

ASSP



GRANITE STATE CHAPTER

NOVEMBER 2024

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UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

December Technical Meeting: Electrical Safety Auditing

Check your email for updates

Speaker: TBD

Where: TBD

When: TBD



President's Message

Hello Everyone,

Welcome to the November newsletter for the Granite State Chapter of the ASSP!

This month we have three fantastic articles written for you by our board. We also thank everyone who was able to join our October technical meeting, and would like to announce that we plan on having another one in December! We will send out details and dates once finalized.

Also, if anyone is looking to assist the chapter grow, do not hesitate to reach out to me or any other board member for information!

Thank you,
Al Parise, PE, CSP



ASSP Granite State Membership Anniversaries!
20 Years
Alan P McCartney
Sandra P Burroughs
Thanks for your commitment and congratulations!

Safety Management Systems Webinars

[ISO TC-283 Update: Global Health and Safety Management Systems – Part 1](#)

[ISO TC-283 Update: Global Health and Safety Management Systems – Part 2](#)

[From Paper to Pixels: Physical Security Technology for a Safer Facility Sponsored by iLobby](#)

[Compliance Made Easy: Digitizing Your Safety Plan Sponsored by GoCanvas](#)

[Samsara - From the Field to the Factory - Uplevel Your Safety Programs Sponsored by Samsara](#)

[ISO TC283 Update - ISO 45001 Standard and Projects](#)

[How EHS Mobile Technology Can Elevate Safety & Boost Productivity Sponsored by Origami Risk](#)

Look for us on Social Media!

Facebook:

American Society of Safety Professionals Granite State Chapter

Twitter:

@gscASSP

Instagram:

@granitestateassp

LinkedIn:

ASSP Granite State Chapter

Training Opportunities:

Offered by ASSP

[Click Here for Courses from ASSP](#)



Offered OSHA Training Center

[Click Here for Courses from OSHA](#)



News & Events

Check Out our Websites for Updates!

<https://granitestate.assp.org/>

Impacts of Artificial Intelligence in Occupational Safety & Health

Artificial intelligence (AI) is revolutionizing occupational safety and health (OSH) by enabling professionals to enhance workplace safety programs through predictive analytics and real-time monitoring. By analyzing extensive safety datasets, AI identifies patterns and predicts potential hazards, allowing for proactive accident prevention and risk mitigation. This data-driven approach empowers organizations to address risks before incidents occur, fostering a safer work environment.

Incorporating AI into safety protocols also facilitates behavior recognition and intervention. Certain AI systems are designed to detect when workers deviate from established safety protocols, enabling timely corrective actions. Additionally, AI systems can be designed to augment learning opportunities in safety and health, such as virtual reality training simulations that immerse employees in realistic scenarios, enhancing hazard recognition and response skills.

AI's role extends to occupational disease prevention, particularly in diagnosing conditions with extended latency periods, like pneumoconiosis and asbestosis. AI algorithms analyze medical imaging and health records to detect early signs of such diseases, facilitating prompt intervention and improved health outcomes. This application underscores AI's potential to transform occupational health by enabling early detection and prevention strategies.

While AI offers the hope of significant advancements in workplace safety, it also presents challenges, including algorithmic integrity and bias mitigation. Ensuring that AI algorithms are designed to minimize bias and ensure fairness is crucial to maintaining trust and effectiveness in safety applications. Occupational safety and health professionals must collaborate with AI developers to establish ethical guidelines and standards that uphold the integrity of AI systems in safety programs.

For more information on AI, check out the May 2024 edition of the ASSP's Professional Safety Journal article titled "The OSH implications of artificial intelligence: Q&A with Matt Law" and the free education resource from the ASSP titled "Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Safety".



Image source: <https://safetypedia.com/safety/artificial-intelligence-in-health-and-safety/>



Image source: <https://www.enshpo.eu/ai-for-worker-management-is-worker-safety-and-health-considered/>



Image source: <https://saxon.ai/blogs/revolutionizing-industrial-safety-with-ai-making-manufacturing-safer/>

The Evolution of Head Protection: Upcoming ANSI/ISEA Z89.1 Update

Head protection has long been a staple in occupational safety, and the ANSI/ISEA Z89.1 standard has guided its development in the United States since its inception. Over the last ten years, the traditional “hard hat” has been reimagined, with modern safety helmets now incorporating advanced materials and features to meet evolving workplace needs. Unlike Type I head protection, or traditional “hard hats,” which primarily protect against top impacts to the crown of the wearer’s head, Type II safety helmets offer improved lateral protection, a more secure fit through chin straps, and enhanced comfort through ventilation. These innovations ensure that workers are better protected, especially in environments where they face a broader range of hazards.

