

World Safety Organization NEWSLETTER



August 2021

WSO Memberships & Certifications are accredited by ICAC



Symposium 2021

CANCELLED

September 27-29, Tuscany Suites & Casino Las Vegas



We regret to inform our members that we must cancel our Symposium, which was to have been held September 27-29 in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. We apologize for this late change in plans, but see no alternative due to current worldwide situations, and at the utmost safety of our attendees, speakers, and staff.

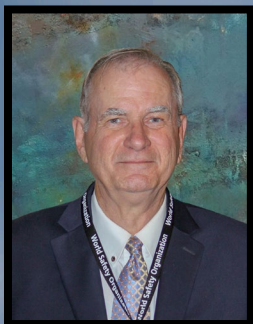
Currently, we are moving forward in planning for our 2022 Symposium, which is scheduled for October 3-5 at the Tuscany Suites & Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. The website and all forms will be updated in a timely manner regarding this modification. Please contact the WSO World Management Center for any further information.

We apologize for any inconvenience, as this has been a challenging time for us all.

from the desk of

DR. CHARLES H. BAKER

Chief Operations Officer



Welcome to the World Safety Organization August Newsletter. We hope you find it interesting and informative. As always if you see ways for us to improve or add to its value, we would like to hear from you. The big news this month is World Safety made the decision to cancel its September Symposium that was to be held in Las Vegas during September 2021.

This decision was made with much thought and consultation with others. In the end it looked like several countries would still be closed for the Covid Virus and a number of other would have restricted travel. This was impeding the number of people who could come to Las Vegas. Speakers were being affected and a few speakers who had planned paper presentations had to cancel. This meant a very low attendance and at some point, questioned the value.

This is the second year we have had to cancel because of COVID. We hope it is the last and at some point things return to a more normal operation. This may not happen any time soon as we look at new variants of the virus and wonder how safe we really are. While this is going on, we ask that everyone consider their own safety and eventually we can all return to our meetings and other activities. As we plan for the 2022 symposium, we will send you that information as it becomes available. We hope at some point we can return to a safe symposium.

Stay safe and let our WMC know if there are ways we can assist you.

Thank you for your WSO membership and please encourage others to join. We can always use new members.

CHB

WE NEED YOU

Do you blog?

Do you write articles for your company's newsletter?

Do you have relevant information to share?

Did your company or agency sponsor a special safety-focused event?

Does your company or agency have an upcoming safety-focused event you wish to promote?

If so, we would love to feature your content in a future WSO NewsLetter or TechLetter!

*Just email your article/blog, author(s) byline, brief bio, and photo to us:
editorialstaff@worldsafety.org*

Please request a publication release form if required by your employer or co-author(s). Authors/ Companies will maintain all proprietary rights, and WSO will state where the original content was posted or published, if applicable.

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OSHA Issues Emergency Temporary Standard for Healthcare and Updated Guidance for All Industries



OSHA is celebrating 50 years of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Join us in making a renewed commitment to keeping workers safe and healthy.



The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration has announced it will issue an emergency temporary standard to protect healthcare workers from contracting coronavirus. The standard focuses on healthcare workers most likely to have contact with someone infected with the virus. OSHA announced the new standard alongside new general industry guidance, both of which are aligned with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidance

"Too many of our frontline healthcare workers continue to be at high risk of contracting the coronavirus," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Marty Walsh. "As I said when I came to the department, we must follow the science. This standard follows the science and will provide increased protections for those whose health is at heightened risk from coronavirus while they provide us with critical healthcare services. Given the pace of vaccinations, this standard, along with the guidance OSHA, the CDC and other agencies have released, will help us protect frontline healthcare workers and end this pandemic once and for all."

The emergency temporary standard establishes new requirements for settings where employees provide healthcare or health care support services, including skilled nursing homes and home healthcare, with some exemptions for healthcare providers who screen out patients who may have COVID-19. OSHA will update the standard, if necessary, to align with CDC guidelines and changes in the pandemic.

"This standard is necessary to give our healthcare workers deeply needed protections," said Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Jim Frederick. "This tailored standard allows OSHA to help the workers most in danger of contracting the virus, while the updated guidance will give other businesses across the country the information, they need to help protect unvaccinated workers and continue mitigating spread in the workplace."

