May 2020
Issue 104

Army Industrial Hygiene News and Regulatory Summary

Hazardous Substances

Construction Workers Face 'Frightening Health Threat.' Here's How They Can Stay Safe

If you work in construction, you most likely worry about many on-the-job hazards, including injuries from efalls, hearing loss or being struck by equipment. Yet, the biggest threat by far may be to your lungs: research shows that construction workers are twice as likely to develop chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) as the rest of the nation.

"It's a very real and frightening health threat, as this disease can lead to disability and sometimes even death," explains Benjamin Seides, MD, Director of Interventional Pulmonology at Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital in Chicago.

Read more:
https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/construction-workers-copd-lung-disease-202350116.html

Special Interest Articles:

Contents:

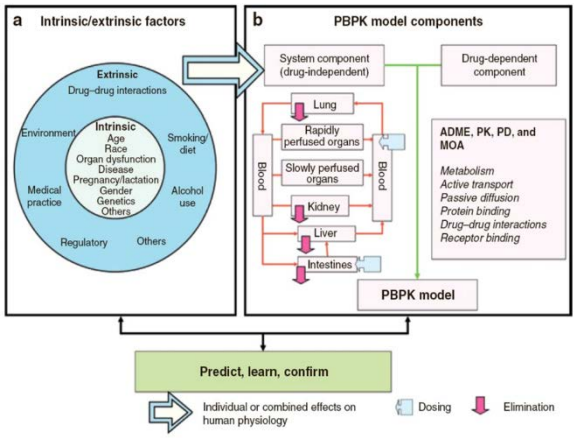
Occupational Dermatitis in Welding: Does Nickel Exposure Account for Higher Rates in Women? Analysis of a Canadian Cohort

Objectives
Women are reported to have higher rates of nickel sensitization than men, but there have been few studies of sex-related differences in dermatitis associated with occupational nickel exposure. This analysis examines dermatitis in a large cohort of women and men in welding and electrical occupations and considers how far differences in rates of dermatitis may be accounted for by nickel exposure.
Methods
Women and men were recruited to cohorts of workers who had entered welding and electrical apprenticeships (the WHAT-ME and WHAT-MEN studies). Participants completed questionnaires at baseline and every 6 months for up to 5 years. At each contact, cohort members were asked about current dermatitis and whether it was made worse by work. From the first follow-up after recruitment, those working in their trade completed detailed subroutines about tasks in their trade including, for welders, the process, base metal, and consumables. Exposures were considered by trade and, within welding, by stainless or high alloy steel (SOHAS) as the base metal. Urinary nickel concentration was also examined. Using only report of dermatitis that began after entry to the trade, new-onset dermatitis, all episodes of dermatitis, and dermatitis

made worse by work were examined against exposure by multilevel, multivariable logistic regression, allowing for potential confounding.

Read more: https://academic.oup.com/annweh/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/annweh/wxaa049/5840896?redirectedFrom=fulltext

Evaluation and Updates to the Leggett Model for Pharmacokinetic Modeling of Exposure to Lead in the Workplace – Part I Adjustments to the Adult Systemic Model



California's Division of Occupational Safety and Health has initiated a process to update its standards for exposure to lead in workplaces. In support of this effort, the state's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment evaluated the age-specific, bio-kinetic model of lead metabolism in humans, originally published by R.W. Leggett in 1993. This model was ultimately chosen for its physiologic realism and practicality in characterizing the relationship between air lead concentrations and blood lead levels in chronically exposed worker and its practicality in making necessary adjustments. Leggett's original model systematically under-predicts bone and blood levels in workers such that several adjustments to the parameters are needed to improve predictions for occupational exposure scenarios. The aim of this work is to incorporate new information about the bio-kinetics of lead in workers and to adjust the Leggett model to improve its predictions.

The Leggett model was evaluated by comparing its predictions with information on lead concentrations in bone, blood, and urine from workers and other chronically exposed adults. Key model parameters were identified based upon a review of the relevant exposure assessment and modeling literature. Adjustments to the model parameters were made based on empirical evidence. They included reducing the level of lead in blood (BLL) where the rate of decrease in red blood cell binding begins and ends, lead accumulation rate in cortical bone, the rate of lead elimination in trabecular bone, and rate of lead transferred from diffusible plasma to urine. Regression methods and visual inspection of plotted data were used to assess the

effect of adjustments on model predictions. When compared with the original, the adjusted Leggett model more accurately predicted lead concentrations observed in active and retired workers. Also, the adjusted Leggett model required less lead uptake to reach the same BLLs for BLLs less than 25 µg/dL and more time for BLLs to decline than the original Leggett model. These findings are important for defining an adequately protective occupational standard for lead exposure.

Read more: Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene, Published online: 18 May 2020 (Available with AIHA membership)

Operative and Technical Modifications to the Coriolis® µ Air Sampler that Improve Sample Recovery and Biosafety during Microbiological Air Sampling

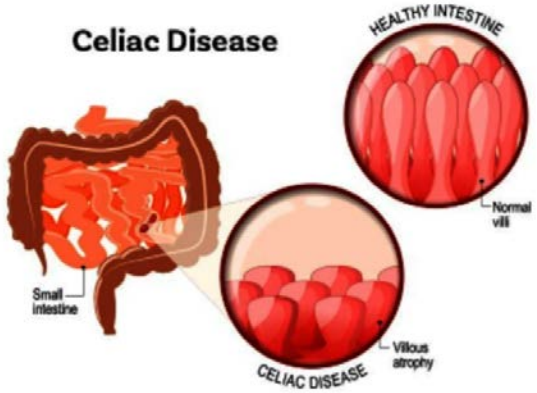
Detecting infectious aerosols is central for gauging and countering airborne threats. In this regard, the Coriolis® µ cyclonic air sampler is a practical, commercial collector that can be used with various analysis methods to monitor pathogens in air. However, information on how to operate this unit under optimal sampling and biosafety conditions is limited. We investigated Coriolis performance in aerosol dispersal experiments with polystyrene microspheres and *Bacillus globigii* spores. We report inconsistent sample recovery from the collector cone due to loss of material when sampling continuously for more than 30 min. Introducing a new collector cone every 10 min improved this shortcoming. Moreover, we found that several surfaces on the device become contaminated during sampling. Adapting a high efficiency particulate air-filter system to the Coriolis prevented contamination without altering collection efficiency or tactical deployment. A Coriolis modified with these operative and technical improvements was used to collect aerosols carrying microspheres released inside a Biosafety Level-3 laboratory during simulations of microbiological spills and aerosol dispersals. In summary, we provide operative and technical solutions to the Coriolis that optimize microbiological air sampling and improve biosafety.

Read more:
https://academic.oup.com/annweh/advance-article/doi/10.1093/annweh/wxaa053/5848475?searchresult=1

Toxic Chemical Exposure in Youth is Tied to Celiac Disease, a Small Study Suggests

So-called endocrine-disrupting chemicals that are found in products like pesticides, nonstick cookware, and fire retardants used on clothes and upholstery can interfere with the immune system. Now a small study suggests that exposure to these pollutants may also increase the risk of celiac disease in young people.

