course**



The OSHA #7600 Disaster Site Worker course (2.5 CEU's) will be offered at Community College of Southern Nevada's Green Valley location (Warm Springs Campus) on March 16th and 17th. The goal is to increase participant's awareness of the safety and health hazards, including CBRNE agents, that may be encountered at a natural or man-made disaster site. Participants will support

the use of an Incident Command System through the safe performance of their job responsibilities. They will be able to show awareness of effects of traumatic incident stress that can result from working conditions and measures to reduce this stress. Audience: those who provide skilled support services (e.g., utility, demolition, debris removal, or heavy equipment operation) or site clean-up services in

response to a disaster. Prerequisite: OSHA Construction Outreach Training Course (10-hour). The cost is \$265. Trainer: **Kevin Vito** from Anoka Technical College, Minnesota. This #7600 is a prerequisite for those who are interested in taking the #5600. Course Call Number: 14251; Register online at [www.ccsn.edu](http://www.ccsn.edu) and pay with credit card, or call 651-5790. If you have any questions, please contact **Sue Christensen**, Business Consulting and Assessment - Division of Workforce & Economic Development, CCSN; Phone: (702) 651-2649 Cell: (702) 249-1272.

### **OSHA News**

#### **FY 2007 Budget Request Includes \$11.2 Million Increase for OSHA**

The President's budget request of \$483.7 million for OSHA during FY 2007 provides "the resources we need to continue to improve our efforts to further cut worker injuries, illnesses and fatalities," said Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Jonathan L. Snare during a briefing in Washington, Feb. 6. The request includes increases for federal enforcement, compliance assistance and safety and health statistics.

#### **OSHA Announces FY 2005 Enforcement Results**

OSHA recently announced the results of its "effective, focused, and consistent" enforcement program for FY 2005. Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Jonathan L. Snare said the agency cited 85,307 total violations of OSHA standards and regulations during the year, an overall increase of 9.5 percent over the last five years. Of particular note was the increase in willful violations issued during the year (62 percent over FY 2004). The agency also exceeded its total inspection goal for the year, and revealed major gains in the Enhanced Enforcement Program (EEP) -- a 200 percent increase from FY 2004 for the number of inspections that qualified as EEP cases. Said Snare: "OSHA's balanced approach to workplace safety and health includes strong, fair and effective enforcement programs-and that approach is working."

#### **Worker Protection Against Avian Flu Highlighted**

OSHA has important information on its Web site spotlighting precautions for workers who may become exposed to avian flu, commonly called "bird flu." A safety and health information bulletin focuses on protecting poultry workers, while a safety and health guidance page alerts workers and employers about the hazards of the virus. The guidance provides specific recommendations for farm workers and animal handlers, laboratory workers, medical personnel, food handlers, airline flight crews and travelers. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently posted a new page on its Web site highlighting the issue. Avian Influenza: Protecting Workers from Exposure includes an overview and description of the disease, and provides links to numerous national and international resources that discuss the topic.

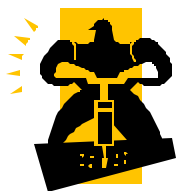
#### **OSHA Updates Construction eTool for Spanish-speaking Workers**

A popular and important Web-based training tool has been restructured to aid Spanish-speaking construction workers. OSHA recently posted a new version of its construction eTool (eTool de Construcción - La Prevención De Fatalidades) that will help employers and workers identify and avoid hazards that commonly cause the most serious injuries in construction including electrical, falls, struck-by and trenching. The updated version uses safety and health terms from OSHA's English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English construction dictionaries, and includes a glossary of construction safety and health terms, and topics to aid in developing and maintaining effective workplace safety and health programs.

