

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Within MIHS, there is a decent amount of behind-the-scenes work to keep the organization operational. It is always helpful to have a great Board and membership. Within the last couple of months, a couple people stand out. A big thank you goes out to MIHS member and former Board Member, Robert "Bob" Chapman for his generous efforts at the Michigan Safety Conference. At larger events, it is always nice to have additional help. Even an hour can help with various tasks that present themselves the day of the event. Also, like always, Treasurer Aaron Jacobs, has been incredibly helpful with events and some of MIHS's operations.

We are always looking for new members, especially younger people new to the profession. Many of you have been members for years and we collectively thank you. Please do your part with promoting Industrial Hygiene in the workplace and for

MIHS. If you are interested in running for a Board Position, please contact a current MIHS Board Member. We are all busy and time may seem stretched but the time commitment to understand MIHS' operations is another look into securing our collective future.



Eric Allen

With a look ahead, we have a Technical Forum on Confined Spaces in Construction and the MIHS Mini Conference. A big thanks to President-Elect, Bill Kilgore, for the arrangement of events. Thank you everyone who has attended any of the events recently. It is your participation that helps the membership and keeps the organization in motion.

I hope everyone is having a great summer!

Eric Allen
MIHS President

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

MIHS Technical Forum

Confined Spaces in Construction
September 14, 2015, 7:30–11:30 am
Vista Tech Center, Livonia, Michigan
Visit mihsweb.org for details

Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene Review Course

Co-sponsored by U of M, MIHS and AIHA
September 21-25, 2015
Ann Arbor, Michigan
Visit [Fall Comp Review Course](#) for details

MIHS Fall Mini Conference

October 7, 2015
Visit mihsweb.org or page 4 for details

Exposure and Chemical Monitoring—Beyond IH Fundamentals

October 26-28, 2015
Westerville, OH
Visit [Beyond Fundamentals](#) for details

AIHA Fall Conference 2015

October 24-28, 2015
Orlando, FL
Visit [2015 Fall Conference](#) for details

52nd Annual Warren Cook Industrial Hygiene Discussional

Ann Arbor, Michigan
October 22 – 23, 2015
Visit <http://cohse.umich.edu/continuing-education/calendar/52nd-annual-warren-cook-industrial-hygiene-discussional/> for details

Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene

Westerville, Ohio
November 9-12, 2015
Visit <https://www.aiha.org/education/CourseCalendar/FacetoFace/Pages/Fundamentals-of-Industrial-Hygiene.aspx>

AIHce 2016

Baltimore, MD
May 21–26, 2016
Visit www.aihce2016.org for details

MIHS PRESENTS BEST PAPER AWARD AT 2015 AIHCE

By Cindy Ostrowski

I had the privilege of presenting the MIHS Best Paper Award to Ms. Denise M. Gaughan, the lead author for the paper titled “*Exposures and Cross-shift Lung Function Declines in Wildland Firefighters*”. In addition to Ms. Denise M. Gaughan, the other authors include Chris A. Piacitelli, Bean T. Chen, Brandon F. Law, M. Abbas Virji, Nicole T. Edwards, Paul L. Enright, Diane E. Schwegler-Berry, Stephen S. Leonard, Gregory R. Wagner, Lester Kobzik, Stefanos N. Kales, Michael D. Hughes, David C. Christiani, Paul D. Siegel, Jean M. Cox-Ganser, and Mark D. Hoover of NIOSH Morgantown, Harvard School of Public Health and the University of Arizona.

The MIHS Best Paper Award was established by MIHS in 1957 as recognition of outstanding publication in the American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal. In 1989, the MIHS Board of Directors voted to also recognize the authors of the best paper in applied industrial hygiene from the Applied Occupational and Environ-

mental Hygiene Journal. Both journals combined in 2004 to form the current Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene. MIHS continues to present a best paper award each year to the authors of the outstanding article selected from this journal.

The award was presented at the “Mark of Excellence Breakfast” at AIHce this past June in Salt Lake City, Utah. This breakfast was attended by more than a thousand of our colleagues, which provided us an excellent opportunity to not only recognize this award and its recipients, but our local section as well. Ms. Gaughan had a surprise for me in that she invited one of the wildland firefighters, Mr. Chris Kirby, to attend the breakfast. What an honor for me to meet one of these courageous and selfless individuals. It was also a wonderful opportunity for those in the audience to recognize the people that our profession strives to protect. In addition to a plaque, MIHS presented a monetary gift of \$500 to the Wildland Firefighters Foundation.