Children and young adults with high blood levels of dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene (DDE) — a chemical used in pesticides — may be twice as likely to develop celiac disease as their peers who haven't had much exposure to this pollutant, according to a study published in May 2020 in *Environmental Research*.



Read more: https://www.everydayhealth.com/celiac-disease/toxic-chemical-exposure-in-youth-tied-to-celiac-disease-small-study-suggests/

World Health Organization (WHO) Warns Against Hazards of Toxic Disinfectants

The World Health Organization (WHO) released an updated advisory that warns, "spraying disinfectants can result in risks to the eyes, respiratory or skin irritation and the resulting health effects." Beyond Pesticides recommends caution around toxic disinfectant and sanitizers and, to this end, offers resources and advice on products for use in the fight against Covid-19.

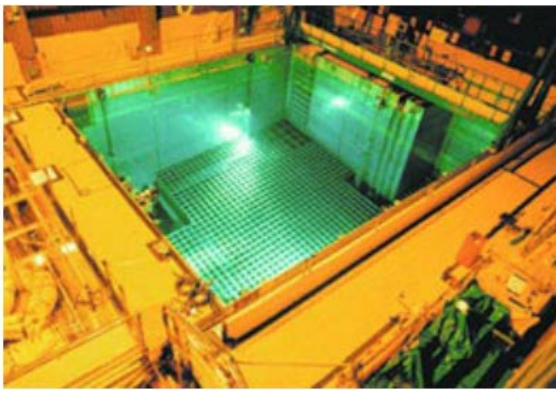
"Spraying or fogging of certain chemicals, such as formaldehyde, chlorine-based agents or quaternary ammonium compounds, is not recommended due to adverse health effects on workers in

facilities where these methods have been utilized," WHO reports.
Read more:
https://beyondpesticides.org/dailynewsblog/2020/05/world-health-organization-who-warns-against-hazards-of-toxic-disinfectants/

Radiation

Study Reveals Single-Step Strategy for Recycling Used Nuclear Fuel

A typical nuclear reactor uses only a small fraction of its fuel rod to produce power before the energy-generating reaction naturally terminates. What is left behind is an assortment of radioactive elements, including unused fuel, that are disposed of as nuclear waste in the United States. Although certain elements recycled from waste can be used for powering newer generations of nuclear reactors, extracting leftover fuel in a way that prevents possible misuse is an ongoing challenge. Now, Texas A&M University engineering researchers have devised a simple, proliferation-resistant approach for separating out different components of nuclear waste.



Read more:
https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-05/tau-srs050420.php

Ventilation

Could Indoor Air Quality Become Part of the Post Coronavirus Playbook?

Here is what we know, or think we know, about COVID-19: it can spread through the air.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it is thought that the COVID-19 virus can spread "through respiratory droplets produced

when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks." According to a news release from the National Institutes of Health on March 17, these respiratory droplets seem to be detectable in the air for as long as three hours.

Read more:
https://www.greenbiz.com/article/could-indoor-air-quality-become-part-post-coronavirus-playbook

PPE

NIOSH Respiratory Protective Device Information

NIOSH is aware that many different NIOSH-approved filtering facepiece respirator (FFR) models were stockpiled for prolonged times and are now distributed for use during the COVID-19 response. These FFRs are made using different materials (e.g., filtering media and strap material), which may age or degrade over time and become damaged. Generally, FFRs are not designed for long-term storage, and many models may have shelf lives designated by the NIOSH approval holder. The shelf life information is generally found on the packaging or the approval holder's website.

Read more:
https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/resources/pressrel/letters/respprotect/CA-2020-1028.html

NIOSH Establishes New Class of Powered Air-Purifying Respirators

In an effort to better protect workers in the health care and public safety sectors during the COVID-19 pandemic, NIOSH is approving a new class of powered air-purifying respirators, under an interim final rule published by the Department of Health and Human Services.

The new class of PAPRs, known as PAPR100, "may be better suited to the needs of workers" in these sectors to protect against

infection of COVID-19, according to an April 9 NIOSH press release.

Read more:
https://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/19808-niosh-establishes-new-class-of-powered-air-purifying-respirators

Noise

Portable System Demonstrates Capability to Save Hearing Downrange

With just a protective case at her side, an Army audiologist traveled across Iraq, using a novel, compact hearing test technology with a game-changing capability to effectively assess and diagnose hearing-related injuries far forward on the battlefield.

Army Lt. Col. (Dr.) Jillyen Curry-Mathis recently deployed to Iraq to serve as the chief, force health protection for the XVIII Airborne Corps at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, supporting the diverse preventive medicine mission while testing out the one-of-a-kind portable audiometric system.

Read more:
https://www.health.mil/News/Articles/2020/05/13/Portable-system-demonstrates-capability-to-save-hearing-downrange

Preventive Medicine

Only Half of Americans Say They'd Get a Coronavirus Vaccine: Survey

Even if a vaccine against the new coronavirus is developed, only half of Americans say they'd get it, a new survey finds.

It also found that 31% weren't sure if they'd get vaccinated, and about 1 in 5 said they wouldn't get vaccinated.
Of those who'd refuse a vaccine, 7 in 10 cited safety concerns, according to the *Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research* poll.

Read more:
https://consumer.healthday.com/infectious-disease-information-21/coronavirus-1008/only-half-of-americans-say-they-d-get-a-coronavirus-vaccine-survey-758041.html

Isolation Gowns as a Potential Work Hazard

Objectives
Isolation gowns are used as a barrier to bacterial transmission from patient to provider and vice versa. If an isolation gown is ineffective, the patient and provider have a potential breach of safety and increased infection risk. This study compared the bacterial permeability of differently rated, commonly uses isolation gowns to assess their effectiveness in preventing simulated bacterial transmittance, and thus contamination, from patient to provider.

Methods
Serial dilutions of *Staphylococcus epidermidis* in sterile saline were applied to a simulated skin surface. Unrated and Levels 1 through 4 non-sterile isolation gowns contacted the solution, simulating patient contact. Both sides of the contaminated gowns were then cultured on blood agar by rolling a sterile swab across

the gown and evenly inoculating the culture plate. Colony counts from inside and outside of the gowns were compared.

Read more:
https://academic.oup.com/annweh/advance-article-abstract/doi/10.1093/annweh/wxaa047/5831122?redirectedFrom=fulltext

Harmful Effects of BPA Can Be Reversed By Administering Coenzyme Q10

Exposure to bisphenol A (BPA), an industrial chemical used to make certain plastics and resins, inner coatings for food cans and bottle tops, thermal paper used in store receipts, dental sealants and so on, is a concern because of possible adverse health effects, including a reduction in fertility.
A study performed at Harvard Medical School (HMS) in the United States by Maria Fernanda Hornos Carneiro and her research group shows that the harmful effects of BPA

can be reversed by administering a supplement known as CoQ10 (coenzyme Q10), a substance naturally produced by the human body and found in beef and fish. Hornos Carneiro is a former São Paulo Research Foundation - FAPESP scholarship awardee.

