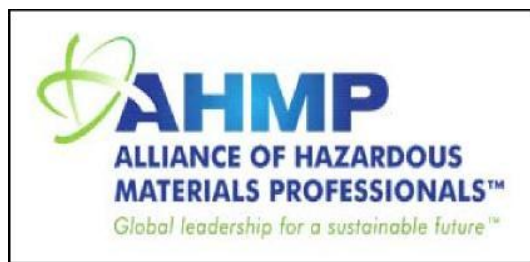


The Hazardous Materials Manager

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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Richland, WA 99352
<http://www.ewcachmm.org>

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Vice President: Roni Swan
Treasurer: Harold Tilden
Past President: Russ Johnson

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Membership Development: Open
Public & Community
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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Chuck Mulkey, President



I want to thank everyone for the opportunity to serve as the Chapter's President this year. I also wish to thank all the current officers, those that have supported the Chapter in the past, and those who continue to support the Chapter. This year, the Chapter especially wants to acknowledge the continuing support of WRPS, CHPRC, and the U.S. DOE with the awards program.

This year, we are planning to hold the general meetings every other month. A mix of field trips and presenters will be coordinated by Roni Swan. The general meetings are always open to the public and are without cost. However, there are many rewards to those who join the organization. The Chapter dues for membership are only \$25/year and are tax deductible. The EWC-ACHMM is a non-profit organization.

The first program, held in February was a presentation by Adriane Borgias that provided an examination of the Bhopal disaster, and included a perspective on prevention of tragedies like that from occurring here in the United States. In March, the EWC-ACHMM will provide judges and prizes to the Science Fair which will be held at Columbia Center Mall. Volunteers are needed and we hope you will join us. The Environmental Overview workshop, also called the CHMM Exam Preparation Course, is being scheduled in May. And, the Annual Awards Banquet is again being planned to be held in December. Other activities and events will be announced as they are developed.

The EWC-ACHMM would like feedback from you. We want to know how the Chapter can best serve you, the readers of this newsletter. If you have ideas for topics for the bimonthly meetings, want to become involved in the Executive Committee, or have any suggestions for the Chapter, please let myself or one of the other Officers/Chairs, know what you think. Anyone who has the time or interest to help work with the Chapter with its community support efforts, please let us know. We want to identify the areas that will encourage you to participate. We would like to increase the involvement of more individuals this year, including those outside of Hanford.



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Mistakes of the Past

(And How Not to Repeat Them!) - Part 5

“The Devil’s In the Debris”

Harold Tilden, CHMM

[Author’s Note: 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.]

One of the major thermal treatment facilities in the United States accepted some debris waste from the cleanup of a transportation accident. The accident spilled a solid oxidizer (sodium chlorate) onto and along the train tracks. The remediation company dug up the contaminated soil and debris, placed it into 55-gallon drums, and arranged for it to be transported to the treatment facility. There it was staged in the facility’s receipt and acceptance facility for confirmation of the waste matching the profile.



As the facility handles a very large number of containers every day, the waste was not immediately examined and incinerated. Unfortunately, the waste contained not only the solid oxidizer, but creosoted railroad ties and other organic debris. The presence of the ties and organic debris was not noted on the profile, so precautions against spontaneous combustion were not observed in the warehouse, a large open structure. Over the weekend, the waste caught fire and drums exploded. The resulting fire was very vigorous and demolished the entire building, along with hundreds of drums of waste of various kinds. Firefighters responded immediately, but were kept back for safety reasons. About 1500 local residents were evacuated; about 400 were not allowed to return home until the next day.

After the fire was extinguished, the residual materials were taken to a remote area of the facility. They spontaneously reignited ten days later. All of the residual material was then incinerated as a priority.

The facility’s upgrades in response to the incident required an investment of \$6.7 million. They also had to do a partial RCRA closure to reflect the burned warehouse.

Lessons Learned:

- Waste Profiling is Key. You know what is in the waste you generate. Everyone else that handles it from that point forward is relying on the information you provide. Their facilities, and their personal health and safety, depend on an accurate description. That includes “inert” ingredients; railroad ties and tree limbs are non-hazardous, but their presence was the direct cause of the incident.
- Safety First. Firefighters were held back for safety’s sake, and a large precautionary evacuation was conducted. The first concern in an emergency response remains the health and safety of personnel involved. Containment and cleanup are secondary concerns.
- One Size Does Not Fit All. Different waste streams require different precautionary handling techniques. Storing multiple waste types together is often a recipe for trouble.

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Why Get the CHMM 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. The Institute of Hazardous Materials Managers (IHMM) trademarked 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!

Attend the Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals Premier Skills Building Event!

Effective EHS&S professionals are first and foremost effective leaders.

***AHMP Leadership Workshop
Lowes Denver Hotel, Denver, CO
April 18-20, 2012***

Registration Cost:

Member - before March 25	\$265	Non-Member - before March 25	\$365
Member - March 26–April 13	\$315	Non-Member - March 26–April 13	\$415



Over two days, you will learn, develop, and practice skills to make you a more effective leader. This is not a regulatory class or a collection of motivational speeches. This is a leadership skills development session to enable you to become a better leader. By attending this session with other EHS&S professionals you can focus on the unique challenges involved with communicating EHS&S throughout your organization. The Leadership Workshop also provides an excellent opportunity to network with your colleagues and the AHMP leadership team.

