

SAFETY / OSHA UPDATE

A Newsletter from High Safety Consulting Services, Ltd.

Information on Safety & Health in Your Workplace



UNDER CONSTRUCTION: PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

I like to think that professional development never stops building on itself. It is always “under construction”, --- much like our roadways. There seems there are always opportunities to improve our understanding of the world around us. This slows us down a bit, but when the work is done, it allows us to move through our lives more efficiently and effectively.

While we hope the stimulus packages being put in place will provide future opportunities for those in the construction realm, there remains uncertainty for many as to what 2009 will hold. Many contractors have seen delays or large projects dropping off the radar, while others continue to work through their backlog of work without seeing requisite replacement opportunities. Construction companies are competing for work, but with the current economic situation, the reality is that some safety professionals who have been laid-off are also competing for work.

Professional organizational certification and achievement is one way companies and individuals can distinguish themselves from their competition. There are (too) MANY certifications available to safety professionals. Many of these certifications simply don't lack the muster or the independent validation and approval which is needed to make them valuable.

The most recognized certifications in the safety and health world include the Certified Safety Professional (CSP) and the Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH). Both of these certifications have been around for a good while and are offered by reputable organizations. There are plenty of other certifications, some of which are indicative of a valid achievement and others which are worth less than the paper they are printed on.

In the construction realm, a new certification is available. This certification, the Construction Health & Safety Technician (CHST) is offered by the Council on Certification of Health, Environmental & Safety Technologists. The certification meets the National Commission on Certifying Agencies' criteria and is supported by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. In other words, it means something! Individuals with this certification are recognized by the State (PA) as being qualified to provide accident prevention services to a construction organization. The CHST, unlike the CSP or CIH does not require degree completion. It does require

experience in construction and specific safety education. The CHST is rapidly becoming more recognized and a standard by which construction safety coordinators and managers are measured.

Below you will find several complementary opportunities to continue to build your professional development skills.

OSHA 30-Hour Course in Construction Safety.

STARTS: MARCH 31, 2009. SIGN UP NOW!

This program is the cornerstone for understanding construction safety and health. The program covers a wide range of topics in construction and will provide 30 hours of the required 40 hours of training to qualify to take the CHST exam. This program is ideal for anyone concerned about the safety of the construction site including safety managers, project managers, superintendents, safety committee members, construction managers and company owners. This program is perfect for facility managers or engineers who have to manage construction activities at their facilities. There shouldn't be a construction supervisor or foreman on a site without this valuable education.

Construction Health & Safety Technician (CHST) Prep Course

STARTS: MAY 6, 2009.

This program will provide the additional training needed to exceed the total of 40 hours needed to qualify for the CHST exam. This 27-hour program focuses on understanding the content of the CHST exam. The program will prepare eligible participants to successfully complete the CHST exam. (Separate application and registration is required through the CCHEST for exam completion).

OSHA HOT TOPICS

APRIL 3, 2009

It's been a little while since you attended an OSHA course? OSHA's rules continue to change and evolve. This ½ day program will focus on the most cited OSHA violations for General Industry and Construction in the past year. In addition, the "hottest" topics will be reviewed. What should we expect in 2009? What is OSHA enforcing that has yet to pass as a rule? Updates on various topics such as NFPA 70E, Combustible Dusts, Popcorn Flavorings, New PPE requirements, Crane rules and other proposed rules or rulemaking activities.

NOTE: All of our prior newsletters are archived on our website under the "Contact Us" Tab