Read more: https://www.news-medical.net/news/20200507/Harmful-effects-of-BPA-can-be-reversed-by-administering-coenzyme-Q10.aspx

CDC Advises When It's Safe to Leave COVID-19 Self-Quarantine

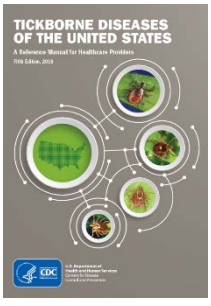
Improving symptoms, no fever for 3 days, at least 10 days since symptom onset—those are criteria for when the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) says people with COVID-19 can leave self-quarantine and be around others again.

The guidance was released earlier this week and will prove helpful as states continue to open up and people return to work. The CDC also said asymptomatic people who have tested positive for COVID-19 should wait 10 days after the positive test before resuming normal activities.
The CDC also continues to recommend that if people come into close contact with a person confirmed to have COVID-19, they

should self-isolate for 14 days while monitoring for symptoms.

Read more:
https://www.cidrap.umn.edu/news-perspective/2020/05/cdc-advises-when-its-safe-leave-covid-19-self-quarantine

Scientists Say This Tick Season May Not Be Bad, but the Risk of Lyme Is Higher



If you're worried that this year's mild winter could lead to an explosive tick season, you can breathe a sigh of relief. The harshness of the winter is not predictive of the size of the tick population, experts say.

What can predict this year's number of black-footed ticks, the variety that's most likely to give you Lyme disease, is the number of white-footed mice that were around last year — and apparently there

were fewer of those pesky little rodents than there were the previous year.

Read more:
https://news.yahoo.com/scientists-tick-season-may-not-200200219.html

Environmental Health

Study Unveils Many Ways Carcinogens Trigger Development of Breast Cancer

In the most comprehensive review to date of how breast cancer develops, scientists have created a detailed map that describes the many ways in which environmental chemicals can trigger the disease. Using ionizing radiation as a model, the researchers identified key mechanisms within cells that when disrupted cause breast cancer. Because the findings can be generalized to other environmental carcinogens, they could help regulators identify chemicals that increase breast cancer risk.

Read more:
https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-05/ssi-sum052120.php

Scientists Find Evidence of Link between Diesel Exhaust, Risk of Parkinson's

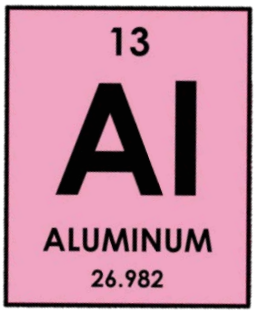
A new UCLA study in zebrafish identified the process by which air pollution can damage brain cells, potentially contributing to Parkinson's disease.
Published in the peer-reviewed journal *Toxicological Sciences*, the findings show that chemicals in diesel exhaust can trigger the toxic buildup of a protein in the brain called alpha-synuclein, which is commonly seen in people with the disease

Read more:
https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-05/uoc--sfe052020.php

Aluminum May Affect Lead Levels in Drinking Water

It is not uncommon to find aluminum in municipal water systems. It's part of a treatment chemical used in some water treatment processes. Recently, however, it has been discovered in lead scale, deposits that form on lead water pipes.

The aluminum presence in pipes is both unsurprising and, in the quantities researchers saw in water pipes, not a health concern, according to Daniel Giammar, the Walter E. Browne Professor of Environmental Engineering in the McKelvey School of Engineering at Washington University in St. Louis. But no one had looked at how it might affect the larger municipal system.



Read more:
https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-05/wuis-ama051820.php

Coronavirus Lockdowns May Raise Exposure to Indoor Air Pollution

This spring, as the COVID-19 pandemic led people to hunker down at home, outdoor air quality improved dramatically in many cities and countries. In the northeastern U.S., for instance, air pollution dropped by 30 percent. But the lockdowns might be having the opposite effect indoors. In March Airthings, an Oslo-based manufacturer of smart air-quality monitors, noticed conditions beginning to deteriorate in many customers' homes that it tracks. Between early March and early May, levels of carbon dioxide and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) increased by 15 to 30 percent in more than 1,000 homes across several European countries, the company says.

Read more:
https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/coronavirus-lockdowns-may-raise-exposure-to-indoor-air-pollution/

Ergonomics

How AI-Driven Algorithms Improve an Individual's Ergonomic Safety

With the use of AI-driven (Artificially Intelligent) algorithms, the pressure of personal worker safety is relieved from organizations and transferred to individuals. Workers are empowered by using personalised feedback and learning about their actions.

The physical demands of Material Manual Handling (MMH) workers are immense and are to be congratulated, handled with care, even. It is fair to say that employees are using their own invaluable asset (the body) to perform tasks that benefit organizations. Musculoskeletal injuries at work cost the individual, the organization and society. According to the Bureau of Labour Statistics, in 2019, US companies lost more than $1 billion per week due to workplace

injuries. Overexertion was the number one cause, relating to injuries from lifting, pushing, pulling, holding, carrying or throwing.[1]

Read more:
https://ohsonline.com/articles/2020/05/14/how-aidriven-algorithms-improve-an-individuals-ergonomic-safety.aspx?admgarea=ht.Ergonomics

Safety

Top 10 Most Dangerous Jobs of 2020

The first question one might ask when examining a list of the United States' most dangerous occupations is: How high on the list did nursing home and healthcare workers place on the list, due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic?

That's a great question, but we won't know the answer to that for a couple years. This

list, as in years past, is based on workplace fatality data compiled by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, and their data lags the current year by two years. In other words, this list is based on 2018 workplace data, so it will be a while until we know how seriously COVID-19 impacted healthcare workers. (In 2018, though, healthcare professionals were near the very bottom of the list.)

Read more:
https://www.ehstoday.com/safety/media-gallery/21132346/top-10-most-dangerous-jobs-of-2020

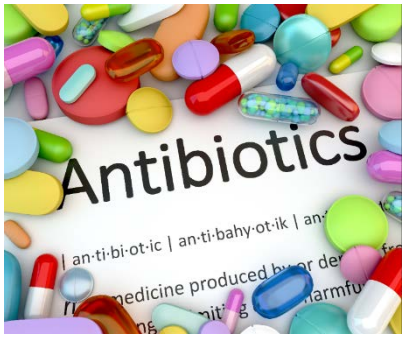
COVID-19 Pandemic: NABTU, CPWR Create Infection Control Guidance for Construction Sites

In the absence of an emergency temporary standard on infectious disease from OSHA amid the COVID-19 pandemic, North America's Building Trades Unions and CPWR – The Center for Construction Research and Training have developed national guidance on infectious disease exposure control practices for construction sites.

Released April 27, the guidance recommends employers create an exposure control plan that includes designating a site-specific COVID-19 officer and arranging for office staff to work from home. Further, plans should ensure employers:

Read more:
https://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/19806-covid-19-pandemic-nabtu-cpwr-create-infection-control-guidance-for-construction-sites

Hygiene Reduces the Need for Antibiotics By Up to 30%



According to a new Position Paper published in the *American Journal of Infection Control (AJIC)* online, improved everyday hygiene practices, such as hand-washing, reduces the risk of common infections by up to 50%, reducing the need for antibiotics, by up to 30%. Global public health experts responsible for the Position

Paper, are now calling for home and community hygiene to become part of strategic plans to reduce hundreds of thousands of deaths from AMR globally each year.

