

California Industrial Hygiene Council (CIHC) July 2010 Update

CIHC Conference, December 6-8, 2010, San Diego-- This year's Conference will be held in lovely San Diego, CA at the Westgate Hotel, the same hotel at which we held our 2008 Conference. Co-chairs, San Diego Section's Jeff King, SAIC, and Ann Graham, U.S. Navy, report that the planning is coming along quite nicely. Of particular note is that John Howard, NIOSH Chief, will be our keynote speaker, along with Len Welch, Director of Cal-OSHA, Dr. Barbara Materna, Director of the Department of Public Health, Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director of Cal-EPA's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), Dr. Charles Geraci, Chief of NIOSH's Nano-materials Initiative and many others.

During this 3-day conference, topics of discussion will include high profile Emerging EH&S Issues; Emergency Preparedness, Response & Recovery; general EH&S Practice; and practical Industrial Hygiene case studies. The Conference Committee was also successful in pulling together an optional 2 hour Ethics segment at the end of the Conference to address the new ABIH CM requirements. All this is being delivered at 2009 hotel and registration pricing. Ann Graham is coordinating all exhibitor sponsorships, while San Diego Section's Grace Delizo & Sacramento Section's Sylvia Fontes are leading the Communications/Marketing efforts. Registration for the conference will open in August. For further information on the 2010 Conference, go to www.cihconline.com.

In July 2010, the CIHC held a Board meeting at the Oakland Airport Conference Center.

Highlights include—a review of CIHC's strategic plan, operating procedures and by-laws (for subsequent distribution to the 5 California AIHA local sections for added input); an update on the approximate 75 environmental, health & safety bills presently being tracked (a number have died due to budget constraints); exploration of the CIHC hosting a hearing in Sacramento to educate legislative aids on key industrial hygiene related issues sometime in the Fall of 2010 or spring of 2011; sponsorship of a CIHC bill; a review of the Cal-OSHA PEL process (and HEAC's involvement); discussion of greater CIHC-Local Section member involvement in the Cal-OSHA regulatory process activities; and CIHC continued involvement in Green Chemistry regulation development, Federal/OSHA Injury/Illness Prevention Plan stakeholder meetings, and nanomaterial regulation development.

CIHC Board member Northern California Section Joel Cohen and Southern California Section Eric Brown will steward CIHC's IIPP engagement; Southern California Section Dr. Nola Kennedy will steward CIHC engagement along with Northern California Local Section member and Nanomaterial Expert Larry Gibbs; and both Orange County Section Ron Hutton and Southern California Section Jackie Luca (now as a non-CIHC Board member) will steward the Green Chemistry regulations. Joel Cohen has also been invited to participate in national AIHA's task force on the IIPP.

CIHC recently submitted : a.) its 3rd round of comments to Cal-EPA's DTSC on Green Chemistry and its draft Safer Alternatives proposed regulations, and b.) comments on the Heat Illness Standard proposed changes. Formal position letters are accessible at www.cihconline.com.

The CIHC remains in close communication with the national AIHA governmental affairs office to ensure alignment at both the Federal and State governmental regulatory/legislative levels.

This July Board meeting also saw the departure of Jackie Luca, former President CIHC and Board member for 16 years of dedicated service.

CIHC has been asked by at least one AIHA local section to explore CIHC involvement with California ASSE chapters who are working towards a spring, 2-day 2011 EH&S Conference in Anaheim, CA. If this comes together, CIHC and the AIHA Local Sections will work cooperatively to identify and recruit speakers for several Roundtables under the Industrial Hygiene/Environmental/Workers Compensation rubric. The potential collaboration has appeal in terms of broadening both professions' horizons. CIHC is proceeding cautiously so as not to compromise its own annual Conference or impact other local section-sponsored events.

Our next meeting is scheduled for September 15 in San Diego at the Westgate Hotel. The Fall meeting is traditionally held at the Conference hotel to ensure that Conference logistics are in order. Our July 2010 minutes will be available on our website at www.cihconline.com. Feel free to contact us for we value your input!

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