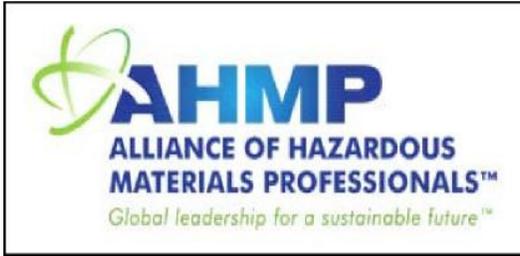


The Hazardous Materials Manager

EASTERN WASHINGTON CHAPTER OF THE ACADEMY OF CERTIFIED HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS NEWSLETTER



Eastern Washington Chapter of the Academy of Certified Hazardous Materials Managers

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President's Corner

By Roni Swan, PMP, CHMM, CM



The EWC ES&H Overview Course has been rescheduled to November 12, 13 and 14 (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) to assure that everyone has an opportunity to register for the class that has not done so. We want to assure the course is advertised to others that work in the hazardous materials management field.

I just returned from the Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP) 26th annual conference in Orlando, Florida. As part of this event, there was an emergency response scenario that tested local responders during a full-scale demonstration of a chemical spill on Tuesday just outside of Walt Disney World on the grounds of the Reedy Creek Fire Department. This training exercise was organized by the AHMP. The Reedy Creek Special Operations and Response unit were told there was a diesel fuel spill with no other knowledge of the emergency, much like how it is in the real world, and the spill had migrated to a set of sodium hypochlorite - commonly known as bleach - tanks, which would cause the tanks to explode, releasing a highly toxic chemical gas.

From a practicality standpoint, bleach is one of the most common chemicals used in the country and is used in a number of wastewater treatment operations, so this scenario could happen in any town in the country, which



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is why AHMP members found the drill to be so important. EWC's Steve Laughlin, industry expert and a certified environmental trainer of the AHMP said that attendees of the conference had the opportunity to see how Reedy Creek would respond to the incident.

The more training and education companies have, the lower these incidents will be. The objective is to better manage and mitigate risks, as it relates to hazardous materials and how to better manage those in their facilities, as well as transporting them from one location to another.

According to Cedric Calhoun, AHMP Executive Director, the organization's goal is to focus on educating professionals on what, in terms of the law, is coming and the best way to comply with state and local regulations. The other goal is to bring individuals together on a professional level to exchange ideas and information on how to best manage hazardous materials. The emergency response exercise was one way to do that.

On another note, the EWC annual awards program will be calling for award nominations soon. These awards will recognize the hard work and accomplishments for individuals and projects in 2012. The awards are sponsored by U. S. DOE and the contractor companies.

EWC is looking for individuals to participate as Officers and/or Chairs of the Executive Committee for 2014. Involvement in the Executive Committee is rewarding, provides a community service, and does not require much time. The meetings are held so as to be convenient as possible for everyone. So, please consider helping out or nominating someone for a position. Experience is not required!

DOE Recommends Phased Start for Hanford Cleanup

Associated Press (09/25/13)

The federal government is recommending a phased beginning for the treatment of 56 million gallons of radioactive waste stored in underground tanks at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Washington state. In a new report, the U.S. Department of Energy proposes starting to treat some of the waste for disposal as soon as possible, amid ongoing work to address technical issues at the vitrification plant's Pretreatment and High Level Waste Facilities, according to the Tri-City Herald. Treatment would entail sending some low activity radioactive waste to the plant's Low Activity Waste Facility to be readied for disposal, which would require circumventing the Pretreatment Facility, which originally was planned to separate all the tank waste into low activity and high level waste streams for separate treatment. The treated low activity waste would then be disposed of at a Hanford landfill. Also suggested by the Energy Department is retrieval of up to 1.4 million gallons of waste from as many as 11 underground single-shell tanks that may be classified as transuranic waste, which is usually contaminated with plutonium. The waste would then be shipped to the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant in New Mexico. The federal government alerted state officials in June that Washington state is at risk of missing two cleanup deadlines at Hanford, and Gov. Jay Inslee says the state would strive to guarantee fulfillment of federal cleanup commitments.

OSHA Launches New Safety and Health Certificate Program for Public Sector Employees

September 27, 2013

A new certificate program has been launched by OSHA that provides public sector employees training on occupational safety and health to reduce injuries, illnesses and fatalities among workers in state and local governments.

The certificate program, called Public Sector Safety and Health Fundamentals, is available in construction and general industry. Students can choose from a variety of courses, including:

- Occupational safety and health standards for construction or general industry,
- Safety and health management,
- Accident investigation,
- Fall hazard awareness, and
- Recordkeeping.

To earn a certificate, participants must complete a minimum of seven courses, consisting of three required courses and additional elective courses, totaling at least 68 hours of in-class training. OSHA has created a new webpage dedicated to this certificate program. The page provides course descriptions and prerequisites, program information and instructions on how to apply to the program.