Read more:
https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2020-05/sh-hrt042920.php

New Design Helps N95 Mask Wearers Breathe Easier

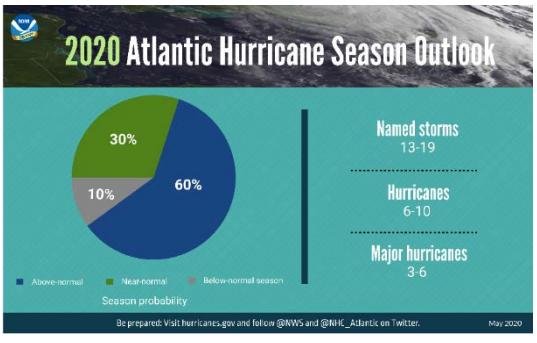
Masks such as the N95 pictured above can reduce the amount of oxygen available to the wearer. Wearing high-grade filter masks can help protect against the novel coronavirus. But after a few hours, these tight-fitting devices can also make it really hard to breathe. N95 respirators, for example, are famously good at blocking viral particles—but they can also reduce the amount of available oxygen by up to 20 percent. Now some Stanford University researchers are addressing this problem with a portable device that pumps pure O_2 directly to the wearer.

Read more:
https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/new-design-helps-n95-mask-wearers-breathe-easier/

Emergency Preparedness

NOAA Predicts 'Busy' Atlantic Hurricane Season for Fifth Year in a Row

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Climate Prediction Center announced in a statement that they expect this year's Atlantic hurricane season will produce more storms than usual. That could mean as many as 19 named storms and as many as six major hurricanes at a time when the United States is already



reeling from COVID-19, report John Schwartz and Christopher Flavelle for the *New York Times*. (For reference, an average season yields 12 named storms and six hurricanes, with three becoming major hurricanes.)

Read more:
https://www.smithsonianmag.com/smart-news/noaa-predicts-busy-atlantic-hurricane-season-fifth-year-row-180974964/

Deployment Health

Using Mobile Mental Health Apps to Cope During Social Isolation

Living through a global pandemic while adapting to new circumstances, like social distancing, can cause distress in anyone. "We all need social connection, and being separated can make people feel more isolated and lead to depressive symptoms like low mood, poor concentration, lack of or too much sleep," said Kelly Blasko, a clinical psychologist at the Defense Health Agency. "It is easy to feel overwhelmed, and that can lead to other mental health concerns such as anxiety and worry." Addressing mental health issues early can prevent potential problems down the line. "We need to look at medical readiness holistically with mental health as just one aspect of overall health," said Blasko. "Just like preventive measures are used to reduce the chances of a physical injury, there are preventive measures to reduce the chances of poor mental health."

Read more:
https://health.mil/News/Articles/2020/05/22/Using-mobile-mental-health-apps-to-cope-during-social-isolation

Nanotechnology

New Antiviral and Antibacterial Nanostructured Surface

The novel coronavirus pandemic has caused an increased demand for antimicrobial treatments that can keep surfaces clean, particularly in health care settings. Although some surfaces have been developed that can combat bacteria, what's been lacking is a surface that can also kill off viruses.

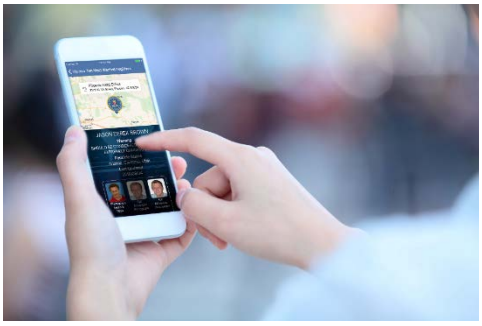
Now, researchers have found a way to impart durable antiviral and antibacterial properties to an aluminum alloy used in hospitals, according to a report in ACS Biomaterials Science & Engineering ("Antiviral and Antibacterial Nanostructured Surfaces with Excellent Mechanical Properties for Hospital Applications").

Read more:
https://www.nanowerk.com/nanotechnology-news2/newsid=55247.php

Regulatory Research & Industrial Hygiene Professional News

Congress

How Congress Is Shaping Data Privacy Laws during the Pandemic



After saving lives, the most urgent — and hotly debated — problem facing government policymakers in the age of COVID-19 may be how to strike a balance between privacy and public health. The fast-moving and unprecedented story around surveillance tech highlights a long-delayed push for comprehensive consumer

data privacy laws, even as privacy advocates grudgingly agree that governments may need to suspend some civil liberties during the pandemic. It's about a global scramble to stop the spread of COVID-19 and get everyone back to work — without killing privacy or a lot of people in the process.

Read more:
https://venturebeat.com/2020/05/18/how-congress-is-shaping-data-privacy-laws-during-the-pandemic/

CDC

COVID-19 Employer Information for Office Buildings

Workers in office buildings may be at risk for exposure to the virus that causes coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). Office building employers, building owners and managers, and building operations specialists can take steps to create a safe and healthy workplace and protect workers and clients.

Create a COVID-19 workplace health and safety plan.

- Start by reviewing the CDC Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers. This will provide guidelines and recommendations that all employers can use to protect their workers and clients.

Read more:
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/office-buildings.html

OSHA

The Use of Respirators in the Dental Office Requires OSHA Compliance

Respirators, such as N95s, are a new addition to dentistry's PPE, so many dental professionals may not know that using respirators in the workplace requires an OSHA-compliant Respiratory Protection Program.

As we move into the deceleration outbreak phase of the COVID-19 pandemic, many dental offices are implementing the use of N95 masks or respirators for employee protection. While the use of N95s is recommended by the CDC and OSHA when treating a COVID-19 positive or suspected positive patient, practitioners are instituting the use of N95s for the entire workday due to the potential of exposure through aerosols in the dental office.

Read more:
https://www.rdhmag.com/covid-19/article/14176802/the-use-of-respirators-in-the-dental-office-requires-osha-compliance

OSHA Changes How to Record COVID-19 Cases

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is trying to simplify how most employers go about determining whether an employee who is diagnosed with COVID-19 contracted the disease at work or elsewhere, but in the process may have just made things more complicated.

Read more:
https://www.ehstoday.com/covid19/article/21132483/osha-changes-how-to-record-covid19-cases

EPA

EPA Won't Regulate Rocket Fuel Chemical Tied To Developmental Damage: NYT

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will not set a limit on a chemical used in rocket fuel that has been linked with brain damage, The New York Times reported Thursday, though the agency said it has not yet made a final decision on the rule.
The EPA in May 2019 proposed limits for perchlorate in drinking water that critics

said were 10 to 50 times higher than what experts recommend.

A court order required the EPA to set a new perchlorate standard by June, but according to the Times, the agency plans to send a rule to the Office of Management and Budget arguing any regulation of the substance is unnecessary.

