

2009 GOSH CONFERENCE

Registration Program

OREGON GOVERNOR'S OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH CONFERENCE

*HealthCare
Ergonomics
Conference

See pages 8 and 9 for information



MARCH 9-12, 2009

OREGON CONVENTION CENTER
PORTLAND, OREGON



The GOSH Conference is a joint effort of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Columbia-Willamette Chapter and the Department of Consumer & Business Services Oregon Occupational Safety & Health Division (Oregon OSHA).



Invitation from ASSE & Oregon OSHA

GOSH
CONFERENCE



Every day in the work place or at home, you have to make a decision to not hurt yourself or others, or cause damage to property. How do we make these decisions or choices? With care and information! Information provided by people that have done the task before, studied the task, and have become professionals. Where can you find these professionals? At the Oregon Governor's Occupational Safety & Health Conference (GOSH)!

As President of the Columbia-Willamette Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), I invite you to attend the GOSH in March 2009. Volunteers and professionals from across the United States will settle down in Portland to give you the power to make decisions to stay healthy and safe at work and beyond

The conference dates back to 1944 when it was just a two-day meeting of individuals interested in improving safety performance. In 1979 the partnership with Oregon OSHA was started. Today it is the premier safety and health conference in the Pacific Northwest. The conference has grown and boasts more

than 150 exhibiting companies and 2,500 participants. This event is an opportunity to receive world-class training by the finest presenters from across the country. In addition to the training, exhibitors provide the latest in safety equipment, supplies, and ideas for you to see first-hand. This conference also honors companies and individuals that have achieved exemplary safety performance. I extend an invitation for you to attend the awards luncheon and help us honor the award winners.

More than 200 volunteers representing 50 different industries in Oregon have worked for eighteen-months to bring you this world-class conference. I know that if you attend this conference you will find training, education concepts and tools, and networking opportunities that you can put to work in any industry.

Clark Vermillion

2009 GOSH Conference Chair

*President, Columbia-Willamette Chapter
American Society of Safety Engineers*



In spite of tremendous progress in workplace safety in the last two decades, too many jobs still present a very real risk of injury, illness and even death. Those who work in construction, manufacturing, health

care and elsewhere face potential hazards every day. If you are wondering how to make safety a reality in your workplace, I hope you will consider attending the Oregon Governor's Safety & Health (GOSH) Conference on March 9-12, 2009.

In these days of tight budgets, it can be tempting to set aside concerns about health and safety in the workplace. But that's a short-sighted decision, given the real risks of workplace injury and illness. The GOSH Conference promises to be a good value for those who take the time to attend.

The GOSH Conference is a joint effort of the Columbia-Willamette Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers and Oregon OSHA. Every two years, the planning committee creates a broad agenda that provides opportunities for everything from basic safety training to a discussion of complex technical issues. The agenda for 2009 is no exception.

Employers from different industries can find training on how to build a safety program from the ground up, how to manage safety with a multicultural workforce, and how to reduce accidents for young workers. They can learn

how to run an effective safety committee, how to select appropriate personal protective equipment, and how to identify and control hazards throughout the workplace. Many employers will also find training opportunities and topics that address specific concerns within their industry. For instance, the third National HealthCare Ergonomics Conference is being held in conjunction with GOSH.

The GOSH Conference is one of the best safety training values in the country — and it's available right here in Oregon. Not only can it help you fulfill your obligation to provide a safe workplace for your employees, but it also can help you turn that obligation into a competitive edge during tough economic times. Safety pays. This year, Oregon employers as a whole will start their 19th year with stable or declining workers' compensation premium rates — but individual employers also have learned that they can use their experience to give them an advantage when they bid jobs. And the benefits of an investment in safety show up in higher morale, reduced retraining costs, and better retention of your most skilled employees.

If you have been to GOSH in the past, you know it will be time well spent. If you and your workers have never seized this opportunity, the time has come. I look forward to seeing you!

Michael Wood, CSP

Administrator, Oregon OSHA