In addition to the healthcare-focused ETS, OSHA is issuing updated guidance to help employers and workers in other industries protect workers who are still not vaccinated, with a special emphasis on other industries noted for prolonged close-contacts like meat processing, manufacturing, seafood, and grocery and high-volume retail. The health care emergency temporary standard is aimed at protecting workers facing the highest coronavirus hazards—those working in health care settings where suspected or confirmed coronavirus patients are treated. This includes employees in hospitals, nursing homes, and assisted living facilities; emergency responders; home health care workers; and employees in ambulatory care settings where suspected or confirmed coronavirus patients are treated. The standard will require non-exempt facilities to conduct a hazard assessment and have a written plan to mitigate virus spread and requires healthcare employers to provide some employees with N95 respirators or other personal protective equipment. In addition, covered employers must ensure 6 feet of distance between workers. In situations where this is not possible, employers should erect barriers between employees where feasible. The standard also requires covered employees to provide workers with paid time off to get vaccinated and to recover from any side effects. Covered employees who have coronavirus or who may be contagious must work remotely or otherwise be separated from other workers if possible or be given paid time off up to \$1400 per week. For most businesses with fewer than 500 employees, tax credits in the American Rescue Plan may be reimbursed through these provisions.

The ETS exempts fully vaccinated workers from masking, distancing and barrier requirements when in well-defined areas where there is no reasonable expectation that any person will be present with suspected or confirmed coronavirus. The ETS is effective immediately upon publication in the Federal Register. Employers must comply with most provisions within 14 days and with the remaining provisions within 30 days. OSHA will use its enforcement discretion to avoid citing employers who miss a compliance deadline but are making a good faith effort to comply with the ETS. OSHA will continue to monitor trends in coronavirus transmission.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to help ensure these conditions for America's workers by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance.

Please visit [osha.gov](https://www.osha.gov) for more information.

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CULTURAL AWARENESS WHEN TRAINING INTERNATIONALLY

RASIB HUSSAIN, UK CHAPTER VICE PRESIDENT

Rasib Hussain, UK Chapter - Vice President: “I would like to introduce below, my colleague, Mr Julian Woodall, an International Trainer / Instructor, who has written a helpful insight of his experiences on simple but effective strategies for successfully delivering training in High Risk & Remote Locations and regions unfamiliar to you, around the World”.

Julian Woodall: I have been involved in the Health and Safety profession since September 2005 mostly training delegates from high risk industries and in remote areas on Emergency First Aid at Work. I have been lucky to have worked overseas in the Middle East North Africa (MENA) region running training courses for a variety of clients in different industries, nationalities, cultures and languages.

Experience & Preparation My experience as a Remote Areas Medic has helped greatly having provided medical support in a number of hostile environments such as deserts, mountains, conflict zones and at sea! This helps deliver training courses with real life experiences to hand over to the delegates who attend the training - real life experiences that really count when imparting life skills which enable people to save lives. When people think of training courses they naturally think of classrooms, PowerPoint, flip charts, Trainer wearing in a shirt, tie, trousers and shoes. I was asked back in 2014 to provide Advanced First Aid training for a Middle East Police Force and the first thing I did was to start preparing myself for the delivery of the training. I had to learn about the region, country, its' history, culture, people and language to get a feel of how to engage the delegates and help them get the best out of the course. Language was most important as not many of the Police Officers spoke English. I was provided with a translator, but still took it upon myself to learn a little (plus more) Arabic to be culturally aware and get the course content over in a non-technical way but with lots of practical exercises. When I was taken up to where the training was to be conducted it was the biggest classroom I had ever been in – the desert! It was at the back of the shooting range with a hut and nothing else. So how did I get the subject of First Aid across? I followed the teachings of Colonel TE Lawrence's (the famous Lawrence Of Arabia) book, the Seven Pillars Of Wisdom - I would sit everyone in a circle, we would drink chai (tea) eat rice, bread and fish and talk about First Aid, then do practical training, then more chai, talk more, learn about not only First Aid but also our families, our lives and our countries. I would learn Arabic words by asking what they were for example - food is “akl” - and keep saying it every chance I could, so I got to remember it.



Understanding local customs:

How early is early and how late is late...