Read more:
https://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/497794-epa-wont-regulate-rocket-fuel-chemical-tied-to-developmental-damage

GAO Priority Recommendations for EPA Include Assessing and Controlling Toxic Chemicals

On May 5, 2020, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) released a report updating its open priority recommendations for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). According to GAO, in April 2019, it identified 17 priority recommendations for EPA. Since then, EPA has implemented three of those recommendations by, among other things, assessing established timeframes for each step in the Integrated Risk Information System (IRIS) process and publishing current information about chemicals being assessed. In its April 2020 report, GAO identified seven additional priority recommendations for EPA, concerning management of climate change risk and ensuring cybersecurity at EPA, bringing the total number of open priority recommendations to 21. GAO's recommendations involve the following areas:

Read more:
https://www.natlawreview.com/article/gao-priority-recommendations-epa-include-assessing-and-controlling-toxic-chemicals

APHC

Training

Looking for FREE online training?

May 28, 2020 OH&S Industrial Hygiene Virtual Summit
to register, visit https://ohsonline.com/virtualsummit

Center for Public Health Continuing Education
https://www.albany.edu/cphce/phl.shtml
Watch the video https://vimeo.com/408435674 tour of the Public Health Live! web page and find past PHL! webcasts of interest. If you've missed any, you can watch at your convenience, then take the evaluation and post-test for CE credit.

World Health Organization (WHO)
Online courses provide competency-based free online training
https://openwho.org/courses

Interstate Technology Regulatory Council
Hundreds of on demand trainings designed to help achieve healthy and sustainable air, water, land and ecology through innovative solutions
https://itrcweb.org/

American Society of Safety Professionals
330 recorded sessions from Safety 2019 free for a limited time by using code **LEARNFREE**
http://send.assp.org/link.cfm?r=9DlRe0tqHppH1MNrrcPeHQ~~&pe=AiDgYLNZPJR3scExCyw-xsQq9rpymim4Osmn_T76Tk6VxaGsXpUOHC8RAT9O50D35sCuEWdHW3LduPthTnKOXA~~&t=ZMpiu2v6w6iNL4gHWTeyww~~

OPPORTUNITY!!!

American Society of Safety Professionals, ASSP

The U.S. Army made an arrangement with the ASSP to reduce membership fees from $180 to $15.00 per year.
https://www.assp.org/
Enter the code **milmem** when applying

ASSP FREE e-Learning:

"COVID-19: The Role of the Risk Management Process and Its Impact on Pandemics. You can also download the presenters' slides and sample risk assessment spreadsheet.
http://send.assp.org/link.cfm?r=9DlRe0tqHppH1MNrrcPeHQ~~&pe=M1vy0ffB-mLRAxB74AyG3RaRpBhUwA758o6VZiSygyOhBZQK2gjGWF4JOxA5iyhqdR7jbplIIy8QwQQQeEVzPg~~&t=ZMpiu2v6w6iNL4gHWTeyww~~

Listen to a special three-part podcast to hear answers to questions posed during our March 18 Coronavirus Ask the Expert Q&A and learn about recent developments.
http://send.assp.org/link.cfm?r=9DlRe0tqHppH1MNrrcPeHQ~~&pe=8MuvXQyku7dJ5VTyOIlKGWimV3r82X3iXPJt8g9wAnVFhahAsNM16MdE6ba5JVG6hxARZg0EAkVRKwJyCx_mNg~~&t=ZMpiu2v6w6iNL4gHWTeyww~~

OPPORTUNITY!!!

The Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP) FREE WEBINAR DOWNLOADS AVAILABLE:

(click on name for download of webinar) which provided details of COVID-19 that are not in the mainstream media.

https://www.ahmpcyber.org/index.php?option=com_jdownloads&view=summary&id=145:covid-19-technical-details-for-ehs-professionals-chabsa-march-10-2010-sauri&catid=6&Itemid=172

https://www.ahmpcyber.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=featured&Itemid=139

April 9, 2020 "COVID-19, Legal Updates for the EHS Professionals by Adele Abrams, Michael Chuah, and Karla Grossenbacher a facilitated discussion. "

March 10, 2020, "Dr. Michael Sauri of Occupational Health Consultants provided an excellent talk on "COVID-19 Technical Details for EHS Professionals "

As a follow-up "Bruce Donato of K&A First Aid and Safety, Inc., discussed "The Practical Aspects of Managing COVID-19 for EHS Professionals in Their Workplace".

2020 Army IH Webinar Days (210) 249-4234
https://conference.apps.mil/webconf/ManageYourIHmonster

- #4 June 17, 2020 Conference ID: 2027# Pin Code: 908662#
  - 0900-1000ET MANAGE YOUR IH MONSTER: Observations and Notes New Functionality-Mitchell
  - 1000-1100ET IH LEADERS-A Historical look at Observations and Notes-Bragg
  - 1100-1200ET IH LEADERS –Special IH Case Study– Watervliet
  - 1200-1300ET ASK THE EXPERT–APHC Technical Monitors for Army IH Contract Services-APHC
- #5 August 5, 2020
  - 0900-1000ET MANAGE YOUR IH MONSTER: Metrics Update-APHC
  - 1000-1100ET IH LEADERS –Special IH Case Study– Region Atlantic
  - 1100-1200ET IH LEADERS –Leaders Creating Leaders– CCAD
  - 1200-1300ET IH LEADERS- Army IH Data Quality-Nichelson
  - 1300-1400ET ASK THE EXPERT–Ergonomics-Pentikis

HAVE YOU COMPLETED ALL THESE WEBINARS?

https://aiph-dohs.ellc.learn.army.mil

ARMY FIELD OP MANUAL:

2/27/2019 FOM: FOM1 (Introduction & Ch 1) 29min
5/29/2019 FOM: FOM2 (Basic Characterization) 19min
7/23/2019 FOM: FOM3 (Similar Exposure Groups) 18min
10/2/2019 FOM: FOM4 (Workplace Monitoring Plans) 16min
11/6/2019 FOM: FOM5 (Characterize Exposures) 25min
3/4/20 FOM: FOM6-8 (assessment, reporting, reassessment) 18min

ASK THE SME:

11/14/2018 SME: Hexavalent Chromium 48min
1/9/2019 SME: IAQ (recording failed)
2/27/2019 SME: Ergonomics 51min
8/6/2019 SME: Pharmacy Hazardous Drug Samples 28min
12/4/2019 SME: OEL Selection 30min
1/8/2020 SME: Hexavalent Chromium Update 39min
1/8/2020 SME: Inflatable Paint Booth Guidance 30min
1/8/2020 SME: Ototoxins 42min
3/4/2020 SME: APHC Analytical Lab
4/6/2016 Special Edition: Cancer in the Military and the Perception of Clusters 52min
3/27/2019 Special Edition: 2019 Update Brief Mold-Related Issues in Army Housing 1.5hr

IH LEADERS:

