Hawkeye On Safety
September 7th, 2023

The Hawkeye on Safety annual conference provides life-saving health and safety information to workers from all industries, with a particular emphasis on facilities management and the building trades. We also offer the key networking opportunities that you need to keep current in occupational safety standards and trends. This conference is intended for health and safety professionals, construction professionals (electrical, plumbing, roofing, carpentry, masonry, etc), project/facility personnel, HR professionals, general industry, medical professionals, and anyone looking for CEUs in health and safety. Like other conferences, we provide essential training to the managers responsible for workplace health and safety. But we also have a unique focus on providing practical training to rank-and-file workers, so that they can become safety leaders in their workplaces and communities. The conference planning committee works hard to keep the cost of attending the conference low in order to allow as many people as possible to attend. This is only possible because of the support of the community leaders who sponsor our program.

You can be a part of Hawkeye On Safety as an attendee, exhibitor or sponsor. Please follow the link to register:

- Attendee
- Exhibitor
- Sponsor

Department of Labor announces proposed rule to clarify personal protective equipment standard, ensure safety of construction industry workers

The proposed rule clarifies the existing requirement, and OSHA does not expect the change will increase employers’ costs or compliance burdens. The proposed revision would align the language in OSHA’s PPE standard for construction with standards for general industry and maritime.

“If personal protective equipment does not fit properly, an employee may be unprotected or dangerously exposed to hazards and face tragic consequences,” explained Assistant Secretary for Occupational Safety and Health Doug Parker. “We look forward to hearing from stakeholders on this important issue as we work together to ensure that construction workers of all genders and sizes are fitted properly with safety gear.” Read the full news release of OSHA and learn more about personal protective equipment in construction.
October is the National Protect Your Hearing Month

Centers for Disease Control and Preventions (CDC) supports National Protect Your Hearing Month. It is an annual event each October to provide an opportunity to raise awareness about hearing. People are encouraged to think about their own hearing, and to get their hearing checked if they think there might be a problem.

Hearing protection is for everyone. There is no cure for hearing loss! The good news? You can prevent hearing loss by protecting your hearing. Avoid loud noise whenever possible and turn down the volume on personal listening devices. If you can’t avoid loud noise, use earplugs or earmuffs to protect your ears.

“Do you have employees who need hearing conservation training? A list of upcoming courses can be found here: https://heartland.public-health.uiowa.edu/events/”

Fire Prevention Week / October 8-14

This year’s Fire Prevention Week™ (FPW™) campaign, “Cooking safety starts with YOU. Pay attention to fire prevention™,” works to educate everyone about simple but important actions they can take to keep themselves and those around them safe when cooking.

In a fire, mere seconds can mean the difference between a safe escape and a tragedy. Fire safety education isn’t just for school children. Teenagers, adults, and the elderly are also at risk in fires, making it important for every member of the community to take some time every October during Fire Prevention Week to make sure they understand how to stay safe in case of a fire.

Did you know? Cooking fires are the leading cause of home fires and home fire injuries. Unattended cooking is the leading cause of cooking fires and deaths.

Messages to share with employees

Eliminate fire hazards:

- Check for damaged or overloaded electrical outlets, cords and cables.
- Keep anything that can burn away from electrical equipment.
- Never leave portable heating devices unattended.

Messages to share with employers

Prepare for emergencies:

- Make sure smoke alarms and fire sprinklers are properly installed and working.
- Post clear fire escape plans on every level of a building.
- Teach employees about exit locations, escape routes, and fire protection equipment.
Meet our new Continuing Education and Outreach Coordinator - Horacio Borgen

Horacio has experience working in both the private and public sectors as well as non-profit organizations. In his origin country of Nicaragua, he served as the director of the occupational hygiene and safety commission for a paint company. He has previous experience working with public relations, community organizing, and event planning. Horacio is the new Continuing Education and Outreach Coordinator for the Heartland Center and will assist the CE and Outreach Director, Tammi Goerdt. We are excited to have Horacio as part of the Heartland Center team.

OSHA is developing a new heat standard and needs small business input to make sure it works for employers of all sizes. Representatives from small businesses, local governments, and non-profit organizations will be asked to join small-group video conferences on the possible impacts of a heat injury and illness prevention standard. This is your opportunity to discuss concerns and current practices for protecting workers from heat-related injuries and illnesses. Visit their website to find out if you qualify to participate and learn more about the proposed standard.

NIOSH Office of Research Integration
2023 Webinars Now Available on YouTube

June 14
Leveraging Collaboration to Address Key Challenges to Occupational Safety and Health Research, Training and Practice
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BPFsZFJdBHM

July 14
Preparing the Occupational Safety and Health Workforce for Future Disruptions
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4us9f5BhpX4