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### **The Braggart**

During manual handling training a strong young man at the construction site was bragging that he could out do anyone in a feat of strength. He made a special case of making fun of the site safety team. After several minutes, the manual handling instructor had had enough. "Why don't you put your money where your mouth is," he said. "I will bet a week's wages that I can move something in a wheelbarrow over to that site hut that you won't be able to wheel back." "You're on, old man," the braggart replied. "Let's see what you got." The manual handling instructor reached out and grabbed the wheelbarrow by the handles. Then, nodding to the young man, he said, "All right. Get in." [Submitted by **Joe Olson...** thanks]



"The leaders who work most effectively, it seems to me, never say "I." And that's not because they have trained themselves not to say "I." They don't think "I." They think "we"; they think "team." They understand their job to be to make the team function. They accept responsibility and don't sidestep it, but "we" gets the credit.... This is what creates trust, what enables you to get the task done."

— Peter Drucker

## Basics of Loss Prevention

Contributor: **Jitu C. Patel**, CPEA [Certified Professional Environmental, Health and Safety Auditor]

*Introduction:* Modern Loss Prevention philosophy includes protection of business resources, including employees and physical assets, against human distress and financial loss resulting from accidental occurrences. Accidental occurrences are controlled through a thorough and professional management system.

In organizing your loss prevention process, the first and most important step is the writing of a comprehensive "Policy Statement" by business owners, executives and managers. Defining safety ownership and responsibilities of business proprietors, executives, managers, supervisors, and employees is a key part of the Policy Statement. To do this effectively you must form a Safety Committee to provide directions for development of a Loss Prevention Process and its implementation. Management must participate and offer guidance, but not outweigh the contributions of all participants on the Safety Committee.

The process methodology includes: identifying all loss exposures, evaluating the risk of each exposure, planning how to handle each risk and manage according to a definite plan. The Plan should identify work to meet long-term and immediate objectives, setting standards for that work, measuring performance against the standards, evaluating the significance of deviation from the standards, and commending superior performance and correct substandard performance.



*Sources of loss:* Employees at all levels who plan, design, build, operate, or maintain the business are exposed to risks. Sources of loss include: a) equipment - the fixed plant, machines, tools, protective gear or vehicles; b) material - process substances, supplies and products that may have physical and chemical hazards affecting people, equipment, and the environment; and c) surroundings and environment - buildings, surfaces, lighting, noise, radiation, weather, and social or economic conditions which can affect safe performance of people, equipment and materials.

*Causes of loss:* Unsafe acts and conditions cause incidents which could result in injury, property damage, and business upset. Examples include: operating equipment without authority, failure to warn, failure to secure, operating at an improper speed, making safety device inoperable, removing safety devices, using defective equipment, using equipment improperly, failure to use personal protective equipment (PPE), improper manual material handling, servicing equipment in operation, horseplay, and many more.

Many times substandard conditions are discovered, including: inadequate guards and improper PPE, defective tools or materials, restricted movement during performance of a task, inadequate warning systems, fire and explosion hazards, poor housekeeping. A hazardous environment may include noxious gases, dust, smoke; lack of oxygen; exceeding noise, vibration, or radiation standards; extreme temperatures, inadequate illumination or ventilation and much more. Typically, unsafe conditions and practices are the results of: a) environmental factors due to inadequate design, purchasing, maintenance and work standards, normal wear and tear, abnormal use rate or method, and b) personal factors due to lack of knowledge, skills and motivation, physical and mental incapacities, and stress.

Environmental and personal factors are negatively affected by inadequate loss prevention management processes that do not include the necessary principles and practices for reducing risk — the process standards typically are: vague, lack of employee education, fail to adhere to compliance with the requirements, and lack motivation and positive enforcement.

*Root cause(s)* of accidents include poor system design and design failure where operating conditions are not adequately foreseen. Examples of poor system design are not planning for temperature and pressure excursions, not following applicable codes and standards, improper metallurgy, lack of emergency shutdown or isolation considerations. Operating errors typically occur because of unclear instructions or instructions are not understood, equipment inadequately labeled, poor work environment – extreme noise, access, housekeeping, stress under abnormal situations. Equipment failures generally occur due to defective manufacture, engineering faults not detected and vibrations. Maintenance and inspection deficiencies occur due to inadequate or deferred equipment, for example, corrosion rates, poor mechanical design, instrument and electrical maintenance improperly performed. Also, inadequate supervision and training contribute to accidents because of failure to enforce procedures and regulations, examples are deficient work permit system, operating manuals not maintained, the lack emergency drills, safety meetings, written instructions or refresher training. Many times training is used to overcome system deficiencies; however, the human factors investigation of accidents usually indicates that training is a very poor substitute for proper system design.

