WSO is pleased to announce that Bo Mitchell will be one of our keynote speakers at this year’s Symposium. Participants of last year’s Symposium already know that Bo is one of the foremost emergency preparedness experts in the country, with hundreds of presentations under his belt.

Bo presents expert strategies with a rare combination of fact, humor, “from the front lines” stories, and learn-it-and-use-it concepts that engages audience members and leaves them wanting more. The title of his 2019 keynote presentation is “Training for an Active Shooter Event.”

Bo served as Police Commissioner of Wilton, Connecticut, USA for 16 years. He retired in February 2001 to found 911 Consulting with the mission to protect people at their workplaces during emergencies.

911 Consulting’s mission grew out of three realizations:

1) Police reports about incidents and emergencies at workplaces nearly always included a stunned boss saying, “I never thought this could happen to us.”

2) Even though police response time to 911 calls was prompt, it could never be immediate. No matter how dangerous the emergency, police could not arrive and deploy in less than five minutes. The employer was exposed—everyone was on their own for those potentially-lethal first minutes on average.

3) The tipping point was when Bo’s wife experienced a narrow escape at a new job. She was working on the sixth floor of a prewar building in lower Manhattan. One afternoon, when all senior managers were out, she noticed smoke wafting through the office. She asked co-workers what they should do. No one seemed concerned, and everyone kept working. As the smoke intensified, she collected her things and left, encouraging others to do the same. She told Bo that night, “No one knew what to do, so they did nothing. No one even called 911.” (Another tenant did call; the building was evacuated and the fire was extinguished.)

What Bo identified as a business opportunity became a personal passion: “Every day in the United States, fourteen people fail to go home from work to their families, and nearly five million are seriously injured on the job. My wife could have been among them because her employer didn’t understand their legal responsibilities.”

For nearly two decades, 911 Consulting has been conducting risk assessments, creating emergency plans, training em-
Welcome to the WSO April Newsletter!

I hope you all enjoy the content of these newsletters. It gives you an opportunity to read about your fellow members and their happenings, as well as about current and future events and points of interest within the Organization. As always we value your feedback, so please let us know if there is an article or event that you particularly like (or even dislike) or if you have suggestions for improvement. We want the WSO Newsletter to be of value to you!

I also wanted to give you a couple of reminders. We are nearing deadlines on paper/presentation submissions, room reservations, and awards nominations for the annual symposium to be held in Las Vegas (October 7-9). These deadlines, which can be found throughout this issue and on the WSO website, are important for many reasons, so please mark them on your calendars.

This symposium is a good opportunity to make new connections and to catch up with old friends and colleagues from around the world. It is also an opportunity to share and learn about latest ideas in the global safety community.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not remind you to encourage your colleagues and associates to membership in and certification through World Safety Organization. I think we all agree that a WSO Certification, which is accredited in compliance with the ISO/IEC 17024:2012 standard, is a very valuable addition to a safety professional’s resume.

Continue to watch the newsletter for upcoming events and items of interest, and feel free to submit content for future issues of this publication (events, accomplishments, safety articles, etc.). We appreciate you! [CHB]
O ur ever-changing world continues to become smaller through advanced methods of communication, requiring changes in how we live our lives and how we work, how we learn, how we share new information, and how we comply with new laws, regulations, and demands of the changes in global trade.

In the World Safety Organization’s 44th year, we are continually reminded of the WSO Objectives: to encourage the free exchange of information and experiences between/among the members of the WSO; to collaborate with other organizations in conducting activities of mutual concerns, interests, and directions; to promote the continuous upgrading of the safety and accident prevention technology and the fields related to loss of lives, property, and environment; to strive for a universal level of professionalism and competence among its members and WSO non-members whose functions are related to safety; to perform such other necessary acts and functions relevant to the WSO overall theme of “Making Safety A Way of Life ... Worldwide.”

Symposium Format
The Symposium provides a unique learning and networking opportunity for corporate managers and executives, SHE professionals, advocates of safety and accident prevention, leaders of safety organizations and WSO members from around the world. Participation in the Symposium provides a forum for information exchange, networking, professional contact with other members, safety professionals, but most of all, learning about new programs and professional knowledge at sessions, panels and workshops presented during the Symposium. The Symposium format consists of presentations, lectures, panels, workshops and plenary sessions. As a part of the program, Symposium participants are invited to take part in the “WSO Global Safety Roundtable,” the suggestions, comments, resolutions, etc., of which will be formatted for submission to governmental legislation and Missions of the United Nations (UN), International Labor Organization (ILO), World Health Organization (WHO), and similar rule-making groups on the local, national and international levels.

