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Summer Newsletter 2002

Volume 10 Number 2

MIHS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Getting to the Point(s)!!!!

What wonderful summer weather we have enjoyed this year. I hope that everyone has the opportunity to escape from work this summer and enjoy some memorable time with their family. Escaping this summer's heat could prove to be a real challenge for anyone hoping to enjoy any of Michigan's bountiful beaches, lakes and parks.

Following the AIHA Local Section Council business meeting in early June, I took the opportunity to review our section's By Laws for adherence to the model By Laws provided by the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA). I found the exercise helpful in several ways. It really reinforced in my mind what the primary purpose for the Michigan Industrial Hygiene Society (MIHS) was in 1948 and continues to be today.

Article II of our MIHS By Laws states:

The purpose of the Michigan Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association shall be to promote the anticipation, recognition, evaluation, and control of environmental stresses in relation to the health or well-being of workers and the public; to **increase the knowledge and awareness** of occupational and environmental health **through interchange and dissemination of information; to bring persons** interested in the various phases of occupational and environmental health **together**; to correlate such activities as are conducted by individuals and agencies throughout industrial, educational and governmental groups; and to promote the profession through cooperation and support of governmental groups, industrial, educational and other professional bodies.

As we coordinate our local meeting schedule, I feel it is important to remind all of our members that MIHS has a long and impressive history of providing programs that **increase our knowledge and awareness** of many of the today's Occupational and Environmental Health & Safety issues. Information disseminated through our programs includes not only high quality technical information but also personal experiences from professionals, like you, who have much to offer our mutual understanding of these evolving concerns. It is only by bringing persons together that we can achieve our objective for Michigan Industrial Hygiene Society. I strongly encourage each member to

plan on attending at least two (2) of the planned events over the next year. Your participation makes an enormous difference to the success of our organization.

The Board and Officers of the Michigan Industrial Hygiene Society have been busy planning for this upcoming year's meetings and technical programs. Jerry Plattenberg, MIHS President-Elect and Program Committee Chair, has been very busy coordinating the locations and speakers for the upcoming years events. Please visit regularly our MIHS Event Calendar at http://www.mihswb.org/mihs_events.htm to check out the details regarding all of our upcoming events. You will also find it easy to register to attend any of these meetings on-line at the same website location.

As mentioned in Jerry's newsletter article, a key objective for the 2002 - 2003 MIHS Programs is to provide quality technical presentations which offer members and non-members alike the most cost effective means of earning Certification Maintenance (CM) points. As many of our organizations have experienced severe budget constraints, opportunities for members to travel and participate in professional development courses have been dramatically reduced. At a minimum, members will be able to obtain 2.5 ABIH (CM) points by attending our upcoming programs.

I feel the benefits of participation in the MIHS activities far exceed simply accumulating points. It hopefully allows each of us to listen, share and exchange our personal experiences in hopes of positively impacting the OEHS performance for the organizations.

I look forward to seeing each of you this Fall at either the September PDC on Isocyanates in Frankenmuth, or our Annual October Mini-Conference at the MSU Management Education Center in Troy. Until then, keep visiting our website < www.mihswb.org > for updated event information and opportunities to volunteer to participate.

Tim Kearney
MIHS President

Local Sections Business Meeting - 2002 AIHCE San Diego

Tim Kearney, MIHS President

On Wednesday, June 5th, 2002 the AIHA Local Sections Council meeting was held in San Diego, California at the AIHCE annual conference. Officers for many of the AIHA Local Sections were in attendance to discuss various issues that are of current concern for many of the local sections, as well as the national association. Two key issues that were discussed were the importance of Local Section By-Laws and the age-old issue for many of our members "mutual local & national membership".

The Chair of the Local Sections Council, Ms. Meg Van Meter, expressed the concerns of the AIHA Board of Directors that currently many of the AIHA Local Sections were not complying with the its requirements of the section by-laws. Several sections had not maintained the minimum number of technical meetings (3) for the year in order to maintain their status as a local section with AIHA. Other sections had difficulty recruiting participation on their boards or as officers. Some local section officers were selected by local section boards rather than by a vote of their local sections members. The AIHA Board reaffirmed its position that adherence to the model by-laws are imperative for a local section to continue to be recognized by the national association. The board expressed its intention to more actively review the bylaws of the local sections and to enforce them.

