Letter from the President

Lauren Cranmer

We hope you are all staying safe at home and while traveling this summer! The Executive Committee of NJ ASSE has been hard at work planning meetings for the upcoming year. We still have a few open slots, so if you have an idea for a topic or facility to host a meeting please let us know! We have new scholarship criteria and a few stimulating events planned, so I am excited to be leading you through what we know will be another award-winning year!

You may have heard, there is a proposed change in our organizational name from the “American Society of Safety Engineers” to the “American Society of Safety Professionals,” but we are asking our members to vote! Members eligible to vote include all members with the exception of associate members, student members and honorary members. The ballot will remain open until August 13th. Approval requires a simple majority. You can vote here.

We held our Spring PDC back in May at Rutgers University where topics included office ergonomics, “the industrial athlete,” and a regulatory update from OSHA. This summer, we also sponsored the NJ Governor’s Safety Awards Program in conjunction with the NJ State Industrial Safety Committee. Congratulations to all the winners, you can find information here for next year! We also held our planning meeting at the Chatham Firehouse on June 29th, and our Officer’s Installation Meeting on July 1st at Stryxe in Madison, NJ. We are very happy to welcome Joe Leuzzi as our new treasurer!
Many of you were able to make “Safety 2017” in Denver in June. We hosted a successful “local chapters” networking dinner with guests from the NY, Philadelphia, and Penn Jersey Chapters while in Denver and we plan on doing the same thing during the PDC in San Antonio (June 3-6, 2018). We were also recognized as one of only a few chapters that achieved “Platinum” status and our last two presidents, John Kraynanski and Greg Decker were honored. We hope “Safety 2017” was inspiring and opened networks for each of you and you were able to bring back some key information for your programs and employees.

Please visit our website regularly for upcoming Chapter events, job openings, and other Chapter news. We are always interested in your feedback and ideas, and feel free to email us at info@nj.asse.org. We look forward to seeing you at one (or more) of our upcoming Chapter meetings or events.

Sincerely,

Lauren Cranmer
Lauren Cranmer, CSP, CHMM
Chapter President
Welcome to NJ ASSE

The Chapter Members and Officers would like to extend a heartfelt welcome to the following new members who have joined the ASSE since April, 2017.

- Khaled Abuhaimed
- Maria Ferrara
- Jeremy Knoerzer
- Ricardo Alpuche
- Kevin Fox
- Nick Kurzawa
- Himad Beg
- Kathleen Frohlich
- Joe Maccie
- Taylor Brands
- Amy Grier
- Thomas Malone
- Jo Brittle
- John Harris
- Patty McCarthy
- David Corrigan
- Carissa Johnsen
- Adli Mohd Shariff
- John Cruz
- Daniyal Khan
- Mark Pako
- Donovan Douma
- Daniel Klawunn
- John Palenik
Welcome to the ASSE, and we encourage you to take advantage of our network, meetings, and trainings to take your education and career development to the next level. We look forward to meeting you at our next meeting. Please note that your first meeting is free.

**NJ ASSE Receives Platinum Chapter Distinction**

*John Kraynanski*

John Kraynanski, Past President received the Platinum Chapter Award on behalf of the NJ Chapter of America Society of Engineers. The Award was presented during the Chapter Recognition Luncheon at Safety 2017 Conference in Denver Colorado. Over 20 NJ members attended the luncheon including members of our Executive Committee.

Platinum-Level Chapters meet the most rigorous standard of excellences and are considered to the strong role models for other Chapters to emulate. Successful Chapters complete a performance report throughout the year achieving points along the way for providing trainings and educational opportunities, community service and other activities to enhance the Safety and Health Profession.

The New Jersey Chapter was one of only two Chapters who received the Platinum status in Region VIII.
Results of House of Delegates Meeting 2017
Aaron Cameron, RVP

During the annual House of Delegates meeting, a monumental decision was made to change our name from American Society of Safety Engineers to American Society of Safety Professionals. This decision did not come lightly and had much debate. I am very proud of our chapter delegates who were in attendance as they skillfully argued for their chapter’s position. It has passed the House of Delegates, with about 70+% for the change. Now it is up to the membership to decide. In the coming weeks, you will receive electronic ballots concerning the name change. Please keep an eye on your emails and vote for the name you prefer – Engineers or Professionals. The choice is now yours. ASSE has roughly 37,000 members. Region VIII has about 15% of those members, so your voted does count.