The certificate program is administered by OSHA Training Institute Education Centers, which are non-profit organizations authorized by OSHA to deliver occupational safety and health training. All courses required to complete the program are available at OTI Education Centers nationwide. Courses taken at different OTI Education Centers are transferrable and can count toward the certificate program.

AHMP Webinar: Environmental, Safety and Health Concerns and Remedial Alternatives for Tire Fires

Hosted by the New Mexico Society of Hazardous Materials Managers Chapter

Wednesday, October 23, 2013

Speaker: Paul Karas, PG, CHMM, CDM Smith Inc.

Time: 1:00PM (Eastern)/12:00PM (Central)/11:00AM (Mountain)/10:00AM (Pacific)

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$65/AHMP members - \$75/Non-Members

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Notable examples of tire fires will be discussed and the fire hazards, implications for impacts to air quality, surface water, soils and groundwater summarized. A case study will be presented involving an historical tire fire in New Mexico that smoldered for more than 10 years. Topics to be covered include the site history and regulatory considerations, site assessment, risk analysis, remedial objectives, evaluation of alternatives, remedy design, implementation and site closure.

Topics to be covered include the:

- site history and regulatory considerations
- site assessment
- risk analysis
- remedial objectives
- evaluation of alternatives
- remedy design
- implementation
- site closure

EPA Proposes Carbon Pollution Standards for New Power Plants

September 23, 2013

EPA has proposed Clean Air Act standards to cut carbon pollution from new power plants. In addition, the agency says it has initiated outreach and direct engagement with state, tribal, and local governments, industry and labor leaders, non-profits, and others to establish carbon pollution standards for existing power plants and build on state efforts to move toward a cleaner power sector.

"Climate change is one of the most significant public health challenges of our time. By taking commonsense action to limit carbon pollution from new power plants, we can slow the effects of climate change and fulfill our obligation to ensure a safe and healthy environment for our children," EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy said. "These standards will also spark the innovation we need to build the next generation of power plants, helping grow a more sustainable clean energy economy."

Under the proposal, new large natural gas-fired turbines would need to meet a limit of 1,000 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂) per megawatt-hour, while new small natural gas-fired turbines would need to meet a limit of 1,100 pounds of CO₂ per megawatt-hour. New coal-fired units would need to meet a limit of 1,100 pounds of CO₂ per megawatt-hour, and would have the option to meet a somewhat tighter limit if they choose to average emissions over multiple years, giving those units additional operational flexibility.

According to EPA, the proposed standards will ensure that new power plants are built with available clean technology to limit carbon pollution, a requirement that is in line with investments in clean energy technologies that are already being made in the power industry. Additionally, EPA

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claims the standards provide flexibility by allowing sources to phase in the use of some of these technologies, and they ensure that the power plants of the future use cleaner energy technologies such as efficient natural gas, advanced coal technology, nuclear power, and renewable energy like wind and solar.

In response to recent information and developments in the power sector and more than 2.5 million public comments to EPA's April 2012 proposal, including those from the power sector and environmental groups, the new proposal sets separate standards for new gas-fired and coal-fired power plants.

EPA asserts that power plants are the largest concentrated source of emissions in the U.S., together accounting for roughly one-third of all domestic greenhouse gas emissions. Currently, nearly a dozen states have implemented their own market-based programs to reduce carbon pollution. In addition, more than 25 states have set energy efficiency targets, and more than 35 have set renewable energy targets. While the U.S. has limits in place for arsenic, mercury and lead pollution that power plants can emit, there are no national limits on the amount of carbon pollution new power plants can emit.

In 2009, EPA determined that greenhouse gas pollution threatens health and welfare by leading to long-lasting changes in the climate that can have a range of negative effects on human health and the environment.

The agency is seeking comments and information on the proposal, including holding a public hearing, and will take that input fully into account as it completes the rulemaking process. EPA's comment period will be open for 60 days following publication in the Federal Register. In a separate action, EPA is rescinding its April 2012 air standards proposal.

Separately, EPA has begun an outreach effort to a wide variety of stakeholders that will help inform the development of emission guidelines for existing power plants. EPA intends to work closely with the states to ensure strategies for reducing carbon pollution from existing sources are flexible, account for regional diversity, and embrace common sense solutions. EPA plans to issue proposed standards for existing power plants by June 1, 2014.

For more information, visit www.epa.gov/carbon-pollution-standards.

Annual Regional Award 2013 Nominations

EWC has begun seeking nominations for its annual regional awards program. Eligibility is from the Eastern Washington, Eastern Oregon, and Western Idaho. This year's awards are being sponsored by Washington River Protection Solutions (WRPS) and CH2MHill Plateau Remediation Company (CHPRC), as well as the Chapter. The performance period ends September 30, 2013. The breadth of awards cover many aspects of environmental safety, and health scopes of work. Awards are for activities that occurred from October 1, 2012 until September 30, 2013. Nominations should be received by November 11. Contact Scot Adams at scadams@hotmail.com or 509-735-7130 for more information.