Mr. Dick Strano, Executive Director for the AIHA, left a strong impression on those attending the meeting by bringing up again the issue of mutual membership between the national and local sections. Several local section's officers expressed

that much of their local section membership is comprised of Occupational Health Nurses and Doctors, who are only interested in membership in their local section, not in the national organization. Mr. Strano indicated that, were it within his control, no individual would be allowed membership to a local section without mutual membership within the AIHA.

A strong response contrary to Mr. Strano's position was made by many of the local section officers attending the meeting. They expressed frustration that the issue of mutual membership was again being discussed after having been voted down by the Board of Directors of the AIHA nearly two years ago. Apparently, the staff of the AIHA is exploring all possible sources for additional revenue in light of the continuing trend of declining membership and shrinking revenues from conferences and publications sales. Dr. Steve Levine, Past-President for the AIHA, commented that due to the concern expressed by the local section council members, the Board of Directors again discussed the issue of mutual membership during this year's business meeting. Dr. Levine indicated that the AIHA Board reaffirmed its opposition to mutual membership in light of the strong response from a significant share of the national and local membership. Continued vigilance will be required regarding this issue as future challenges to the funding and operation of the national organization will likely cause this to be revisited in the future.

Professional Conference on Industrial Hygiene

Pat Brogan, Ph.D., CIH - President, Academy of Industrial Hygiene

Greetings, fellow MIHS and WMIHS members. How are you doing this year with your personal professional development agenda? Were you fortunate enough to be able to attend AIHce in San Diego? Are you scheduled to attend a Continuing Education course?

How about attending the Professional Conference on Industrial Hygiene (PCIH) in Cincinnati this year? An AIHA Risk Assessment Symposium starting on Thursday, September 26 precedes the conference. Two days of PDCs are offered on Saturday and Sunday, September 28 and 29. PCIH takes place Monday and Tuesday, September 30 and October 1.

PCIH isn't just for Certified Industrial Hygienists even though it is organized by the Academy of Industrial

Hygiene. First time attendees, whether certified or not, comment on the quality of the presentations, they take away value of the workshops and the intimacy of the venue. The size of the conference permits all functions to take place in one hotel. It also allows for incredible networking opportunities.

If you have not received the advance notice of the conference - a bluish, purplish booklet entitled "Thriving in Unpredictable Times" - it is available on AIHA's website at www.aiha.org/pci.htm. I am counting on a great turnout from MIHS and WMIHS. After all, it will be the completion of my term as president of the Academy. It's practically in our backyard. And Chuck Adkins is the Henry F. Smyth Jr awardee.

See you in Cincinnati.



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UPCOMING MIHS PROGRAMS

Gerald Plattenberg, MS, IHIT
MIHS President-Elect / Program Committee Chair

I sincerely hope that you have taken some time out of your busy schedules to enjoy the beautiful summer Michigan has offered us this year. However, as all Michiganders know, summer is fleeting and the fall season is approaching fast. Just as fall brings us football games and trips to the cider mill, it also signals the beginning of the MIHS program calendar.

This year, MIHS will provide its members an opportunity to obtain up to 2.5 ABIH Certification Maintenance (CM) points. Most programs are only half-day events and held locally affording you the opportunity to attend with minimal scheduling conflicts. Please mark your calendar now and take advantage of this opportunity to advance your profession.

A half-day Professional Development Course (PDC) kicks off the MIHS program calendar. This PDC will focus on isocyanates and is tentatively scheduled to be held September 17th at the Bavarian Inn in Frankenmuth. Various speakers will discuss current technologies in the measurement and control of isocyanates in a variety of applications as well as on the latest in exposures guidelines. A networking luncheon will follow the morning presentation. A total of 0.5 CM points can be obtained by attending this program. More detailed information will arrive in your mailbox (or e-mail box) in August.