I am not asking you to vote for or against the name change. I am only asking you to vote. Many other regions had mixed feelings on this change. This is no longer a chapter vote, but a personal choice. I am asking you to step forward and make that choice when the time comes.

There was another controversial vote: Changing the logo. This motion has failed, with 37% in favor and 63% against. Again, there was a lot of discussion about this change and the delegation gave some very persuasive arguments against this vote. Ultimately, the key factor that ended the debate on the logo was it had no meaning. It is a nice design, but did not give the same meaning as our shield and cross. In the interim, if the name change passes the next vote, the logo will remain the same with the ‘P’ being substituted for the ‘E.’

As to the other motions that were on the table, the stepped dues program for the graduating students passed. Student members who graduate will have a free membership for their first
year. They will renew at 50% at their first anniversary, and then they will go to 100% the following year. And the final motion discussed was the dues increase. That also passed. Our dues, which have not seen an increase in over 7 years, will go up by $10 every year for the next 3 years creating a $30 increase on the fourth year. This will help divert some of the rising costs that Society has faced in running our organization. Dues increase passed by over 85% to 15%.

This was a very lengthy House of Delegates meeting that ran over 5 hours in length. Please thank you chapter delegates who were in attendance. And if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me, your Area Directors, or your chapter leaders.

**NJ ASSE Scholarships**

*John Vogler, Scholarship Chair*

Are you aware that the NJ ASSE Chapter offers 2 scholarships? Throughout the years, we have awarded the Joyce Cunningham Scholarship and the Ted Brickley/Bernice Shikora Scholarship to deserving college students. We have recently made some changes on the structure of the Joyce Cunningham Scholarship, and the Ted Brickley/Bernice Shikora Scholarship to make it more accessible to students.

We have established two application periods, reduced from four. Complete applications may be submitted from September 1 through November 15 (scholarship awarded at the December Meeting) and January 1 through April 15 (scholarship awarded at the May Meeting).

The Ted Brickley/Bernice Shikora Scholarship is awarded to those students who are pursuing a degree in environmental or safety related majors. We have reduced the number of credits an applicant must have in environmental or safety related courses from 18 credits as previously required, to 12 credits. Additionally, we have broadened the applicant pool. Applicants may be a New Jersey resident attending school outside the state or a non-resident attending college in the state. One recipient will receive a $1000 scholarship each application period.

The Joyce Cunningham Scholarship is awarded to students who are pursuing a degree in any field of study. The applicant must be the son or daughter, niece or nephew, or grandchild of an active member, in good standing, of the NJ Chapter of ASSE. The student does not need to be a resident of New Jersey (previously required). Additionally, we have broadened the applicant pool by allowing high-school seniors who have been accepted to an accredited university and addition to any undergraduate or graduate student. One recipient will receive a $1000 scholarship each application period.

Please encourage deserving students to apply for these scholarships. Specific details on the scholarship program, eligibility requirements, and the application can be found on our website [http://nj.asse.org/](http://nj.asse.org/) Any specific questions related to the scholarships, please send an e-mail to scholarship@nj.asse.org

John Vogler
Scholarship Chair
**Spring 2017 NJASSE Scholarship Recipients**

**Ted Brickley and Bernice Shickora Scholarship**

Congratulations to Justine Smith for winning the NJ ASSE Ted Brickley/Bernice Shickora Scholarship for the Spring. Justine will be a junior in September, while attending Stockton University, studying Environmental Science and focusing in Wildlife Management. Justine currently works at Sayrebrook Veterinary Hospital as a Laboratory Technician. Justine’s past has been filled with many awards such as being awarded the Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Award, where she lived with a host family in Germany. Justine also belongs to the Phi Theta Kappa National Honors Society and served as the Creative Director Board Member for the Biology Society.