Historically, the record shows that design, process or equipment failure cause 30% of the accidents; maintenance & inspection deficiencies 20%; inadequate supervision, training or plant and machine operations 45%; and natural phenomena cause only 5% accidents. Fortunately, many accidents result in no injury or damage. Few accidents result in minor injury or damage. One cannot tell which unsafe act will be the cause a serious fatal injury, because so many unsafe acts go undetected. “Near hits” must be studied in detail to understand how and why they occur. Therefore, it is imperative that all near hit are thoroughly investigated for their lesson learning potential and application.

For an effective loss prevention process decide on the proper functions of the safety committee(s), select members who can contribute to those functions, set authority and budget for the committee(s), and, set the meeting procedure, receive reports on actions and assign corrective action responsibilities and dates for completion.

Overview of Loss Prevention Principles and Practices will be outlined in the next issue of the News Letter!  
[Editor's Note: Mr. **Jitu C. Patel**, CPEA, is writing to us from Phoenix, and is currently a member of the ASSE Arizona Chapter and serving the Chapter as a Senior Board Advisor. He is an international safety consultant who has a bachelor's degree in Chemistry and a master's in Fuel Science. For 21 years, Mr. Patel has provided health and safety professional services to Aramco, the oil and gas producing and processing corporation in Saudi Arabia. He also has provided technical training and conducted research for 15 years on the topics of fires, explosions, and health and environment safety issues at a heavy chemical manufacturing company owned by U.K. oil companies. Mr. Patel has prepared safety audit reports and has developed and conducted fire and safety seminars for Safety & Fire Prevention engineers and line management staff of industry operations, maintenance and engineering organizations. He has prepared and presented many technical and safety presentations, as well has been published in several international publications. His work has taken him throughout the world serving on such boards and committees as: the Safe Operations and Laboratory Safety Committees at Associated Octel and Aramco; the Toxic & Flammable Gas Detector Sensor Development Committee of Users and Manufacturers at the SIRA Institute in the United Kingdom; the Steering Committee for the fifth and sixth Professional Development Conferences organized by the ASSE Middle East Chapter; and the International Advisory Committee of the Bhopal Gas Tragedy 20th Anniversary Process Safety Conference organized by the Indian Institute of Technology, that addressed the “Bhopal Gas Tragedy and its Effects on Process Safety.” He also is a member of the Conference Organizing Committee of the seventh PDC, which will take place in Bahrain. He saw our Southern Nevada Chapter Newsletter and decided to write a contributory article for

us. Thank you for sharing, Mr. Patel. We hope you will come to one of our Chapter meetings to make an informative presentation.]

"The pessimist sees difficulty in every opportunity. The optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."  
— **Winston Churchill**

## U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)

### Fire Extinguisher Recall, "Strike First" Fire Extinguishers Recalled For Repair

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission announces the following recalls in voluntary cooperation with the firms listed below. Consumers should stop using recalled products immediately unless otherwise instructed.

*Name of Product:* Dry Chemical Fire Extinguishers; Units: About 50,900

*Manufacturer:* Strike First Corp., of Scarborough, Ontario, Canada.

*Importer:* Strike First Corporation of America of Front Royal, VA

*Hazard:* The fire extinguishers can fail to discharge properly when the trigger is activated, which puts consumers at risk of fire-related injuries.

*Incidents and Injuries:* SFC America has received three reports of the fire extinguishers failing to discharge properly when activated. No injuries have been reported.

*Description:* The recall includes Strike First 2.5 lb and 5 lb dry chemical fire extinguishers with model numbers WBSF-ABC110AP, WBSF-ABC210AP, and WBSF-ABC340AP. The model number is located under the manufacturer's address on the far right hand side of the instruction label. The recalled fire extinguishers have the following serial numbers:

Model number WBSF-ABC110AP with Serial Number Range: TC101566 through TC108819;

Model number WBSF-ABC210AP with Serial Number Range: TC114969 through TC135000; VV822001 through VV832000, and WH161001 through WH167622;

Model Number WBSF-ABC340AP with Serial Number Range TC135894 through TC142345;

The serial number is located on the extinguisher's label, below the "UL" mark. The fire extinguishers are red, and designed for commercial, industrial, multi-residential and vehicle applications.