Left to Right: Chris Kirby, Denise Gaughan, and Cindy Ostrowski

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

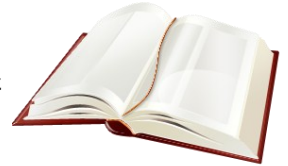
The MIHS website is loaded with information.

- Helpful links
- Calendar of upcoming events
- Board meeting minutes
- ABIH approval numbers for MIHS-sponsored events going back to 2001
- MIHS paraphernalia

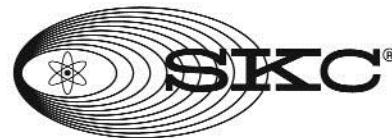


TELL US A STORY!

We are always on the lookout for content and items of interest to our members. If you have a story to tell that you feel would be of interest to the group and you would like to see it in the MIHS Newsletter, let us know.



- A "Tale from the Front" about something you have done in the field.
 - A write-up on a seminar or conference you've attended
 - A write-up on a new gadget or "app" you have discovered that might be of interest to others
- Pretty much anything industrial hygiene-related. Send your article to andrew.crause@us.bureauveritas.com.



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MIHS Fall Mini Conference
Wednesday - October 7, 2015

Time: 7:30 am (registration)... 8:15 am to 4:30 pm program
Continental Breakfast, Lunch & Refreshments Served

Location: MSU - Management Education Center; 811 W. Square Lake Rd; Troy, MI

The agenda is nearly complete for this years Mini Conference and remaining details will be available on the MIHS web site when the registration link is posted in early September.

The tentative agenda includes:

Doug Kalinowski	OSHA Director of Cooperative and State Programs
Martha Yoder	MIOSHA Director
Kristin Osterkamp	MIOSHA Consultation Education and Training Division
Ulric Chung	CEO American Board of Industrial Hygiene
Cindy Ostrowski	CAO Consulting, LLC
Bert Schiller	Bert Schiller & Assoc.

The agenda has been planned to provide attendees with 1 IH CM point



WHAT'S IN THE SYNERGIST? EVALUATING OHS PERFORMANCE

An article entitled “Evaluating OHS Performance: The Need for Relevant and Reliable Data” is featured in the June/July 2015 edition of *the synergist*. The article is written by Thea Dunmire, JD, CIH, CSP, and cautions the reader to ensure that, whatever metrics are used to evaluate an OHS management system, the data gathered be relevant and reliable.

Ms. Dunmire begins the article with the basic premise that the primary reason that organizations establish management systems (of any kind) is to gauge improvement. In order for the evaluation tool to gauge whether performance has improved, the tool must meet the following three conditions:

1. a common understanding of what improved performance means
2. Metrics (performance indicators) appropriate for measuring performance
3. Data of sufficient quality for determining whether the selected metrics have been achieved.

It has been my experience that in our metric-crazy approach to nearly every aspect of our lives (pedometers to see how far we have walked that day, does my facility get a “5 Star” rating this year, at what percentile is my dog’s weight), we are so used to ratings and checklists and scoring systems, that we tend to overlook how the evaluation data was gathered, and whether or not it is even relevant to begin with.

The author is not promoting a specific method of evaluation, but simply a reminder that the data needs to make sense, however it is collected, or it will be “garbage in/garbage out”. For example, if one needs to evaluate time-weighted average exposures to noise, then simply taking an instantaneous sound level measurement at one moment during the day will not suffice. Obviously, obtaining one sound level measurement is much simpler than asking an employee to wear an audio dosimeter for the duration of

the shift, but is it an appropriate measure?

The author ends the article with a quote from Nate Silver’s book, *The Signal and the Noise*:

“Information is not longer a scarce commodity; we have more of it than we know what to do with. But relatively little of it is useful. We perceive it selectively, subjectively, and without much self-regard for the distortions that this causes. We think we want information, when what we really want is knowledge.”



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MIHS Organizational Members

Each year the activities of the MIHS have been supported by our Organizational Members. The MIHS appreciates the support and generosity of our Organizational Members.

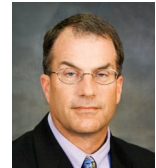
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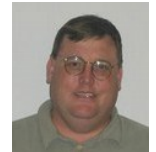
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