With overseas training you have to be aware of what is accepted practice among locals when it comes to time-keeping and have a threshold in mind and plan your course timings each day around this. Whereas in the UK if a course starts at 9am everyone is there on time. When I was conducting the training for the police in the Middle East, we would start very early in the morning as we were conducting the training in April and by July it was over 40 degrees Celsius – very hot when you're used to the UK climate. So some would turn up on time but not all and I remember one occasion when a delegate turned up late and said, “ Mr Julian, my apologies for being late, I have been pearl diving with my brother” ! What a great way to cool down before a training session.

Dress appropriately

As I have said, research before going out to a country is highly important! So get guide books, maps, local news, Foreign & Commonwealth Office country updates to get to know about the country and the people. Once I got it wrong when I arrived at an airport where the capital city is 2555 metres above sea level and mountainous. It was very cold when I stepped outside the terminal and immediately put on a jumper and when I got to the hotel, wrapped up with a duvet on the bed! Different expectations for training in different countries require different clothing. When working as a Freelance Consultant for a Health and Safety Training company in Doha, Qatar, it was shirt, trousers and tie for the clients either on or offsite - they like that dress for the clients. Although it was very hot, I must admit, sometimes I went rogue and took my tie off! On occasion when training First Aid, I had delegates who spoke no English at all and the client didn't provide a translator! For Iraq it was old clothes - casual shirt, cargo trousers, boots and unshaven so as not to attract attention.

(cont. on pg. 5)





Location, Location, Location

I did get a classroom a few times at a village Police Station where we used to go outside and be visited by the camels. One of the important things is to know your subject well - with the lack of English language fluency, I included lots of practical work and slowed the pace down. On the whole, I loved the experience of handing over these experiences to these Police Officers who were very keen and excited with their new skills of which they had never been taught before. I made many friends there, loved going for chai and even a visit to a camel farm with one of the officers. Before training would start on a morning I would sit on a rock and watch the most beautiful sunrises ever.



Expect the unexpected

In November 2017 I was asked to do a 4-day Remote Areas First Aid course at an Oil Refinery in Basra, Iraq. On arriving there I was expecting to be training four people over the four days. Due to their work schedule, I had two delegates over two days and two over another two days... so the course was condensed. I was also told on arrival that the evacuation time for a casualty was anything from six hours to forty-eight, if they were lucky, so more advanced training was needed, than originally planned! To quote Clint Eastwood, it was time to... *"improvise, adapt and overcome"* you have to, you can't say *"no, I was expecting this..."*

Airports, Customs, Clearance

One of the things I do is carry equipment for the courses so I create a thorough list of what I really need and how many delegates are on the course. I use lots of props, especially when doing Catastrophic Bleed Management so e.g. fake arms to practice wound packing. Luckily I had a letter from the company in both English and Arabic explaining I was carrying medical training equipment when I was searched at the airport, which brings me onto negotiating customs.

Whilst at Basra Airport we had to wait to get our visa, this took about fifty minutes - my Arabic came in handy and was told they would get this sorted out for me. I sat waiting patiently... Another British traveler had had enough - he stormed up to the counter "demanding" to know where his visa was as he had been waiting there for ages. He was told to sit down and wait. However a few minutes later, I was called forward, my visa was sorted out, I was thanked for being patient and welcomed to Iraq. *It pays to wait and be patient and not bring attention to yourself - keep a low profile and always be polite.*

From September 2019 until February 2020 I was working 12 days a month in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Here I trained Ethiopians, who worked for an international development company, in Catastrophic Bleed Management, Fire Safety, Situation Awareness & Field Mission Planning (vehicle checks, route planning and how to use a satellite phone to call in a medical emergency). The local language being Amharic, I once again learned phrases and body parts such as "gudat ras" translating into "Injury to the head" - once again excuse the spelling, when training overseas try not to use colloquialisms, stick to basic English and slow down your speech if necessary - be mindful of your accent and how easy or difficult it can be for others to understand YOU!

So what is it that you should take away from this?

- Firstly do your research on the country, people, language, customs and culture of the country you are running the training in.
- Be flexible, don't think for one minute it will be like it is in your home country, it's totally different around the world.