**Joyce Cunningham Scholarship**

Congratulations to Frank Gesualdo IV for winning the NJ ASSE Joyce Cunningham Scholarship for the Spring. Frank just finished his freshman year at Lehigh University where he is pursuing a degree in Bioengineering. In his spare time, Frank is an avid sports fan, playing soccer, baseball and wrestling throughout high school. During the summer, he is a bat boy for the Somerset Patriots in Bridgewater. Community involvement includes tutoring in mathematics, soccer referee, and volunteering with the Special Olympics.

**Spotlight on Joe Leuzzi – Chapter Treasurer**

Joe is a proud to be a life-long New Jersey resident who attended Rutgers University and received a degree in Environmental Science. Joe has worked in the health, safety and environmental field his entire career in New Jersey. He has experience in a number of industries that include consulting, pharmaceutical, paint & coatings and food & beverage. Joe is the proud father of a very energetic six-year-old little girl. He enjoys playing all sports but particularly enjoys playing basketball and soccer. His favorite vacation destination is Italy. He also enjoys working on and driving classic cars.

As a consultant, Joe had the opportunity to develop as well as manage various projects for a number of companies in a wide spectrum of industries. He developed his skills in areas such as safety program development and training, emergency response and industrial hygiene.

He spent more than ten years working for a major pharmaceutical company supporting numerous locations throughout the country. During that time, he continued to build on his
safety and health experience while also developing his skills managing environmental programs including air, waste and water compliance.

Joe also worked as an EHS professional in the manufacturing sector for two highly recognized companies. During that time, he held positions as a senior management member responsible for all aspects of EHS program development and compliance.

Joe has been a member of the American Society of Safety Engineers and the NJ ASSE Chapter since 2004. While a member for many years he wanted to take a more active role with our chapter and decided to run for Treasurer where he was voted in to serve for the 2017-2018 term.

**OSHA Electronic Recordkeeping Changes Delayed Until December 1, 2017**

*Jack Fearing, CPEA*

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**It’s official: OSHA delays July 1st electronic reporting date**

OSHA proposed a rule to delay the compliance date for employers to submit their injury and illness data electronically to the Agency. OSHA’s May 12, 2016, final rule titled “Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses” required employers to submit data from their 300-A Summaries electronically to OSHA by July 1st.

The new proposed rule would extend the initial submission deadline for 2016 Form 300-A data to December 1, 2017. OSHA says this will give it time to review the electronic reporting requirements before their implementation and allow affected employers sufficient time to familiarize themselves with the electronic reporting system. The proposed five-month delay will be effective upon publication of a final rule in the Federal Register. According to OSHA, the web portal for employers to submit their data should available on August 1, 2017.

In addition, OSHA says it plans to issue a separate proposed rule to reconsider, revise, or remove other provisions of the Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses final rule. The Agency will seek comment on those provisions in the separate proposal.

OSHA will accept comments on the current proposed rule to delay the electronic reporting date for 15 days. Submit comments using Docket No. OSHA-2013-0023 to the Federal eRulemaking Portal.

**Court denies unions’ bid to intervene in case against OSHA’s electronic reporting rule**

A judge for the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Oklahoma ruled against two unions who wanted to intervene in a suit brought against OSHA’s electronic injury reporting rule. Industry groups took OSHA to court over several aspects of the rule, including OSHA’s plan to make companies’ injury and illness data public, and the “anti-retaliation” provisions, which prohibit employers from retaliating against employees who report injuries and
illnesses.

The unions, worried that OSHA would not adequately defend the case, asked to be allowed to argue in favor of the rules should OSHA choose not to. However, in early June, OSHA filed a motion to keep the unions from intervening in the case.

In denying the union’s request, the judge said there was no evidence that OSHA wasn’t capable of defending its own rule.

Note: OSHA has delayed the initial July 1st reporting date until December 1, 2017, and has promised to issue a separate proposal to address the anti-retaliation provisions in the rule.

If you have any questions regarding OSHA recordkeeping in general, or the implementation of the new electronic reporting system, please feel free to contact Jack Fearing, CPEA, at Fearing International Group LLC. Jack’s contact information is jack@fearing-international.com or (908) 303-8359.