Symposium Topics
This year’s theme is “Professionalism and Excellence for the Future,” however symposium topics may include OSH, ESH, ergonomics, systems safety management, security, industrial hygiene, hazardous materials management, transportation safety, construction safety, off-the-job safety, recreational safety, safety of the workplace, disaster preparedness, and legislative topics on the national and global scale.

International Participants
The Symposia of the World Safety Organization are always international in scope. WSO members from Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa, and the Americas are frequent participants at the WSO Symposia.

Understated suites with warm decor have free basic Wi-Fi, flat-screen TVs, kitchenettes, and sitting and dining areas. Sophisticated two-bedroom suites add whirlpool tubs.

Dining options include an Italian restaurant/bar, a pub, a cozy eatery with sandwiches and pastries, and a cafe with a 24-hour breakfast menu. Other amenities include a spa and a casino with live entertainment, plus a fitness center, two pools, a business center, and laundry facilities.

**WSO Awards Banquet**
**WSO Awards Banquet** is scheduled on Monday evening, October 7, to honor the individuals, corporations, organizations, and other groups for their concerns in the protection of people, property, resources, and the environment. A list of all WSO Awards, along with the requirements for each, may be found on our website. **If you wish to nominate an individual, company, corporation, agency, publication, association, or other entity, please contact the WSO World Management Center for the WSO Awards Nomination Brochure or download from the WSO website.**

**Call for Speakers**
The 2019 Call for Speakers was distributed in January. All abstracts submitted will be reviewed, and authors will be notified if the presentation has been accepted. Deadline for abstract submission is May 15.

You may submit your outline/abstract online: http://worldsafety.org/online-outlineabstract-submission/

**DISCLAIMER:** The WSO does not pay speaker fees or facilitate the travel and other subsistence arrangements for any speaker of the Symposium. All arrangements related to travel, visas, accommodations, and daily subsistence are the exclusive responsibility of the speaker. Speaker pays discounted registration fee if attending the Symposium.

**2019 Important Speakers’ Dates to Remember**

**May 15:** Completed “Paper Outline/Abstract” with indication of length of the presentation/workshop. All sessions will be either 30 or 60 minutes.

**May 31**
- Résumé/bio: 100-150 words
- Abstract: 150-200 words, double-spaced preferred
- Bio & Photo: 100-150 words, double-spaced preferred

**June 1:** INTERNATIONAL SPEAKERS MUST HAVE VALID TRAVEL VISA BY THIS DATE to participate! Request your invitation letter in ample time to schedule your visa interview at the U.S. Embassy nearest you.

**August 1:** Paper for publication in the “Symposium Proceedings,” speaker’s photo, and an updated bio

**September 1:** Conference Registration Form and payment of Fees must be received to confirm participation in the Symposium Program.

The Symposium provides a unique learning and networking opportunity for corporate managers and executives, SHE professionals, advocates of safety and accident prevention, leaders of safety organizations and WSO members from around the world.

**Symposium Venue: Tuscany Suites & Casino**
Set just two blocks from the Las Vegas Strip, this Mediterranean-inspired all-suite casino hotel is two miles from the Las Vegas Convention Center.
OSHA “Focus/Fatal Four Hazards” Campaign

Submitted by Steve S. Austin WSO-CSI(ML); current member, WSO Board of Directors, and a Working Safety Professional; Alabama USA

The United States Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration has deemed the Focus Four Hazards have accounted for the vast majority of injuries and fatalities in the construction industry.

In an effort to prevent future injuries and fatalities, OSHA, our state plans, consultation projects, and construction industry partners have initiated a “Focus Four Hazards” campaign from March through June in Region Three’s jurisdiction. The goal of this campaign is to raise awareness in the recognition, evaluation, and control of these hazards through the delivery of toolbox talks for employers to provide to their workers. These toolbox talks will be available during the campaign for employers to use at their own discretion.

The following data is presented if you are a construction industry oriented business and have 10 or more employees working in the construction industry daily. From Region 3 the following data trend is based on:

**Construction’s “Fatal Four”**

Out of 5147* worker fatalities in all industries in calendar year 2017, 971 or 21% were in construction—that is, one in five worker deaths were in construction. The leading causes of worker deaths on construction sites were falls, followed by struck-by, electrocution, and caught-in/between. These “Fatal Four” hazards were responsible for well over half (60%) of the construction worker deaths in 2017*, according to BLS reports.

- Falls - 381 out of 971 total deaths in construction in CY 2017 (39%)
- Struck by Object - 80 (8%)
- Electrocutions - 71 (7%)
- Caught-in/between - 50 (5%) This category includes construction workers killed when caught-in or compressed by equipment or objects, and struck, caught, or crushed in collapsing structure, equipment, or material.

Eliminating these four hazards would save 582 lives each year. Safety can save lives and reduce costs in insurance rates, disability or death costs, overhead costs, and equipment loss costs. Safe operations translates to better productivity, confident workers, and a prospering company.