4/26/2017 Leader: Go Army Ed Funding For The IH 24min
6/21/2017 Leader: IH Related Taskers 34min
8/23/2017 Leader: IH Career Program 12 Town hall 48min
12/5/2017 Leader: How to Officially Document IH Events 30min
4/11/2018 Leader: IH Equipment 11min
6/5/2018 Leader: Industrial Hygiene Ethics 2hr
8/9/2018 Leader: Ft Wainwright Sampling Mystery 60min
11/14/2018 Leader: West Point Power Plant Noise Study 21min
1/9/2019 Leader: Adventures in Ventilation at Natick 21min
2/27/2019 Leader: Ft Knox Noise Enigma 24min
8/6/2019 Leader: CCAD Success Story 15min
8/6/2019 Leader: Fort Eustis Modular Warping Tug Air Quality Study 9min
12/4/2019 Leader: Rock Island SEG Sample Mystery 19min
1/8/2020 Leader: Engineering Control Advancements 32min
3/4/2020 Leader: Making DOEHRS Do the Hard Work A LIDS9 Example 15min
3/4/2020 Leader: Steps to Merge SEG Monsters 12min

MANAGE YOUR IH MONSTER:

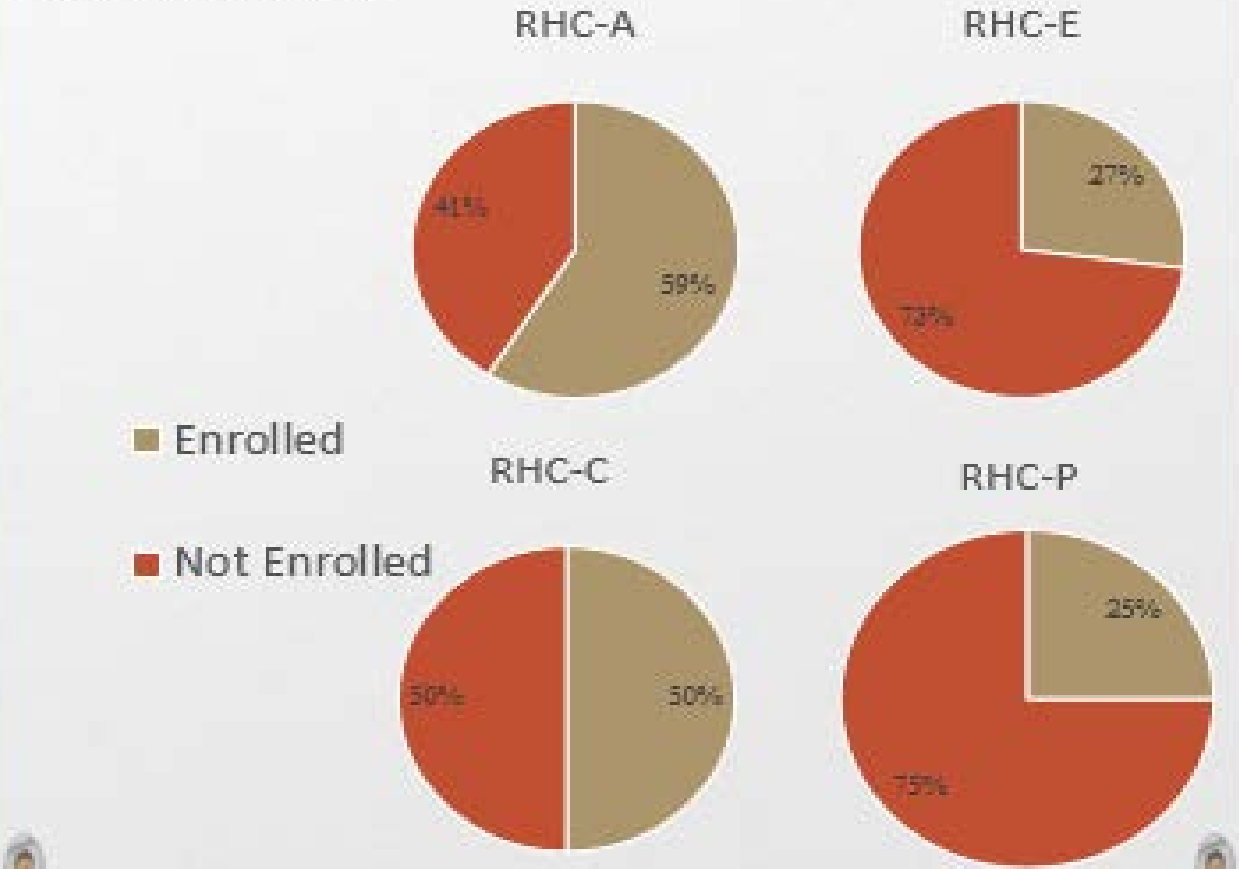
3/3/2016 Monster: Taming That SHOP Monster
3/22/2016 Monster: Submitting Samples Using DOEHRS-IH and LIDS9
7/12/2016 Monster: Taming That SEG Monster
8/9/2016 Monster: Don't Be Afraid of the Big Bad Budget 68min
9/12/2016 Monster: De-Mystifying the Metrics
11/4/2016 Monster: All About ANOVA
1/12/2017 Monster: Business Objects at it's Best 53min
3/15/2017 Monster: Magical Medical Surveillance 19min
4/11/2017 Monster: Levering Locations 61min
5/3/2017 Monster: Re-Invigorating Radiation 42min
7/12/2017 Monster: Chase Away IH Managerial Nightmares 48min
9/12/2017 Monster: Data Integrity: When IH Data Goes to Court 30min
11/8/2017 Monster: Metric Update 41min
11/8/2017 Monster: Speedy Ventilation 35min
3/15/2018 Monster: Highly Hazardous Communicable Diseases 2hr
5/9/2018 Monster: A Deep Dive into IH Contract Services 17min
7/12/2018 Monster: Assessment Adventure 47min
8/9/2018 Monster: Pathology, Grossing, Morgue, Tissue, and Death Care 1.5hr
11/14/2018 Monster: Metric Update 62min
1/9/2019 Monster: Versatile Ventilation 27min
8/6/2019 Monster: Common Data Quality Mistakes 17min
8/6/2019 Monster: How to Enter Illumination Surveys into DOEHRS-IH 6min
8/6/2019 Monster: Mystery Behind the Metrics 14min
12/4/2019 Monster: FY20 Metrics Update 28min
1/8/2020 Monster: OH..MY..SEG.. 8min
3/4/2020 Monster: A Sampling Force Awakens 35min