Preventing Falls and Personal Fall Arrest Systems (PFAS): Guidelines for General Industry

Jack Fearing, CPEA

Falls are among the most common causes of serious work-related injuries and deaths in general industry. Employers must take all necessary precautions and measures in their workplaces to prevent employees from falling off overhead platforms, elevated work stations, the same level or into holes in the floor and walls. The following guidelines are being provided to assist you in your efforts.

To prevent employees from being injured from falls, employers must:

▪ Guard every floor hole into which a worker can accidentally walk by use of a standard railing system and toe-board or a floor hole cove
▪ Provide a guardrail and toe-board around every open-sided platform, floor or runway that is four feet or higher off either the ground or the next level.
▪ Regardless of the height, if a worker can fall into or onto dangerous machines or equipment (i.e., vat of hazardous material, conveyor belt, etc.), employers must provide guardrails and toe-boards to prevent workers from falling and getting injured.
▪ Other means of fall protection that may also be required on certain jobs include a Personal Fall Arrest System (PFAS), safety nets, stair railings and handrails.
Additional employer responsibilities:

- Provide working conditions that are free of known dangers.
- Keep floors in work areas in a clean and sanitary condition.
- Select and provide required personal protective equipment (PPE).
- Train workers about job hazards in a language that they can understand.

Sample PFAS Tool Box Talk

Our company is required to provide you with an appropriate personal fall protection system if you will be working in unprotected areas where you can fall four feet or more. Today we will be discussing personal fall arrest systems – also known as PFASs. When worn properly they are designed to protect you from falling. The entire PFAS needs to be capable of withstanding the tremendous impart forces resulting in a fall. For example, a worker without adequate fall protection will free-fall four feet in half a second and 16 feet in one second! A PFAS includes a full-body harness, a shock-absorbing lanyard or rope grab, vertical lifeline, and an approved anchorage able to support of up to 5,000 pounds. The PFAS must be rigged so that you cannot free-fall more than four feet or hit a lower level. You are not allowed to use body belts as part of your PFAS. Body belts have proven to cause even more hazards to a worker. For example, you could suffer serious internal injuries or even death from pressure on the internal organs while suspended from a fall or you could suffocate by a belt that shifted upward from the waist to the armpits. So, please keep in mind that the use of body belts as part of your PFAS is prohibited as part of your PFAS in this company. Violators of this policy are subject to discipline up to and including discharge.

Now, let’s discuss some important Do’s and Don’ts when it comes to using Personal Fall Arrest Systems in our workplace:

Do's:

✔ Pick an anchorage point that will support 5,000 pounds (or strong enough to support a pickup truck).

✔ Have your anchorage points selected by a competent person*.

✔ Rig the PFAS so you can’t free-fall more than four feet (or contact any lower level).

✔ Tie off above your head. A six-foot person who ties off at the feet could free-fall as much as 12 feet.

✔ Place the anchorage directly above/behind your work area to avoid potential swing fall hazards.

✔ Use the shortest lanyard possible. The shorter the tie-off, the shorter the fall.

Don’ts:

❌ Don’t tie a knot in the anchorage. This will greatly reduce its strength.

❌ Don’t use water pipes, electrical conduits, light fixtures, or guardrails as anchor points.
Don't use any lanyards without self-locking snap hooks.

Don't join multiple lanyards together to reach an anchorage.

Don't tie off to the same anchorage as another worker unless it is designed and approved by an engineer.

Don't unhook from your fall protection while exposed to a fall of four feet or more.

Don't allow anyone else to rig your equipment unless you verify that it has been done correctly.

Don't use an anchorage that is not independent of any anchorage used to support or suspend platforms.

*OSHA defines a “competent person” as: ...one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.*

If you have any questions regarding fall protection or the correct use of PFASs in general industry please feel free to contact Jack Fearing, CPEA, at Fearing International Group LLC. The contact information is jack@fearing-international.com or (908) 303-8359.

**Joint Employment Changes at DOL May Affect Safety**

*Louise Vallee*

By: Adele L. Abrams, Esq., CMSP, ASSE's Federal Representative

On June 17, 2017, Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta announced the withdrawal of the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) 2015 and 2016 informal guidance on joint employment and independent contractors. It appears that this guidance has already been removed from the DOL website, although some related fact sheets remain.