What you will bring back for this, is experience for you as a trainer to bring into your training in your home country and credibility to hand over to delegates on your courses but for yourself it will open your eyes to country's customs and people, how they not only do training but go about their daily lives. The delegates on your courses will leave being very happy having acquired new skills, and in some parts of the world, be prepared to have your photo taken plenty of times ☺ - **Julian Woodall, UK & International Training Specialist**

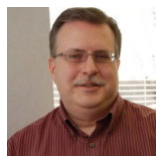
AJP Safety Ltd

If you'd like further information or even require any training for your sites around the World then please do reach out to us as Julian is passionate about providing specialist training Worldwide!

With thanks, Rasib Hussain, WSO-CSM, EurOSHM, FIIRSM, CMIOH, Director - AJP Safety Ltd, Vice President - WSO London Chapter

Building Safety Culture Through SHARP

Written by: Fred Hosier, www.safetynewsalert.com



Fred Hosier is the editor of Safety News Alert and has spent more than 20 years covering safety. He's been in the communications business since 1985, including 11 years in radio.



Looking for a safety management program that will lead to a self-sustaining safety culture?

The Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program does just that.

SHARP is aimed at smaller companies that need more help with their safety programs.

It's offered through federal and state OSHAs (the requirements in each locale may be a bit different, so check with your state).

SHARP focuses on three components to build a successful safety and health management program:

- Operational (find and fix hazards in the field and the facility)
- Managerial (programs, policies and procedures), and
- Cultural (how we work).

SHARP process

To achieve SHARP status, an employer must go through a set process.

In the first step, the company drafts a SHARP commitment letter in which it agrees to:

- conduct a comprehensive survey of all operations
- involve employees
- correct hazards, and
- develop a written safety and health program.

The next step is a comprehensive consultation with a representative from federal or state SHARP.

The consultation includes:

- records review
- safety program review
- safety committee evaluation, and
- hazard assessment.

Next comes action planning and goal setting.

This is an outline of where you are in your safety program to where you'd like to be.

A company should set up a continual improvement process for its safety plan, using Deming's Plan-Do-Check-Act.

Follow-up consultations are also a part of the SHARP process.

After developing and implementing its action plan, the company requests a follow-up assessment.

If all the conditions are met, the company then qualifies for SHARP.

If some of the conditions aren't met yet, the company goes back to the action plan stage and works through it again.

Conditions to meet

In Oregon, a company must receive a sufficient rating on all 47 elements in the Safety and Health Assessment.

Also, all safety, health and ergonomic hazards identified in reports must be corrected or addressed.

The last requirement is that the company have an incident rate below industry average or on a downward trend.

Success stories

Oregon OSHA's SHARP program has produced many safety success stories.

Georgia Pacific went 10 years without a lost time injury. The company's incident rate is 72% below its industry average.

Marvin Windows & Doors reduced its incidence rates and workers' compensation costs. The company also increased employee involvement in safety.

Duro-Last's (roofing company) successful completion of SHARP led it to the next safety step: qualifying for the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). During a 15-year period, Duro-Last had only one recordable injury.

(Adapted from a presentation by Mark Hurliman, VPP/SHARP Program Coordinator, Oregon OSHA, at the VPPPA's Next Level Safety 2021 conference)

Scott's Safety Share: 8 Safety Strategies to Maintain a Secure Workplace in the Utility Industry

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

Wastewater, water, electric, and natural gas utilities expose your work-alone employees to a lot of risks and hazards every day. Electrical engineers and maintenance personnel usually work alone for extended periods of time on outdoor pumps, treatment plants, and high-voltage substations, which can be dangerous. Employees who work with toxic gases, chemicals, and other machinery are also exposed to dangers on a daily basis.

Workers in electric, natural gas, water, sewer, and other utilities share numerous safety concerns. Here are eight of them.

1. Electrical Safety : Most workplace incidents have occurred due to negligence in electrical safety, according to research done by the Electrical Safety Foundation International. There were hundreds of fatal electrical wiring accidents noted and thousands of injuries due to electrical hazards that were reported by the National Safety Council in the United States. The figure clearly states how important it is to take precautions and avoid common electrical mistakes that result in electrical accidents. It is not only the responsibility of the employer to provide a safe environment for work but also the responsibility of the employees to make the workplace safe. However, training should be conducted to teach employees to use electrical equipment properly to avoid workplace fatalities.