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ANSI Awards IHMM Continued Accreditation

ROCKVILLE, Maryland (2 October 2013) – The Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM) is very pleased to announce that the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) has granted IHMM continued accreditation under the International Standard Conformity Assessment, *General Requirements for Bodies Operating Certification of Persons* (ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024), for another year. After a review of IHMM's 2013 Annual on-site audit report, The Personnel Certification Accreditation Committee (PCAC) at their 24 September 2013 meeting officially moved to continue IHMM's accreditation.

"ANSI accreditation offers the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM®) and the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner (CHMP™) credentials the recognition of an independent global validation as hazardous materials professionals," said Allison A. King, Chair of the IHMM Board of Directors. "IHMM conforms to the highest independent, third party accreditation standard available in the scientific and global communities for the delivery of competency exams."

ANSI's accreditation program for personnel certification bodies is based on the international standard ANSI/ISO/IEC 17024. In addition to an annual comprehensive review of a paper application, ANSI assessors conduct an on-site assessment every other year to validate information provided by each certifying body. Nearly 2.5 million professionals hold credentials from an ANSI accredited certification body, offering the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) and the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner (CHMP) credentials global reach and recognition.

About the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management

For over 25 years the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1984, has been protecting the environment and the public's health, safety, and security through the administration of credentials recognizing professionals who have demonstrated a high level of knowledge, expertise, and excellence in the management of hazardous materials.

Over 16,000 homeland security, environmental protection, engineering, health sciences, transportation, and public safety professionals have earned IHMM's accredited Certified Hazardous Materials Manager credential. IHMM also administers the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner credential and the Hazardous Materials Manager-in-Training program.

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Why Certification?

Environmental programs are vital to our public health and safety. Management of hazardous materials and wastes requires proven and unquestionable skill and competence. Quality control over the professionals involved in programs of national importance, and particularly of public safety, is best accomplished through certification.

The CHMM credential is the premier credential for Hazardous Materials Managers, Waste Management Professionals, and Environmental Health and Safety Managers. IHMM's trademark CHMM program recognizes your expertise and allows you to make a significant impact on your community. Corporations, universities and government agencies depend on the CHMM certification to identify qualified professionals in the field. If you manage hazardous or potentially hazardous materials in any capacity join a professional movement toward respect and recognition.

In today's business environment, it takes more than just a technically trained person to manage the risks that hazardous materials pose to organizations and the environment. It also takes managerial competence. That is why those seeking the CHMM credential must demonstrate both technical and managerial competence. The CHMM program believes successful EHS managers must understand business processes and create value to their organizations. They must identify environmental, health and safety risks and devise systems to manage and mitigate those risks. They must be able to prepare EHS budgets, manage finances, communicate, coach and train. CHMMs are prepared for this role. This is a major reason why we are considered the premier credential in the EHS field!

Mistakes of the Past

(And How Not to Repeat Them!) - Part 11

"What They Told You, What They Didn't"

Harold Tilden, CHMM

[Author's Note 1: This article is intended to take a look at past activities in the light of how to learn from them. No accusations of impropriety on anyone's part are intended; usually the actions taken were "state of the art" at the time.]

[Author's Note 2: This conversation never really took place. It's simply a way to show what the eventual responsible party knew and didn't know, and didn't bother to find out before making the mistake.]

What They Told You: "We want to buy your used electrical equipment. It's a valuable commodity."

What They Didn't: "We will recover the copper, not sure what we will do with the rest."

What They Told You: "We will pay you more than anyone else will."

What They Didn't: "We use cheap, unskilled labor and don't manage our waste particularly well, so we can afford to pay you more."

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What They Told You: "We recycle your materials."

What They Didn't: "We set up a burner to burn the cardboard and other oil-soaked internals so we can recover the copper more easily. That's how we recycle those."

What They Told You: "We separate the equipment into its recyclable parts."

What They Didn't: "We don't capture the oil that spills when we disassemble equipment, we just let it soak into the soil."

What They Told You: "We are located in the industrial part of town and comply with zoning requirements."

What They Didn't: "Our property is located next to a chemical company and an auto junk yard, and the junk yard's storm water flows onto our property. Once in a while our property floods since we're so close to San Francisco Bay."



What They Told You: "We are a well-established company. We've been in business for years."

What They Didn't: "You should see all of the interesting stuff that's been piling up at our site – we either can't get rid of it or are trying to sell it to someone else."

What EPA Told You (Later): "We have detected PCB and metals contamination on the facility property and it is contaminating ground and surface water. You are the responsible party; the owner is broke. You must remove and dispose of all the junk and contaminated soils, install a cap, slurry wall, and monitoring wells, operate a containment system, and monitor the site for the next 30 years."

What EPA Didn't (but is obvious): "Your attempt to salvage value from those transformers is going to cost you big time for years to come."

Lessons Learned:

- Know what is in the material you send a recycler. If there is hazardous material in it, you may very likely end up liable for cleanup.
- Find out what the recycler actually does with all of the materials you send to them. A site visit might be in order.
- Don't let your purchasing department determine who manages your wastes and recyclable materials. As an environmental professional, give them the guidance they need to make a proper (safe, compliant, and environmentally secure) selection.