Following our September PDC, the annual MIHS mini-conference will be held October 29th at the MSU Management Education Center. This year's conference will touch on some old and new topics. Individuals from the State of Michigan will present updates on current issues regarding Lead and Mercury. The latest on ultra fine particulate research and bioaerosol exposure will also be presented. It is shaping up to be an excellent conference. You will receive 1.0 CM points for attending. Watch for more information as we move into September.

On November 7th, from 6:00-9:00pm, MIHS in conjunction with the Michigan Occupational and Environmental Medical Association (MOEMA) will present the 2002 Carey Pratt McCord Lecture. Sandrok Cinti, M.D. of the Michigan State Medical Society (MSMS) Biodefense Team, will present this year's lecture. Dr Cinti's lecture is titled "Bioterrorism: Ramifications in the Workplace." The dinner and lecture will be held at the Somerset Inn in Troy. Prior to the lecture MOEMA will be presenting a half-day scientific session with the topic Radiation Health. The session will address ionizing radiation, biophysics, health effects and hazards in our society, medical treatment, and emergency power acts under consideration by our legislators. If you are interested in attending this session, please let me know so that I can provide you the necessary information.

The remainder of the calendar offers the following: A joint MIHS/Greater Detroit ASSE meeting scheduled for January 2003, the annual MIHS Student Night event tentatively scheduled for February 11th, 2003, and the annual Past Presidents / Business Breakfast tentatively scheduled for March 12th, 2003. More details of these meetings will follow in the months to come.

I encourage you to take advantage of the 2.5 CM points being offered by MIHS this year and in addition, the opportunity to network with other IH professional throughout Michigan.

The program committee is always looking for volunteers to help plan the programs throughout the year. If you are interested, please contact an MIHS officer or board member or drop us a note by visiting "your" web page at www.mihsweb.org.

Legislative Activity Concerning Toxic Mold

Tim Kearney, MIHS President

On June 5th, 2002 three bills were introduced in the Michigan State legislature that would address the issue of Toxic Mold in commercial and residential real estate. Two of the bills, House Bills H 6177 and H 6179, require property seller disclosure regarding toxic mold growth. Both of these bills were forwarded to the House Committee on Commerce for review.

The third bill, H 6178 was introduced by Reps. Kolb, Thomas, Spade, Williams, Schauer, Gielegem, Hale, Zelenko and Dennis and referred to the Committee on Health Policy. This bill requires the Michigan Department of Community Health to establish standards for permissible exposure limits, assessment of health threat, identification, and remediation of toxic mold substances. The text of these bills are available at our Web site at: www.MIHSweb.org/legislate.htm

At the Federal level, Rep. John Conyers of Michigan has introduced his long-awaited legislation on mold. The bill, HR 5040 and titled the "United States Toxic Mold Safety and Protection Act of 2002", is a broad bill that entails many different facets pertaining to the issue of mold.

The thrust of the bill is to create a national toxic mold hazard insurance program and indoor mold hazard assistance. There are also provisions regarding housing and real property sales. For the national AIHA, our interest lies in the sections dealing with the qualifications of individuals involved with mold inspection and remediation. The final bill addresses the qualifications aspect, but does not provide for what one would call "pre-qualified" individuals. The bill mandates EPA to promulgate standards for certification of mold inspectors, mold remediators, mold testing labs, mold risk assessors and industrial hygienist involved with mold remediation planning.

Will the bill be enacted? It is doubtful this will occur in the time remaining in the 107th session. But it will return after the first of the year - you can bet on it!

READ THIS LEGISLATION FOR YOURSELF

For more information on federal legislation, visit the AIHA Federal Legislative Action Center within the members-only section of the AIHA web page.