WEBINARS VIEWINGS CAN BE LIVE OR RECORDED

https://aiph-dohs.ellc.learn.army.mil

	RHC-A	RHC-C	RHC-E	RHC-P
2016	75	63	6	15
2017	220	104	11	19
2018	112	86	5	14
2019	450	351	21	47

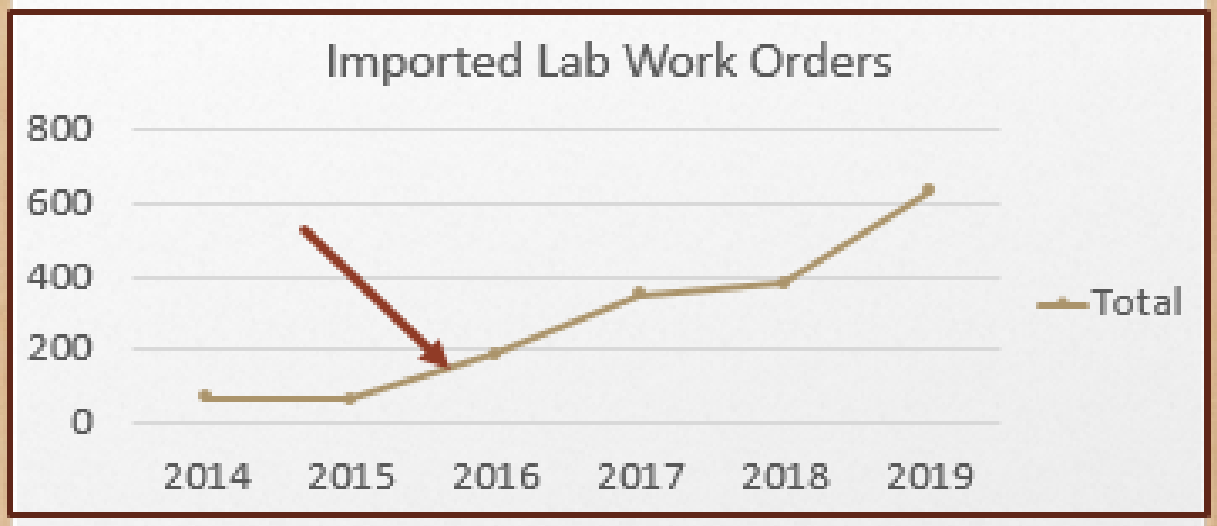
Pie charts display percentage of industrial hygiene personnel enrollment in the APHC Army IH Webinars but does not reflect active participation.

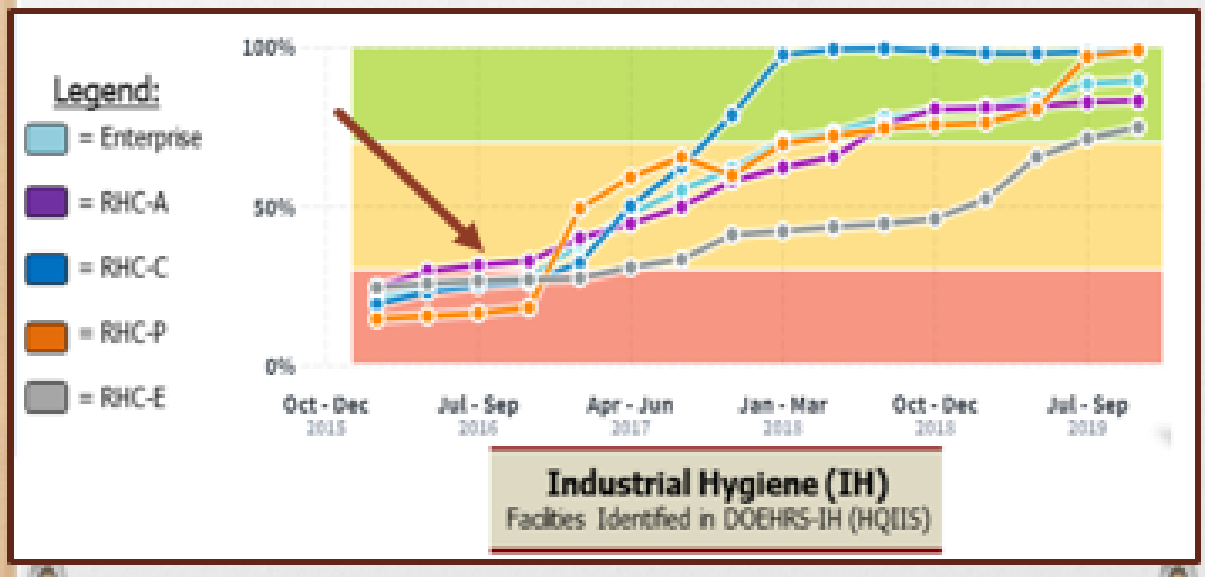


WEBINARS VIEWINGS CORRESPOND WITH IMPROVED IH METRICS

https://aiph-dohs.ellc.learn.army.mil

In 2016 tele/web conferences provided support for the IH Lab Import functionality and the HQIIS Metrics. The number of processed lab work orders and HQIIS Metric results has continually increased since 2016.

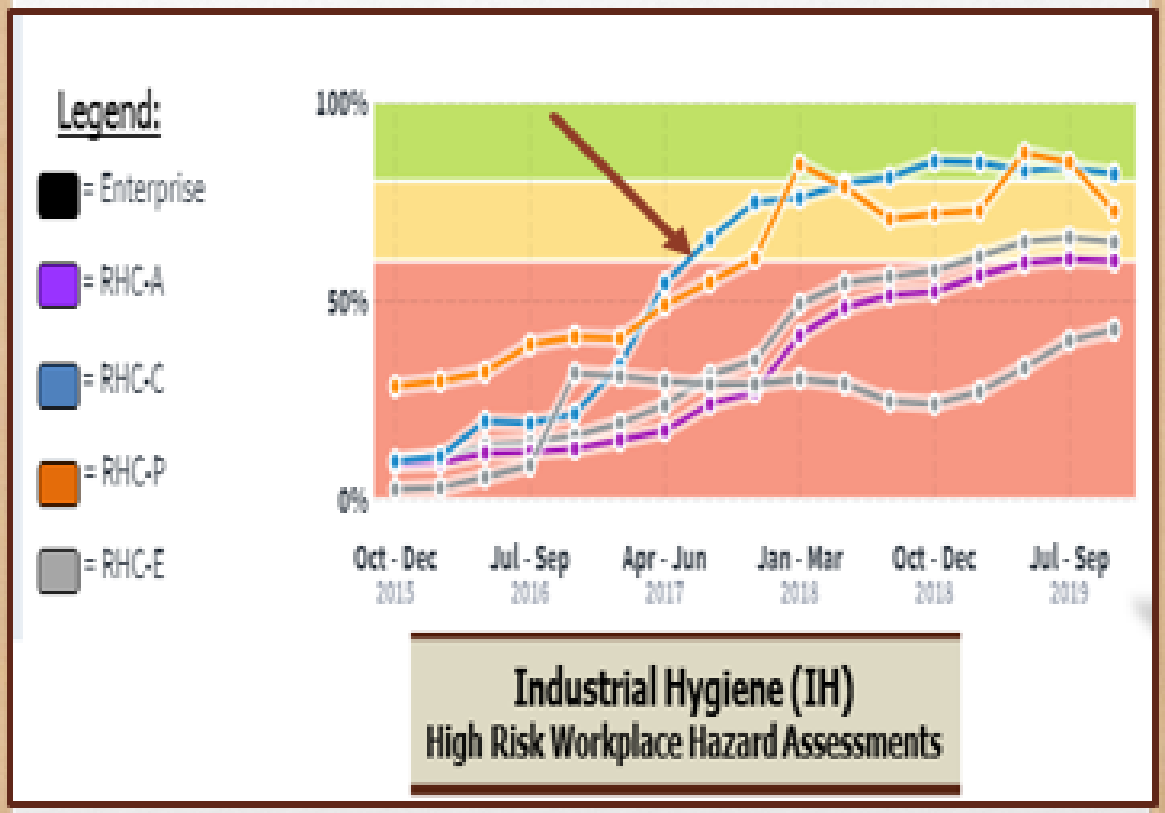




WEBINARS VIEWINGS CORRESPOND WITH IMPROVED IH METRICS

https://aiph-dohs.ellc.learn.army.mil

In 2018 tele/web conferences provided support for the High Risk Workplace Hazard Assessments and the number of assessments performed in DOEHRS-IH has continually increased since 2018.