Sold at: Fire extinguisher dealers nationwide from December 2002 through April 2004 for between \$13 and \$21.

Manufactured in: Canada

*Remedy:* Consumers with fire extinguishers included in the recall should immediately contact SFC America for information on how to arrange to have their extinguishers repaired.

*Consumer Contact:* Call SFC America at (800) 255-5515 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, or visit the SFC America Web site at [www.strikefirstusa.com](http://www.strikefirstusa.com)

[Submitted by: SNFPA President **Jeff Donahue** at [jdonahue@lasvegasnevada.gov](mailto:jdonahue@lasvegasnevada.gov), and **Don" Stormy" Stormoen**, Construction Risk Safety Director, Hallier Properties, LLC – both submitted this article.]



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## What's Up? ... Ladder Safety!

By **Jeff Kranitsky**, Safety Coordinator, Perini Building Company

Most of us use ladders from time to time – at our worksites, in the office, or at home. Yet, few of us stop to review the basic rules for working safely with ladders. How many times have you been on a ladder and wondered whether you would successfully complete your task without falling? Regardless of what type of ladder you use, it pays to take some extra precautions. Any fall can be serious, and a fall from the height of even a low ladder could result in a painful and incapacitating injury.

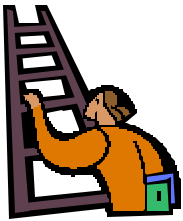
There is absolutely no reason for anybody to get hurt, disabled or killed while using a ladder. However, it happens every single day. Somebody knowingly steps on the safety sticker that says, "This is not a step!" and ends up with a broken leg or worse. Another worker puts a rock under one of the legs because the ladder is "just not quite stable enough", and on the way to the hospital it occurs to the worker that maybe, just maybe, that was not such a good idea after all! On another job a worker reaches out just a little too far and ... well ... unfortunately, that person no longer with us.

Virtually every single ladder accident could and should have been prevented [*coulda, shoulda, woulda*]. Each year in the U.S. alone, accidents cause an estimated **300 deaths** and 130,000 injuries requiring emergency medical treatment. It only takes a little common sense, "Safety Sense," to prevent an accident from occurring while using ladders.

What can you do to ensure that you or your fellow workers are never injured while using a ladder? The following safety tips can help any one who works with ladders prevent accidental falls, injuries, and disability. I recommend you incorporate them into your training and inspection programs.

### **Choose the right ladder for the job:**

There are many types of ladders available; each is intended for a specific purpose. In addition, they may be of wood, aluminum, or fiberglass construction and designed for light to heavy industrial use. The most common types of ladders include stepladders, straight ladders, extension ladders, and job built ladders. Regardless of the type or construction, be sure the ladder has a label certifying that it complies with specifications of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and that Underwriters Laboratories (UL) lists it. Always select a ladder that is correct length to safely reach the working height (keep in mind that the length of the ladder is different from its useable length. The height these ladders can safely reach is reduced by the angle at which the ladder must be set up). The ratio for placing a straight or extension ladder is 4 to 1. For every 4 feet of ladder height the base should be 1 foot away from the wall. Also, ensure the ladder is of the correct duty and rating. The combined weight of the user, their tools and materials should NEVER exceed the rating of the ladder. Most ladders are available with weight ratings of 200, 225, 250, and 300 lbs.



### **Check the condition of the ladder:**

Read all the safety labels on the ladder then check for split, bent or cracked side rails, missing or broken rungs, loose rungs or other weaknesses. Never paint or use a painted ladder. You don't know what imperfections the paint may be hiding. Check for splinters and sharp edges. Aluminum or steel ladders should be inspected for loose joints and bolts, faulty welds and cracks. Make sure the hooks and locks on extension ladders are in good condition. Replace worn or frayed ropes on extension ladders at once. Safety feet and other auxiliary equipment must be kept in good condition to insure proper performance. Rungs should be free of grease and oil. Standing on the first step from the bottom and twisting the ladder will check the stability of a stepladder. If it feels unsteady, and offers no resistance or stiffness it may be damaged, DO NOT USE!