The bottom line is when you Think Safe, Train Safe, and Be Safe … Safety Will Prevail! 🚨

**About the Contributor**

Steve S. Austin, Site Safety Lead, Missile Defense Agency, is an Alabama (USA) native, Steve completed his Bachelor’s degree in Business Information Systems and Quantitative Analysis at Mississippi State University, where he also was commissioned through the U.S. Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps. Steve has over 26 years’ safety experience which includes his current position as Site Safety Lead with the MDA. He is a Certified Safety and Health Official (CSHO) in Industrial Safety through TEEX (Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service) and is a WSO Certified Safety Instructor (Master Level).
April is “Distracted Driving Awareness” Month

Submitted by Scott Masters, WSO-CSM; Contract Employee, Construction Lead Safety Specialist, Alliant Corporation; Tennessee and South Carolina USA

More than 40,000 people were killed in motor vehicle fatalities in 2018. From cell phones to dashboard infotainment systems to evolving voice command features, all pose a threat to our safety. Just one second of your attention is all it takes to change a life forever.

Distracted Driving continues to have devastating consequences on our roads, sending a ripple effect into our homes, communities and places of work. You’re not as safe as you think you are. However, there are things that workplaces are doing to protect their employees and ultimately, other drivers on the road. Learn more about the real risks of distracted driving and what safety-forward companies are doing to combat those risks.

When Convenience Is Dangerous

**MYTH #1**– My car came with an infotainment system. Since it’s built into my car, it must be safe.

An NSC survey found more than 50% of drivers believe this myth. But technologies that allow drivers to make hands-free calls and use voice commands to dictate texts and emails, change music and update social media can be distracting to drivers – even if they are built into the vehicle. In fact, the AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety found drivers doing some voice tasks via infotainment systems may remain distracted for as long as 27 seconds after they finish a task.

**MYTH #2**– I know distracted driving is dangerous, but I can’t afford to miss calls, emails, or text messages. My job depends on it.

Car crashes are the #1 cause of workplace deaths with distracted driving as a leading factor in road fatalities. Fortunately, more employers are recognizing this hazardous expectation of always being connected and they are doing something about it. Dozens of Fortune 500 companies have adopted cell phone policies, banning the use of phones while driving. By eliminating this deadly distraction, employers are keeping their workforce safer.

**MYTH #3**– Most car crashes are caused by malfunctions such as faulty brakes, blown tires, or engine problems.

On the contrary, 94% of crashes are caused by driver error. Therefore, nearly all the crashes that happen on our roadways are 100% preventable.

**Important Facts to Consider**

- Distractions lead to driver error.
- 7% of all drivers at any given time are using their phones while driving. An NHTSA survey finds 660,000 drivers using cell phones or manipulating electronic devices while driving at any given daylight moment.
- Drivers talking on phones, hand-held or hands-free, miss seeing up to 50% of what is around them, like:
  - Other drivers
  - Pedestrians
  - Bicyclists

Finally, and most importantly, before you even start your car, turn off your phone and get ready to #justdrive. ♦

SOURCE: National Safety Council
https://www.nsc.org/justdrive
Nigeria is “SafERR” after the investiture of the Commissioner for Youth and Special Duties

The WSO SafERR Team made it a grand moment in the month of March at the office of the Honorable Commissioner for Youth and Special Duties, the Hon. Mika Amanokha, on March 19 as he was invested as a WSO SafERR Ambassador.

Representing the SafERR Team was Olalokun Soji Solomon (Director, WSO National Office for Nigeria), Dr. Okunola Olusola (Deputy Director, WSO National Office for Nigeria), and Ogiesoba Kelly, (Training Educator, WSO National Office for Nigeria).

The Honorable Commissioner couldn't hide his feelings of being invested on the day nor the interest he has for the promotion of health and safety across the State; thus, he pledged a greater commitment to upholding the mantle of trust and leadership. ♦

JOIN ME in Las Vegas!
Edward E. Hogue
WSO President-Director General

UPCOMING EVENTS

APRIL 28
World Day for Safety and Health at Work
WSO Cameroon WSO Nigeria
info_wso@cameroonsafetyservices.com safeday@worldsafety.org.ng

OCTOBER 7–9
32nd Annual WSO Symposium
Tuscany Suites & Casino | Las Vegas, Nevada, USA
www.worldsafety.org/32nd-annual-wso-symposium/

OCTOBER 21–23
Oman Fire, Safety and Security Expo
Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre | Muscat, Oman
www.muscat-expo.com/ofsec/

For more information, please contact WSO-WMC:
www.worldsafety.org | +1-660-747-3132 | info@worldsafety.org