The effect on OSH is unknown at this early stage. For now, OSHA continues to promote its Temporary Worker Safety webpage and to stress the following:

> While the extent of responsibility under the law of staffing agencies and host employers is dependent on the specific facts of each case, staffing agencies and host employers are jointly responsible for maintaining a safe work environment for temporary workers, including, for example, ensuring that OSHA's training, hazard communication and recordkeeping requirements are fulfilled. . . . Host employers must treat temporary workers like any other workers in terms of training and safety and health protections.

Moving forward, federal safety agencies will likely look to harmonize with other DOL branches (as well as considering the Internal Revenue Services’ “economic realities test”) when determining their enforcement posture on joint employment in an OSHA/MSHA matter. The revised analytical criteria will affect the ultimate determination as to whether a worker is
an “employee” or an “independent contractor,” and perhaps adversely affect these workers' safety and health by affording them a lesser level of protection.

For the full article, click http://www.asse.org/joint-employment-changes-at-dol-may-affect-safety/

NIOSH Finds Certain Job Factors Relate to Fair or Poor Health in U.S. Workers
Corey Jones

Occupation, lack of paid sick leave and multiple psychosocial factors are related to workers’ own perceived low health status. That is the key finding of a NIOSH study to be published in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine.

According to the researchers, workers in business operations jobs, such as marketing or human resource professionals, were more likely to rate their health as fair or poor. Workers who had no paid sick leave, worried about becoming unemployed, had difficulty balancing work and family or who were bullied at work were more likely to report poor health.

“We believe this is the first study to show an association between business operations jobs and poor health,” says Sara Luckhaupt, M.D., NIOSH medical officer and the study’s lead author. “Knowing which aspects of a person’s job can lead to poor health can help public health and employee wellness professionals develop tailored workplace interventions to advance worker well-being.”

For the full article, click http://www.asse.org/niosh-finds-certain-job-factors-relate-to-fair-or-poor-health-in-us-workers/.

Friends of NIOSH Work to Stop Administration’s Cuts
Corey Jones

Over the years, ASSE has been an active member of Friends of NIOSH, an informal gathering of organizations that support NIOSH’s overall funding. While ASSE has long-standing concerns over the balance between safety and health funding at NIOSH, the Society's perspective is that less funding for NIOSH in general will ultimately mean less funding for safety, no matter the balance.

NIOSH funding of safety is significant, including substantial mining and injury prevention research and greatly increased efforts in transportation and prevention through design. The Society’s long-term goal is to continue to work with NIOSH, its Education and Research Centers (ERCs) and other stakeholders to build the NIOSH safety resources employers need needed to meet the demand for highly trained safety professionals and safety research.

Following is a June 27, 2017, update from Katie of the firm Weyforth Vanlandingham/Van Scoyoc Associates, the lobbying firm hired by the ERCs to support NIOSH's budget:

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The Friends of NIOSH hosted a conference call last week. Below are some summary bullets and actions items discussed.

- The proposed FY18 budget includes a $135.2 million cut to NIOSH and eliminates all extramural programs, including the ERCs, AFF and TWH programs, as well as $32 million in cuts to intramural programs.
- We are operating under the assumption that at least a House Labor HHS bill may be marked up before the August recess.
- Expect another increase for NIH in the FY18 Labor HHS bill, which will result in cuts to other programs.
- Even if the cuts to NIOSH are not as severe as proposed, NIOSH’s budget could be shaved. As you know, NIOSH was cut from FY16 to FY17 ($339.121 million to $335.2 million), and we do not want to continue this trend.
- It is important that Republicans are alerted to the importance of NIOSH.

**Action Items**
- Contact members of Congress and ask them to weigh in with the House and Senate Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittees in support of funding for NIOSH in the FY18 House and Senate Labor HHS appropriations bills.
- Letters/weigh in from the business community in support of NIOSH is very important.
- Feel free to share this link with anyone who would like to contact their members of Congress in support of NIOSH funding. This letter is housed on AIHA’s website, but it is public so anyone can use this link to send letters. The goal is to blanket the Hill with letters seeking support for NIOSH.
- Hill meetings are encouraged, especially with members of the Appropriations Committee and members who have an ERC, Ag Center or TWH Center in their state/district.
- I will be reopening/repackaging the Friends of NIOSH letter that was sent to the House and Senate Labor HHS subcommittees prior to the arrival of the proposed budget.