Update from the Membership Committee

Andy Berryman, MIHS Board / Membership Committee

As a newly elected board member and leader of the Membership Committee, I will be making an effort to develop new programs that will recruit and retain MIHS members. My first recruitment effort will focus on contacting national AIHA members, who are not members of our local section and are located within our geographic area. I will be informing these individuals of the many benefits of being a member of a local section, including the cost-effective accumulation of CM points by attending local, MIHS sponsored PDC's and mini-conferences. I strongly encourage current members to volunteer their ideas, time, etc. in order to help develop and maintain a successful membership committee. I will be contacting many

of you to ask for your help with recruitment efforts at events, such as the Michigan Safety Conference. If you would like to be a part of the membership committee, or if you have any leads for potential new members, please contact me at (248) 276-3622.

Have a Safe and Happy Summer!

2001 MIHS Best Paper Award

Tom Kakos, CIH, Past-President MIHS

MIHS has been around a long time. MIHS actually predates the American Industrial Hygiene Association by one or two years. One of our most enduring traditions has been the MIHS Best Paper award that was started back in 1957. Every year since, MIHS has annually recognized the author(s) of the most outstanding article from the *American Industrial Hygiene Association Journal (AIHA Journal)*. In 1989, the MIHS Board of Directors voted to also recognize the author(s) of the "Best Paper" in the *Applied Occupational and Environmental Hygiene Journal (Applied Journal)*.

The assessment process includes a review of technical journal articles published during the calendar year. Once an article is read, the reviewer fills out a scorecard with 19 statements pertaining to his/her impression of the article. The statements are scored on a scale of 1 to 5 depending on whether or not reviewer agrees with the statement. The statements are segregated into four categories:

- Importance of the Work to Industrial Hygiene (40%)
- Scientific Methods (30%)
- Presentation (20%)
- Originality (10%)

After being scored, the top 10 to 15 ranking articles are then read by a new set of reviewers. These articles are re-scored and a "Best Paper" is awarded to the highest-ranking article from the second set of scoring.

The winner of the 2001 MIHS Best Paper Award for the AIHA Journal is Samuel Tucker from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health in Cincinnati, OH. Samuel Tucker's paper was entitled *Determination of Capsaicin and Dihydrocapsaicin in Air in a Pickle and Pepper Processing Plant*.

The winners of the 2001 MIHS Best Paper Award for the Applied Journal was German Suvorov,¹ Eduard Denisov,¹ Vladimir Anmtipin,¹ Valeri Kharitonov,¹ Jukka Starck,² Ilmari Pyykk,³ and Esko Toppila². The article, written by seven authors, was entitled *Effects of Peak Levels and Number of Impulses to Hearing Among Forge Hammering Workers*.

MIHS Best Paper Award recipients receive an 8" x 10" plaque to commemorate their achievement. The plaques are made of rich walnut wood and have a brass plate with the authors's name, article title, and MIHS logo engraved on them. The plaques are presented during AIHA and ACGIH annual business meetings that are held during the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition.

I would like to thank the following MIHS members who volunteered their time to participate in this two-tiered assessment process, and are congratulated for their dedication to this MIHS initiative:

Alan Amberg, Consultant
 Pat Brogan, Wayne State University
 William Cleary, Consultant
 Bob Cleghorn, General Motors Corporation
 Bill Falzone, Ford Motor Company
 James Galloway, Ford Motor Company
 Dave Hands, Ford Motor Company
 Tim Kearney, Argus Group
 Tom Martin, Clayton Group Services, Inc
 Nancy McClellan, Business Health Systems
 Sharkey Mingela, Ford Motor Company
 Deborah Moilanen, BASF Corporation
 Robert Moon, Clayton Group Services, Inc
 Chris Petersen, Ford Motor Company
 Jerry Plattenberg, Conestoga - Rovers & Associates
 Jim Turner, Ford Motor Company
 Roger Wabeke, Chemical Risk Management

Review of 2002 journal articles begins immediately. Please consider participating in the assessment process this year. For more information, contact the Awards Committee Chairperson, Suzanne Monahan, 248-640-7275, suzanne.monahan@gm.com.

¹*Institute of Occupational Health, Russian Academy of Medical Sciences, Moscow, Russian Federation;*

²*Finnish Institute of Occupational Health, Helsinki Finland;* ³*Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm Sweden.*

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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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