The ANSI/ISEA Z89.1 standard plays a crucial role in defining the protective qualities and classifications of industrial headgear, with helmets categorized by Type (I or II) and Class (G, E, and C) based on impact and electrical protection capabilities. With the standard currently undergoing revisions expected to be finalized in 2025, the industry anticipates

changes that will streamline safety helmet classifications to better align with modern needs. This update could also reduce confusion created by the various and incompatible global head protection standards, allowing employers and safety professionals to make more informed decisions when selecting head protection in the United States.

In line with the industry’s shift, OSHA recently updated its own protocols, now recommending Type II safety helmets over Type I traditional hard hats for their inspectors and other field personnel. By incorporating modern safety helmets, OSHA aims to enhance protection against both top and lateral impacts, improving overall safety outcomes for its workers. This change, supported by studies and OSHA’s own Safety and Health Information Bulletin, has set an example for organizations to consider upgrading their head protection policies to reflect advancements in safety equipment technology. For employers, this shift highlights the importance of choosing the right head protection based on specific workplace hazards and ensuring that employees are trained on proper helmet use and



Image source: <https://safetyequipment.org/know-your-facts-head-protection/>

maintenance. Staying updated on standards like ANSI/ISEA Z89.1 is crucial to promoting a safer work environment. As head protection continues to evolve, employers and safety professionals are encouraged to look beyond traditional hard hats and embrace head protection that offers the most comprehensive protection, comfort, and compliance with current and forthcoming standards.

For more information, check out the August 2024 edition of the ASSP’s Professional Safety Journal for the featured article titled “From Hard Hats to Helmets”. Also, stay tuned to ANSI/ISEA Z89.1 as an update is anticipated soon.

Image source: <https://safetyequipment.org/know-your-facts-head-protection/>



Prioritize Employee Safety: Disaster Contingency Planning

By: Jane Marsh posted on Industrial Safety & Hygiene News on April 11, 2023

Article source: <https://www.ishn.com/articles/113671-prioritize-employee-safety-through-disaster-contingency-planning>



Image source: <https://www.ishn.com/articles/113671-prioritize-employee-safety-through-disaster-contingency-planning>

Disaster strikes without warning and can leave employees confused and lost. Anticipating emergencies prevents this. Disaster contingency planning gives them clear instructions and an idea of how to react to sudden situations. If you’re concerned about making their safety a priority, consider planning ahead.

What Disasters Do You Prepare For?

A disaster contingency plan anticipates and prepares for workplace emergencies that are natural or artificial. Even though you can’t predict when disasters will happen, it’s possible to plan

for them.

There are two types of disasters you can prepare for: Natural disasters: Nature causes these disasters. They include floods, earthquakes, fires, outbreaks of disease or tornadoes. Man-made disasters: Humans cause these disasters by accident or on purpose.. These include chemical spills, explosions, biological threats or cyber-attacks. These kinds of disasters always happen, so prepare for both to be safe. You can tell how likely a disaster is by looking at your location, the season, history and any current events. Start by looking at the location of

the organization. Depending on where it’s located, some disasters are more likely. For example, consider preparing for floods if you work in an area close to the ocean. Similarly, you wouldn’t prioritize cold weather threats if you’re in an area with only high temperatures. Still, it’s best to prepare for everything to stay ahead.

How Do Disaster Contingency Plans Help?

Since events happen randomly, unprepared people might panic in response. To prevent this, have a disaster contingency plan. These keep employees info-

med on the best way to react to dangerous situations.

Preparing for everything is best. Extra planning takes effort, but natural disasters need individual emergency plans because you'll uniquely respond to each. For example, a tornado forces you to stay in the building, while fire forces you to evacuate. So, consider one for each event instead of having one evacuation plan.

Disaster contingency plans protect the organization and employees:

- **Protect against injury:** Informed employees know the safest way to react to disasters.
- **Provide safe spaces:** Some disasters might force you out of your building. Anticipating this allows you to continue work at a secure location seamlessly.
- **Allows security:** If you're prepared, you can provide employees with protection ahead of time.
- **Ensures a good response:** With planning, employees will react to disasters calmly and in a timely manner.

The safety of employees is a top priority. Preparing for an emergency will only positively impact you. Beyond that, you probably are required to. Even if the organization isn't located in zones prone to natural disasters, OSHA requires companies with 10 or more employees to have written emergency plans.

Prepare for the worst

Preparing for disasters keeps your employees safe. Storms — including hurricanes — are becoming more dangerous as time goes on. This means things



Image source: https://www.hongkongairport.com/ivov-resources/html/sustainability_report/eng/SR1819/world-class-gateway/contingency-planning/



Image source: <https://www.marc.org/safety-security/hazardous-materials>



Image source: <https://us.anteagroup.com/news-events/blog/five-best-practices-for-emergency-incident-response-preparedness>

you may not consider risks should be accounted for. It's better to be overprepared than underprepared.