ASSE has signed the Friends of NIOSH Letter. **A markup of the appropriations bill is scheduled for the Thursday, July 13th.** Your voice is needed now. To join in this effort, contact your federal representatives. A personal communication to them is best.

- U.S. senators
- U.S. representative
- Senate Appropriations Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Key Senate subcommittees
- Key House subcommittees

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5ZYw0EoUArQ&feature=youtu.be

**New England PDC: November 7-8 (Southbridge, Mass)**

“Discover, Share and Excel”

Learn from local and national speakers covering a wide range of relevant safety topics that will expand your knowledge and perspective. Our conference will include topics such as
regulatory and OSHA updates and overviews, electrical safety, emergency response, fall protection, fire protection, fleet safety, risk management, industrial hygiene, safety leadership, training, workplace violence, safety management systems, life safety, and many more.

**TOP 5 REASONS TO ATTEND**

- **Build your Professional Network**– over 300 Safety Professionals attending
- **Education**– **Learning From Each Other** – General & Concurrent Educational Sessions on a wide variety of topics
- **Full Day Exhibitor Exposition** – Learn about the latest in safety and health products and services from a variety of exhibitors
- **Continuing Education**– Earn CEU's / CM's.
  - Attendees are reminded to provide their ASSE member number either during on-line registration or at the conference to be awarded CEUs.
- **Bit of Fun** – Activities throughout the conference
  - ASSE Foundation Silent Auction to benefit safety research, scholarships and grants
  - Special evening networking event
  - Door prizes and raffles


**ASP/CSP Prep Course: Fall 2017 (3 days each)**

The Penn-Jersey, Philadelphia and New Jersey Chapters of ASSE are pleased to announce two certification prep courses for the fall. The Associate Safety Professional (ASP) Prep Course (3-day course) is Monday, November 13, 2017 – Wednesday, November 15, 2017. The Certified Safety Professional (CSP) Prep Course (3-day course) – Thursday, November 16, 2017 – Saturday, November 18, 2017. Both classes are at the Rutgers EcoComplex, Bordentown, NJ. Click [HERE](http://region8.asse.org/events/19th-annual-new-england-area-professional-development-conference-exposition/) for more information including registration and cost.

**Associated Construction Contractors of New Jersey: SAFETY COUNCIL INAUGURAL MEETING**

**Friday, October 20, 2017**

11:30am

Hilton Garden Inn, Edison

For more information visit [http://www.accnj.org/](http://www.accnj.org/)
**CSP Question of the Month**

*Anthony Krake (Credit to PocketPrep)*

The severity of asbestosis depends on all of the following factors except:

a) The age of the person  
b) How long the person was exposed to asbestos  
c) In what concentrations the person was exposed  
d) Whether the person exposed to asbestos smokes

Answer: A. The age of the exposed person

**How to submit an article**

Did you attend an event that you can’t wait to let the world know about or have an area of expertise that you love discussing? What about a question on a safety topic or a personal highlight? Want to brag about your company’s EHS accomplishments? The NJ ASSE chapter newsletter focuses on news relevant to you and welcomes all submissions. To enter an article or a personal recognition for publication, please send to the Editor at news@nj.asse.org.

**Link to NJ ASSE on your Company Intranet**

Is your organization’s EHS or Health and Safety Intranet linked to NJ ASSE? Consider linking us as a valuable resource for NJ Employers and associates to network and gather information in Safety, Health, and the Environment. Simply link to our website: http://nj.asse.org/

**NJ ASSE on LinkedIn and Social Media**

Did you know that the NJ ASSE has its own community on LinkedIn? [Click here](#) to join!

Follow us on twitter: [https://twitter.com/ASSE_Safety](https://twitter.com/ASSE_Safety)

Friend us on Facebook: [https://www.facebook.com/ASSESafety](https://www.facebook.com/ASSESafety)

Next webinar: [https://learn.asse.org/products/professional-codes-of-conduct-key-issues-for-the-osh-professional](https://learn.asse.org/products/professional-codes-of-conduct-key-issues-for-the-osh-professional)