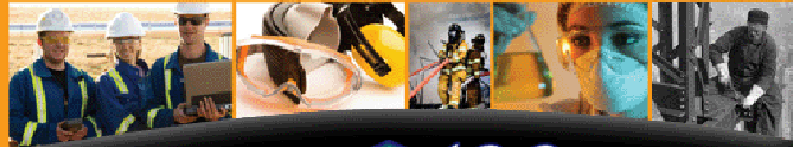




NAOSH 2011
MAY 1-7

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF SAFETY

Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day (OSHP) May 4



NORTH AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH (NAOSH) WEEK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IWCA JOINS WITH THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS, OSHA, TO PROMOTE WORK SAFETY DURING N. AMERICAN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH (NAOSH) WEEK THIS MAY

KANSAS CITY, MO (April 5, 2011) – The International Window Cleaning Association (IWCA) will join with thousands of people and businesses worldwide, along with the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), representing more than 33,000 occupational safety, health and environmental professional members, the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering (CSSE), and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Alliance Program participants, in raising awareness of the importance of being safe at work during the annual North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week this May 1-7 and Occupational Safety and Health Professional (OSHP) Day May 4.

Currently 12 people a day are dying from on-the-job injuries and members of IWCA continue to work to help prevent injuries and illnesses for all in all industries worldwide. NAOSH is one tool used to educate the public on workplace best practices and more in an effort to save lives and prevent work injuries and illnesses.

The NAOSH 2011 theme is 'Celebrating a Century of Safety'. This is not only the 100th anniversary of the American Society of Safety Engineers, who sponsors NAOSH annually, but also the 100th anniversary of one of the most horrific workplace disasters in U.S. history. On March 25, 1911, 146 women and men died in the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire in the Asch building in New York City. That Saturday, when a fire started on one of the top floors of the Asch building, workers rushed to escape. However, the doors were locked. There were no fire sprinklers even though many New England manufacturing facilities were using fire sprinklers as a safety precaution during that time. The fire sprinkler head was patented in 1872. There were no fire safety or prevention products or programs at the Triangle Factory. The fire escape had melted and broken off. The elevator operator tried desperately to save as many people as he could, but as the fire spread many jumped to their deaths to the street below with their clothes on fire. Many jumped into the elevator shaft hoping to survive. They did not. Fire department ladders could not reach the top floors of the building. Thousands of New Yorkers lined the street and helplessly watched in horror as the workers jumped to their deaths on the street below. One of those onlookers was Francis Perkins who became the first female U.S. member of cabinet when she was appointed to serve as the U.S. Secretary of Labor.

Soon after, public outrage led to a wave of new worker protection rules and regulations. Seven months later the American Society of Safety Engineers was founded in New York City, some say it was the beginning of the modern safety movement. Since that time ASSE and its occupational safety, health and environmental professional members continue to work in all industries and in their communities to make sure another Triangle Factory fire never occurs again. During NAOSH Week, ASSE members work with thousands, including the OSHA Alliance Partners in enhancing workplace safety for all. For more on this please go to <http://www.asse.org/assecenturyofsafety> to view the ASSE historical film.

NAOSH activities to support work safety and educate the public are held worldwide by individual members and organizations. NAOSH kick-off events and educational programs are scheduled for Washington, D.C., this May 1 and 2, with ASSE members, federal and state officials, winners of the 9th annual ASSE kids 'safety-on-the-job' poster contest and more. The NAOSH kick-off events in D.C. will be held at the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL), the U.S. Capitol, the

National Zoo and the National Gallery of Art. The events will feature panel discussions on the history of safety, preventing distracted driving, and recognizing the young winners from around the world of the 9th annual ASSE kids' 'safety-on-the-job' poster contest for kids aged 5-14.

"NAOSH week is another tool we use to educate people on the positive benefits of protecting people, property and the environment and sharing best practices among our members and their employees all in an effort to continue to enhance workplace safety worldwide," Dan Dvorak, IWCA President, said today. "It not only helps us keep our workers safe and contributes positively to a business' bottom line, but also makes sure there are smiles at the end of the day when that worker returns home safe and sound to their family."

Past NAOSH Week events have included fleet safety classes, ergonomic awareness events, a workplace-oriented one-day free preparedness Web Expo, update on mining safety programs, a laser safety seminar, roadway work zone safety programs, corporate workplace safety and health days, teen worker safety programs, city and state work safety fairs, symposiums on a variety of topics, projects to assist charities, [personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#) fashion shows, and much more. For a listing of activities from last year along with photos please go to www.asse.org/naosh10.

The International Window Cleaning Association (IWCA) is a non-profit trade 501(c)(6) association committed to raising the standards of professionalism within the window cleaning industry. The IWCA represents all facets of the window cleaning industry, from high rise to route work, residential to industrial. Through its various programs, the IWCA promotes safety, training and a highly professional, responsible image of the window cleaning professional. The IWCA delivers at least three regional safety training programs a year at various locations throughout the country. These programs cover all aspects of window cleaning safety and equipment use. The IWCA is also the secretariat for the American National Standard, IWCA I 14.1 Window Cleaning Safety. For more information, call 1-800-875-4922 or visit them at www.iwca.org. If you would like more information about ASSE and NAOSH, please visit www.asse.org/naosh11