### **Place and set up the ladder with the safety of yourself and others in mind:**

No matter how safe the ladder is, if it is placed in a dangerous location or set up improperly an accident is bound to happen. The area around the base should be set on a solid, level surface. Never place a ladder in front of a door opening unless the door is blocked, locked or guarded. When using an extension ladder, raise it to the desired height, being sure the locks engage properly on both sides of the ladder. The ladder should extend 3 feet above the surface you are accessing, and don't forget to tie off the top and bottom of the ladder. Ladders must not be placed on boxes, barrels, or other unstable bases to obtain additional height. Stepladders should be fully opened with the spreaders locked in place. Don't forget the four to one ratio for straight and extension ladders. Never lean a ladder against an unstable surface.

### **Climb the ladder carefully:**

Keep your mind on where you are and what you are doing. Face the ladder when climbing or descending and always use both hands. Be sure the soles of your shoes are clean and dry. If you must carry tools, use a tool belt or a bucket attached to a hand line to pull tools up or down. When working on ladders, hold on to the ladder with one hand at all times. A good general guide is to keep your body centered between the rails of the ladder. Never overreach, move the ladder instead. Do not put one foot on the ladder and the other on an adjacent surface or object. When working on stepladders never climb past the second rung from the top. Never stand on the braces, extension arms or paint shelf. In case of sudden dizziness or a panicky feeling, bow your head, drape both arms over the rung in front of you, close your eyes and wait until the feeling passes.



### **Take care of your ladders:**

When you are finished with your ladder inspect it for any obvious signs of damage. If a ladder tips over, inspect the ladder for side rail dents or bends or excessively dented rungs. Check all rung to side rail connections. Check rivets for any shear affect. If a ladder is exposed to oil and grease, clean with solvent or steam clean. You should store ladders in a safe dry place, out of direct exposure to the sun and the elements. Again, never paint ladders; it would be difficult to detect cracks and fractures under the painted surface.

### **Other precautions to remember:**

Never use makeshift ladders, such as cleats fastened across a single rail. Do not splice short ladders together; they will not be strong enough. Ladders must not be used in a horizontal position as platforms. Ladders should not be used as a brace, skid, guy or gin pole, gang way, or for uses other than that for which they were intended. Do not use ladders in a strong wind except in extreme emergencies, and only when they are securely tied. Do not use metal ladders when working around electrical wires or equipment. Do not leave placed ladders unattended, especially outdoors, because someone could climb it, an open invitation to children playing in the neighborhood.

Following are the common [OSHA ladder violations with citations and fines](#). (It's no surprise they are also the most common cause factors with ladder related accidents):

- ✓ Standing on the top shelf or top step of a ladder.
- ✓ Using a ladder that has broken or damaged components.
- ✓ Using a stepladder by leaning it against the wall.
- ✓ Working with energized electrical equipment while working from an aluminum ladder.
- ✓ Using job site built ladders that do not conform to OSHA and ANSI requirements.



By using these tips for ladder safety, you can help prevent accidental falls, injuries, and disability. All of us use ladders from time to time, so ladder safety should be everyone's concern. You can also minimize your exposure to OSHA penalties. Your ladder is one of your most important tools. It is also one of your most unforgiving if misused or mistreated so use it safely and wisely. [Thank you, **Jeff Kranitsky**, for this great contributing article]

A different thought: "A person should make ladders for himself by which he can some times go up to heaven."  
— **R. Kalonymus Kalman Shapiro**

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### **Computer crime costs \$67 billion, FBI says**

Viruses, Spyware, PC theft and other computer-related crimes costs U.S. businesses a staggering \$67.2 billion  
01-19-2006 9:14:05 PM CST -- By **Joris Evers** Staff Writer, CNET News.com