To register, contact:

Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals™
9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814-3999
800-437-0137 / 301-634-7430
Fax: 301-634-7431
meetings@ahmpnet.org
www.AHMPnet.org

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Tour of Stranahan's Colorado Whiskey Distillery Offered at AHMP's Leadership Workshop in April

Enjoy a fun, entertaining and educational tour of Stranahan's Whiskey Distillery. Stranahan's is dedicated to making the smoothest most distinctly-flavored whiskey on the market using hand-crafted distilling techniques and Colorado's finest ingredients.

When volunteer firefighter Jess Graber responded to a neighbor's barn fire, he never imagined any good would come of it. The barn he worked to save belonged to George Stranahan. When the fire settled, the two discovered a shared passion for the Colorado outdoors and a good pour of fine whiskey. And so Stranahan's Colorado Whiskey was born.

Typically when a distiller bottles their whiskey, several hundred or even several thousand barrels are combined for a staunchly uniform taste. Stranahan's makes twelve barrels of whiskey each week, about five minutes of production for some mass producing distilleries. Ten to twenty of the choicest barrels are combined for a small batch with a reliable, yet distinctive flavor.

Your VIP EHS&S tour lasts approximately one hour. It includes an overview of the company, a guided stroll through the production brew house, still house, and rack house. You will see the bottling room floor and learn about the sustainable recycling practices used at Stranahan's.

After the tour, you will enjoy a tasting of Stranahan's Colorado Whiskey followed by a prime rib and BBQ dinner at the Rackhouse Pub's Whiskey Lounge. The Rackhouse Pub prides itself on a fine menu of whiskey, beer and food and by its Santa Fe Arts District surroundings. Cost is \$25 per person, spouses welcome. You must be 21 to attend.

Tour price is \$25 and includes transportation and dinner.

Career Opportunities

- Chief Safety Officer
Sound Transit
Seattle, WA
CLOSING DATE: 03/30/12, 05:00 PM
Apply URL: <http://www.soundtransit.org/About-Sound-Transit/Jobs.xml>
- Environmental Engineer
REC Silicon
Moses Lake, Washington
Apply URL: <http://www.recgroup.com/en/career/>
- Construction Safety Professionals
Stacy and Witbeck, Inc
Portland, OR (and other NW locations)
Please send resume to careers@stacywitbeck.com.
- Safety and Craft Training Manager
Avista Corporation
Spokane, WA
Contact Person: Kimberly Lukes (509) 495 4181
Apply URL: <http://www.avistacorp.com>

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Regulatory News

From Paul W. Martin (Two Minute Trainings)

- Q:** How can earth moving equipment be decontaminated after being used to move soil that contains Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) regulated levels of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)?
- A:** 40 CFR 761.79(c) provides self-implementing decontamination processes that do not require confirmatory sampling. Per 40 CFR 761.79(c)(2)(i), "movable equipment" such as the bucket could be swabbed with a solvent known to be 5% soluble with PCBs, e.g., diesel or kerosene, etc. A double/wash rinse or use of another decontamination procedure is also allowed under 40 CFR 761.79(c). The cleaning material would need to be disposed of as required by TSCA. See 40 CFR 761.79(g)(6) and 40 CFR 761.61(a)(5)(V) for options.
- Q:** Why is universal waste called universal?
- A:** Per the May 11, 1995 Federal Register "Universal Waste Rule (Hazardous Waste Management System; Modification of the Hazardous Waste Recycling Regulatory Program)" on page 25492, under the "Summary" stated: "On February 11, 1993, the Environmental Protection Agency proposed new streamlined hazardous waste management regulations governing the collection and management of certain widely generated wastes (batteries, pesticides and thermostats) known as universal wastes.

The new streamlined hazardous waste management regulations promulgated today govern the collection and management of certain widely generated wastes identified as universal wastes."

Hence the key phrase is "widely generated wastes". Federal universal wastes are batteries, pesticides and thermostats (and now lamps and other universal wastes added by States) which are widely generated by numerous businesses. The universal waste regulations govern the collection and management of these widely generated wastes, thus facilitating environmentally sound collection and proper recycling or treatment. Therefore, universal wastes are widely generated i.e., universally generated, by many generators.

- Q:** Is puncturing aerosol cans treatment under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)?
- A:** Per 40 CFR 260.10, the definition of RCRA treatment includes changes to the physical character of any hazardous waste. Therefore the act of puncturing an aerosol can meet the definition of RCRA treatment. However, in situations where the treatment process or the waste material is exempt or excluded from RCRA, the definition of RCRA treatment may not apply. Per 40 CFR 261.6(a)(3)(ii) scrap metal destined for recycling is not subject to RCRA. Therefore the aerosol cans are not subject to the RCRA definition of treatment. Also per 40 CFR 261.6(c)(1) the recycling process itself (i.e., puncturing) is exempt from RCRA regulation. Since the customer's waste aerosol cans are being punctured and then collected for shipment to a scrap metal recycling facility, the aerosol cans are exempt from RCRA and the puncturing of the cans - in this specific instance - does not meet the definition of treatment. If the punctured aerosol cans had been destined for disposal no relief from RCRA would have been available and the puncturing process would then be subject to RCRA and the definition of RCRA treatment would have applied. A letter dated October 7, 1993, from Jeffery Denit of USEPA to John Difazio of the Chemical Specialties Manufacturers Association clarifies EPA's interpretation of the above. Note that individual States can always interpret the situation differently and take a more stringent position.

"A desk is a dangerous place from which to view the world." Author: John Le Caré