The Army Blackboard web-based learning platform is currently using the Q4 2017 release.

Future releases of Army Blackboard will drop support for IE 11.

When the Army Blackboard reaches the Q4 2018 release, users will need to use Chrome, Edge, or Firefox midyear 2020.

Bb Release	Chrome	Edge	IE	Firefox	Safari (Mac OS Only)
Q4 2017 *	36+	20+	11	31+	6+
Q2 2018	49+	20+	11	48+	9+
Q4 2018	49+	20+	Unsupported	48+	9+
Q2 2019	63+	42+	Unsupported	57+	12+
Q4 2019	63+	42+	Unsupported	57+	12+

IMPORTANT: PLAN AHEAD NOW!

Start thinking about 2021 training quotas.

W H A T ? Why now?

- Courses fill to capacity quickly and it's nearly impossible to get last minute seating quotas
- Funding is limited. 2021 funding is released in October to Career Programs and normally immediately allocated. It's NEVER too early to request funds for training. Requesting early means it will be in que when funds are released.
- 2021 sign up rosters will be opened on the APHC Blackboard site June 2020. Signing up places you in que for a seating consideration.

2020-2021 Training Schedule (traditional classroom events) Aberdeen Proving Ground North Campus, MD

August 17-21, 2020 Army DOEHRS-IH Initial Course (4th Quarter)- Mallette Training Facility, APG-N Campus Room 24

April 12-16, 2021 Army DOEHRS-IH Initial Course (2nd Quarter)- Mallette Training Facility, APG-N Campus Room TBD

April 19-23, 2021 Army IH Professional Practice- Mallette Training Facility, APG-N Campus Room TBD

April 26-30, 2021 Blueprint Reading & Design Review - Mallette Training Facility, APG-N Campus room TBD

May 3-14, 2020 Ventilation Courses (40 hr Industrial and 40 hr Healthcare & Laboratory)- Mallette Training Facility, APG-N Campus room TBD

May 17-21, 2021 Army DOEHRS-IH Initial Course (3rd Quarter)- Mallette Training Facility, APG-N Campus Room TBD

Looking for FREE online training?

May 28, 2020 OH&S Industrial Hygiene Virtual Summit
to register, visit https://ohsonline.com/virtualsummit

Center for Public Health Continuing Education
https://www.albany.edu/cphce/phl.shtml
Watch the video https://vimeo.com/408435674 tour of the Public Health Live! web page and find past PHL! webcasts of interest. If you've missed any, you can watch at your convenience, then take the evaluation and post-test for CE credit.

World Health Organization (WHO)
Online **courses** provide competency-based free online training
https://openwho.org/courses

Interstate Technology Regulatory Council
Hundreds of on demand trainings designed to help achieve healthy and sustainable air, water, land and ecology through innovative solutions
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http://send.assp.org/link.cfm?r=9DlRe0tqHppH1MNrrcPeHQ~~&pe=AiDgYLNZPJR3scExCyw-xsQq9rpymim4Osmn_T76Tk6VxaGsXpUOHC8RAT9O50D35sCuEWdHW3LduPthTnKOXA~~&t=ZMpiu2v6w6iNL4gHWTeyww~~

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FREE WEBINAR AVAILABLE:

June 10, 2020, 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m., ET
a special collaboration with the NIOSH Office of Total Worker Health(r) and the NIOSH Future of Work Initiative

Registration is open for the second installment of the 2020 Expanding Research Partnerships Webinar

https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/oep/expandpartnerwebinar.html

This series has been designed to promote the work of innovative and impactful intramural and extramural research partnerships.

topics on the future of work and implications for aging workers:

* A Look at the Intersection of Aging, Worker Well-being and the Future of Work -
  L. Casey Chosewood, MD, MPH, NIOSH Office for Total Worker Health
* When Aging and Work Collide -
  James Grosch, PhD, NIOSH National Center for Productive Aging and Work
* Aging Workers in the Future of Work -
  Martin Cherniack, MD, MPH, and Jennifer Garza, ScD
  University of Connecticut Health Center

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FREE WEBINAR RECORDINGS AVAILABLE:

*RECORDING: Factors to Consider When Planning to Purchase Respirators from Another Country is now available. This webinar discusses key factors to help buyers make informed procurement decisions when making a respirator purchase. The information will help to maximize the likelihood of obtaining safe and effective products that will keep workers safe.
Watch the webinar on Youtube
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7tVnjrmAmc

*RECORDING: Factors to Consider When Planning to Purchase Respirators from Another Country page within the CDC COVID-19 Strategies to Optimize the Supply of PPE and Equipment
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/international-respirator-purchase.html

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/ppe-strategy/index.html

*RECORDING: May 8, 2020 ACOEM webinar on COVID-19: Update Serology and Return to Work is available at
https://vimeo.com/417419752
Corresponding slides can be downloaded at
https://tinyurl.com/updateserology


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FREE COLLEGE COURSES AVAILABLE:
Harvard is offering 62 free courses with certificates.
The certificate is only $100.
https://online-learning.harvard.edu/catalog/free

This monthly summary is published by the Industrial Hygiene Program Management Division for the Army Public Health Center.

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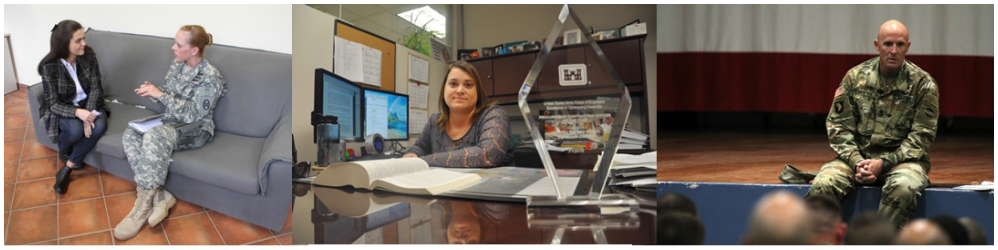
On the Web:
http://phc.amedd.army.mil/topics/workplacehealth/ih/Pages/default.aspx



Professional Development and Career Programs

For Army Industrial Hygienists and Industrial Hygiene Technicians, Professional Development is through the Army Safety and Occupational Health (SOH) Career Program, known as Career Program 12 (CP-12).

Career Programs were established to ensure there is an adequate base of qualified and trained professional, technical, and administrative personnel to meet the Army`s current and future needs.

Planned training and development are essential elements to building a successful career.