Dealing with viruses, spyware, PC theft and other computer-related crimes costs U.S. businesses a staggering \$67.2 billion a year, according to the FBI. The FBI calculated the price tag by extrapolating results from a survey of 2,066 organizations. The survey, released Thursday, found that 1,324 respondents, or 64 percent, suffered a financial loss from computer security incidents over a 12-month period. The average cost per company was more than \$24,000, with the total cost reaching \$32 million for those surveyed. Often survey results can be skewed, because poll respondents are more likely to answer when they have experienced a problem. So, when extrapolating the survey results to estimate the national cost, the FBI reduced the estimated number of affected organizations from 64 percent to a more conservative 20 percent.

"This would be 2.8 million U.S. organizations experiencing at least one computer security incident," according to the 2005 FBI Computer Crime Survey. "With each of these 2.8 million organizations incurring a \$24,000 average loss, this would total \$67.2 billion per year." By comparison, telecommunication fraud losses are about only \$1 billion a year, according to the U.S. Secret Service. Also, the overall cost to Americans of identity fraud reached \$52.6 billion in 2004, according to Javelin Strategy & Research. Other surveys have attempted to put a dollar amount on cybersecurity damages in the past, but the FBI believes its estimate is the most accurate because of the large number of respondents, said Bruce Verduyn, the special agent who managed the survey project. "The data set is three or four times larger than in past surveys," he said. "It is obviously a staggering number, but that is the reality of what we see." ... continued ...



"Yes Sir! We're real secure!"

Click here to read the full article at CNET's News.com  
([http://news.com.com/Computer+crime+costs+67+billion%2C+FBI+says/2100-7349\\_3-6028946.html](http://news.com.com/Computer+crime+costs+67+billion%2C+FBI+says/2100-7349_3-6028946.html))

Click here to read or download the full FBI survey (.pdf format)  
(<http://www.fbi.gov/publications/ccs2005.pdf>)

Among the key findings of the FBI survey:

- Frequency of attacks. Nearly nine out of 10 organizations experienced computer security incidents in a year's time; 20% of them indicated they had experienced 20 or more attacks.
- Types of attacks. Viruses (83.7%) and spyware (79.5%) headed the list. More than one in five organizations said they experienced port scans and network or data sabotage.
- Financial impact. Over 64% of the respondents incurred a loss. Viruses and worms cost the most, accounting for \$12 million of the \$32 million in total losses.
- Sources of the attacks. They came from 36 different countries. The U.S. (26.1%) and China (23.9%) were the source of over half of the intrusion attempts, though masking technologies make it difficult to get an accurate reading.
- Defenses. Most said they installed new security updates and software following incidents, but advanced security techniques such as biometrics (4%) and smart cards (7%) were used infrequently. In addition, 44% reported intrusions from within their own organizations, suggesting the need for strong internal controls.
- Reporting. Just 9% said they reported incidents to law enforcement, believing the infractions were not illegal or that there was little law enforcement could or would do. Of those reporting, however, 91% were satisfied with law enforcement's response. And 81% said they'd report future incidents to the FBI or other law enforcement agencies. Many also said they were unaware of InfraGard, a joint FBI/private sector initiative that battles computer crimes and other threats through information sharing. [Source: Security News Portal, Sunday Edition 5 February 2006;

<http://www.prognosisx.com/cgi-bin/cgi-script/csNews/csNews.cgi?database=JanEE%2edb&command=viewone&d=83&op=t>; photo credit unknown]

## Construction Safety Quiz

Can **YOU** spot how many OSHA violations there are in this picture? Write your deficiency list on a piece of notebook paper. Put your list into the "special box" when you sign in for the meeting at the Members' Table. Entries will be accepted from 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m. If you can name 5 deficiencies in this excavation picture, come to the Chapter Meeting on March 8, 2006 to claim your prize of a nice new Chapter shirt. (Hint: dig [*pun intended*] into 29 CFR 1926 to find the violations.)



"I am somehow less interested in the weight and convolutions of Einstein's brain than in the near certainty that people of equal talent have lived and died in cotton fields and sweatshops." — **Stephen Jay Gould**



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