

**California Industrial Hygiene Council (CIHC)
February 2011 Update**

CIHC Conference, December 6-8, 2010, San Diego—The 20th Annual CIHC Conference was a success both in terms of attendance and feedback. Approximately 150 attendees gathered at the historic Westgate Hotel in San Diego to learn about “*New Directions in EH&S Practice.*” Key topics at this year’s Conference were Government and Emerging Issues; Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Response; General EH&S Practice; and Industrial Hygiene Practice. The optional Ethics class was offered again this year to assist in fulfilling the ABIH Ethics requirement.

CIHC Board Activity –

- The CIHC held a Board meeting at the San Diego CIHC conference and a follow-up meeting by conference call in January 2011. Highlights included pre-planning activities for the 2011 CIHC Conference to be held in San Francisco in early December. It appears that Joel Cohen, one of the 2009 San Francisco Conference Co-Chairs, has been successful in locking down the Hotel Nikko again. The 2011 Conference Team is assembling. Any local section member wishing to be involved in its planning and organizing is welcome to join the Team.
- The March CIHC Board meeting, to be held on March 10 in Sacramento, focuses on screening all bills introduced into legislature and identifying those key to occupational and environmental health in CA. These will be monitored by Cathy Barankin, Sacramento Advocacy, and the CIHC Board through 2011. Given the need to “educate” our Sacramento based legislative team, CIHC is looking to sponsor a couple “brown bag” sessions for legislative staff interested in learning more about EHS issues unique to California business.
- CIHC has proposed two bills to introduce in next legislative session—one on codifying the Cal-OSHA PEL process; the second on CIH’s supervising exposure sampling. Howard Spielman, Chris Laszcz-Davis, Cathy Barankin and Ed Klinenberg met with several Sacramento lobbyists and other interested parties to ensure we secure their feedback before its introduction. Len Welsh was also notified.
- CIHC and local sections are involved in Cal-OSHA’s PEL process (Howard Spielman, Steve Derman and Jim Unmack in the HEAC process; Ron Hutton in the FAC process).
- CIHC also has representation at Cal-OSHA standards Advisory Committee meetings (Leo Vortouni primary rep, with Joel Cohen as alternate). This representation ensures that “Occupational and Environmental Health” has a voice at the table.
- The CA EH&S Conference is being spearheaded by the state’s ASSE chapters and scheduled for April 13-14, 2011 in Anaheim, CA. CIHC, as well as the Orange County and Northern California Local Sections, are all actively participating on the conference program committee. The CIHC has committed to sponsoring three roundtables (Nanomaterials; Global Chemical Regulatory Shifts, with an emphasis on Green

Chemistry; and Risk Assessment). The Northern California Section is sponsoring the session on Emergency Response, while Orange County has taken the lead on Prevention Through Design.

- The CIHC continues to follow and affirmatively engage in the state Green Chemistry Initiative discussions. It has commented formally at least 3 times over the course of the last year and half. Several members are involved in reviewing and commenting on this Initiative (many arms and legs to this safer product regulations, so CIHC is applying more resources)—Patty Beach, Jackie Luca (retired CIHC Board member, but still willing to engage in some projects), Ron Hutton and Chris Laszcz-Davis are tracking Green Chemistry on behalf of CIHC

CIHC Board Members Representing NCS—Going into 2011, the CIHC Board representation from NCS is as follows: CIHC President, Chris Laszcz-Davis, MS, CIH, REA and Patty Beach, MS, CIH, REA are now in the new NCS primary representative roles; Joel Cohen, CIH, CSP, is now in the NCS Alternate role (having just rotated out of his longtime service as CIHC Treasurer, Joel will provide a continued mentoring role for the new CIHC Treasurer). Our many, many thanks to Joel for his service as CIHC representative and his continued support going forward.

The CIHC has several non-Board scientific advisors it relies upon to steward the CIHC efforts/awareness of issues critical to California Industrial Hygienists. They include—Larry Gibbs, Stanford University (nanomaterials) and Jackie Luca, formerly of Northrup Grumman (green chemistry). As future issues arise (such as the coal dust/silica regulation), we hope to reach out and draw upon our local section experts and bring them into the dialogue.

CIHC's next meeting is scheduled for Thursday March 10, 2011 in Sacramento from 9am – 4pm. All local section members are invited to attend. Minutes from all meetings are available on our website at www.cihconline.com. Feel free to contact us—we need your input and insights!

Patty Beach, CIH
NCS-AIHA Representative to CIHC

Chris Laszcz-Davis, CIH
NCS-AIHA Representative to CIHC