In addition, some disasters may strike in unexpected places. Take Texas, for example. For nearly a week after December 25, 2022, most of the state was below freezing and experienced frigid conditions. The temperatures were typically high there, so many people had no experience with severe winter weather.

Because people assumed they didn't have to plan for the cold, many were in dangerous situations with no resources. Even if the chances are low, anticipate the worst scenario to be ready. To emphasize the contingency plan, post signs, evacuation routes and bulletins so employees can refresh themselves on the program whenever they want.

React accordingly

Disaster contingency planning allows employees to react calmly to emergency events. Prioritize their safety by adequately preparing them. To do so, make your plans unique. Each situation should have a specialized response. They should know whether to evacuate or shelter in place.

Furthermore, they should be aware of the following steps after doing so. For example, if an explosion occurs at a nearby processing facility, your employees should know to stay in place and wait for an official response.

Train them on the correct reactions and have regular meetings to check up. Also, running drills as part of your planning might be worth it if you're in a disaster-prone area. Disasters can be frightening, but it is calming to know how to respond.

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Focus on recovery

After preparation and reaction, recovery is how to commit to employee safety. Sometimes, you won't be able to get back to work after an emergency event. Flooding, fire, explosions or other disasters might make the building unusable.

Also, it might be tough for employees to travel back. A proper disaster contingency plan includes steps to take after the initial event has passed. To start, the location should be easily accessible to employees. To prioritize their safety, they should only return to work if roads are clear and the building is structurally sound.

Beyond that, cleanup is a large part of recovery. Imagine that employees return to work only to be met with a building soaked by floodwater. They should have a clean environment to work

in if their safety is a priority.

Additionally, disasters might cause further damage if you avoid cleanup. For example, flood damage that isn't taken care of causes mold damage. You can protect a building against issues like this with planning. Make sure crews clean up all damage and remove potential hazards. If the damage is severe, keep your employees safe by having them work at an alternate space until cleanup crews fix things.

Prepare to protect

Proper planning anticipates disasters to keep employees safe. You may never need to use some of your contingency plans, but they're still necessary since emergencies happen unpredictably. Preparing, reacting and recovering according to plan prioritizes everyone's safety.

Job Openings Near You!

Ryan Emerson - ASSP Granite State Job Chair

Company:	Job Title:	Location:
Barry-Wehmiller Design Group	Regional Safety Manager	Concord, NH
Getinge	Manager, Sustainability, Health and Safety	Merrimack, NH
WorkWISE NH, Keene State College	Industrial Hygienist	Keene, NH
SubCom	Senior Manager, EHS Program	Newington, NH
Westinghouse Electric Company	EHS/Environmental Specialist	Newington, NH
LightForce	Construction Site Health & Safety Officer	Portsmouth, NH
Panosonic	EHS Specialist II	Salem, NH
Dartmouth Health	Industrial Hygienist	Lebanon, NH
Hussmann	Construction Site Health & Safety Officer	Salem, NH
Associated Grocers of New England	Safety Specialist	Pembroke, NH
State of NH	Laboratory Safety Officer	Concord, NH

Looking to Join ASSP ?

E-Board Contact Information

Al Parise, PE, CSP

President

acparise@verdantas.com
(603) 897-9956

Jeff Perkins, CHST

President-Elect

jeff.perkins@marshmma.com
(603) 660-8529

Andrew Sellers, CSP

Treasurer & Student Section Liaison

sellers.andrew1@gmail.com
(603) 313-7834

Open Position

Secretary

Joe Orazio

Program Chair

ksc328@gmail.com
(603) 384-6148

Jeff Slark

Nominations & Elections Chair

Advisory Group Member #2

jslark@velcro.com
(603) 703-2045

Courtney Favara, CSP

Communications & Social Media Chair

courtneysimone14@gmail.com
(603) 988-5078

Sam Despins, PE, CHMM

Awards & Honors Chair

samuel.despins@gza.com
(603) 232-8721

Kara Cleghorn

Membership Chair

kara.cleghorn@gza.com
(603) 316-8710

Ashley Arnold

Newsletter Editor

amarnold@tcco.com
(774) 217-9985

Ryan Emerson

Awards & Honors Chair

ryan.emerson@turbocam.com
(603) 905-0392

Danielle Cobleigh

Advisory Group Member #1

danielle.cobleigh@collins.com
(603) 290-0436

Billy Wilder

Advisory Group Member #3

wwilder137@gmail.com
(603) 338-7956

Abdulrazak Balogun

Student Section Faculty Advisor

abdulrazak.balogun@keene.edu
(812) 223-9721

Brady Keene

Student Section Faculty Advisor

brady.keene@keene.edu
(508) 269-2361

Michael Fandell

New England Area Director

mrfandell@northamericansafetyservicesllc.com

Ed Zimmer, MS, CSP

Region 8 Vice President

rvp@region8.assp.org