2. Transmission Lines : Utility-line work ranks in the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the country, as around 30 to 50 workers per 100,000 are killed annually, according to a survey by Transmission and Distribution World. A lot of them also tend to suffer from mechanical trauma, electrical burns, and loss of limbs. When it comes to working on high-voltage overhead lines, there are a few safety measures to follow:

- Before getting work started, the overhead lines must be de-energized and grounded.
- While de-energizing lines, special arrangements should be made with the person or organization that handles electric circuits that de-energize lines.
- Protective measures such as insulating, guarding, or isolating should be taken to prevent employees from coming in direct or indirect contact with conductive materials.

3. Slips, Trips, and Falls: Sometimes, a hazardous situation can cause slips, trips, and falls. The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that 800 nonfatal cases occurred in 2014 alone. Prevention is better than a cure. Slips and trips both occur due to an unexpected change in contact between the feet and surface while walking. With proper preventive measures and safety training, such hazards can be avoided.

4. Cold Stress: Prolonged exposure to freezing temperatures can lead to some serious health issues like hypothermia, frostbite, and trench foot. Cold water immersion can be a cause of death in extreme cases. Moreover, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, workers who are exposed to extremely cold weather are at risk of cold stress, which can lead to chilblains, trench foot, frostbite, and hypothermia. One way to avoid this is by limiting exposure to cold environments. Workers can schedule their work in the middle of the day or plan shorter shifts.

5. Heat Stress : Workers who constantly work in extremely hot environments are at risk of being exposed to heat stress. Constant exposure to extreme heat can lead to heat exhaustion, heat rashes, heat cramps, and heat strokes. Hot work environments increase the chances of injury and burns for your workers due to dizziness, fogged-up safety glasses, and sweaty palms.

Firefighters, farmers, boiler room workers, miners, factory workers, and construction site workers are at the most risk of heat stress. Workers aged 65 and over or with high blood pressure should avoid working in such environments, as it increases the risk of heat stress. Proper training on how to control heat stress in workplace-specific conditions will help prevent injuries and illnesses.

(cont. on pg. 8)

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

6. Physical Strain and Overexertion: Are your employees used to working long hours in a fast-paced environment? If yes, this is a problem, as these kinds of work environments lead to overexertion and fatigue, which can lead to accidents and injuries. Allowing your employees to take regular short breaks and change tasks will keep them alert and minimize their chances of injuries.

7. Biological and Chemical Hazards: Hepatitis is the most serious viral risk that your workers are exposed to when working with chemical hazards, and the most serious bacterial risk is tetanus, which occurs via hand-to-mouth contact.

Constantly being exposed to sewage can lead to infection of the eyes or skin, asthma, and hepatitis. Take all necessary safety measures when working in environments that have biological or chemical hazards.

8. Emergency Response: Do you have an emergency response protocol in place? If yes, is it up to date?

If an unexpected situation arises, you should be confident that all the processes and policies that you have in place will cover your lone workers and keep them safe. Your team should be prepared to tackle all unexpected situations as they arise.

The program you have in place should be clear, measured, and well-communicated so that any potential for health issues or injuries can be quickly pinpointed to the exact location where it might arise.

Do you have these eight safety issues covered? If not, don't delay—find out how to improve your safety monitoring program today!



WSO Offers a Professional Membership Level

Being acknowledged as a Professional Member of a safety organization based upon one's education, years of knowledge, and experience in the Safety field is a goal for many to achieve. Not everyone has the college or university degree that is sometimes required to compete for an advanced level Occupational Safety Certification. Not everyone enjoys the Classroom environment of classroom training and potentially taking the computer-type exam, which does not always show one's true abilities in safety management and/or practice. There are many Safety Directors, Safety Coordinators, and Safety Specialists in the safety arena who have many years of experience but lack the mathematical expertise to pass a specific safety certification exam. However, by a submission of one's work/career credentials, résumé, professional references, safety seminar certificates, safety education, and

several testimonies from peers showing his/her elite level, safety practitioners and professionals can become a WSO Professional Member upon verification and approval. This membership level gives one a great opportunity to continue to gain knowledge as a member of the WSO, network with and learn from other members, and attend our annual Symposium featuring world-class safety professionals from around the world presenting various types of safety modules. The minimum requirements can be found on Page 6 or in the WSO Membership and Certification Program booklet. To request a WSO Membership and Certification Program booklet or for more information to apply for or upgrade to the WSO Professional membership, please contact the WSO WMC by telephone or email, or submit the ONLINE REQUEST, and we will email the information to you.

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