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# NEW JERSEY ASSE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



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THE NJASSE NEWSLETTER—WIRED IN TO ENLIGHTEN PEOPLE EVERYWHERE!!!

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome members of the New Jersey Chapter of the ASSE! I hope everyone had a fun and safe summer season. It is my pleasure to serve as your President for the upcoming 2006-7 program year. First, I want to thank Gina Mayer-Costa for her tremendous hard work, dedication and strong commitment to our chapter as President. Gina's guidance and countless hours have made our chapter into what it is today. We have surpassed all Chapter goals and are in leading contention for "Chapter of the Year" Award. Fortunately for our chapter, Gina has agreed to help us on our executive board on "special assignment". Congratulations Gina on your Safety Professional of the Year (SPY) Award for the NJ Chapter.

Gina Mayer-Costa and our Public Relations Chairman, Jack Fearing won the ASSE National NAOSH Champion Award presented at the June 2006 PDC in Seattle, WA. Out of six national winners, OUR chapter brought home two.

### CONGRATULATIONS!!

Our talented Executive Board met this past June to outline our goals, visions and programs for the upcoming program year. We have included several joint meetings to include the Metro and Penn-Jersey ASSE Chapters, CHSS, ACHMM, and the AIHA. We have two scheduled Professional Development Conferences, our first Webinar, a facility tour, and numerous service related projects such as Habitat for Humanity, OSHA Outreach Training, Library Donations, Special Olympics, Hispanic and Young Worker Safety, Bears for the Holidays and Thanksgiving Food Bank to name a few.

I have set several goals for the Executive Board and Committees to include:

1. Obtain the ASSE National Recognition Award (STAR Chapter Achievement)
2. Update our 3 Year Chapter Long Range Plan
3. Increase University/ College student mem- (Cont. on page 7)

## TWO SAFETY PROS FROM NEW JERSEY ASSE CHAPTER WIN ASSE NATIONAL NAOSH CHAMPION AWARD

Six, out of 30,000, American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) members from Arkansas, New Jersey, Texas and Washington, D.C., won the North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week Champion award for their individual achievements in going above and beyond in educating their communities on how workplace safety affects everyone. From working with Safe Schools in New Jersey, and providing safety oversight for the Extreme Makeover TV show, the award winners, all volunteers, reached out to their communities, businesses, families and (Cont. on page 7)

## FEATURED ARTICLE- THE KEYS TO A "BEST IN CLASS" FLEET SAFETY PROGRAM PART 1 OF 5 BY JACK FEARING

**Editors Note:** This is the first in a series of summary articles on various components of a comprehensive fleet safety program by Chapter Public Affairs Chairman Jack Fearing, CPEA. The five-part series will include Driver Selection & Agreements, Driver Training, Vehicle Selection & Maintenance, Facility Based Programs, and Federal, State and Consensus Fleet Safety regulations. Next month he will summarize Driver Training. Feel free to direct any questions or comments to Jack at 973.463.6240 or jack\_fearing@ars.aon.com.

Believe it or not, motor vehicle accidents are the leading cause of employee deaths and injuries in the workplace—and have been for the past several years. It was not too long ago that motor vehicle fatalities were not even in the Top Five causes of fatalities in the workplace.

(Cont. on page 4)

## WEB-WALKING WITH WEISSMAN— “USEFUL INTERNET LINKS—MSDS SHEETS”

BY BARRY R. WEISSMAN, REM, CSP, CHMM, CHS-III, HILLMANN GROUP, LLC

Vince Lombardi, one of football's most accomplished and respected coaches, began each season's practice sessions the same way. He brought all of the players together into the locker room. He would hold up a football and say, "Gentlemen, this is a football." He did this to ensure that everyone on the team started out together. So for this edition of my continuing series of useful links from the Internet we are going to start off back at the basics and look at Internet sites for MSDS - Material Safety Data Sheets.

One of the best spots on the Internet and one that I've touted for many years is Safety Information on the Internet or SIRI. This website, <http://hazard.com> is hosted by the University of Vermont under the direction of Ralph Stuart, CIH and Dan Woodard for about 13 years. This site not only has a great index of MSDS but also toxicological information, training programs and links to other MSDS sites. They also publish an email listserv called SAFETY that for almost 17 years has been a treasure house of help for the beleaguered safety professional.

Another special area is pesticides. Here is

a website that you'll find helpful. <http://www.pesticidemsds.com/> is hosted by a pest-management company. It is not a large site but it links to many of the popular pesticides.

MSDS Search, at <http://www.msdssearch.com/msdssearch.htm>, is another good website that has a lot of searching features. It allows you to search by manufacturer as well as chemical

The Physical and Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory at Oxford University in England hosts the Chemical and Other Safety Information site at <http://physchem.ox.ac.uk/MSDS/>.

Here's some distributor links:

<http://www.fisherscientific.com/>

<http://www.mallbaker.com> which is the new name for J. T. Baker Chemicals

<http://www.sigmaaldrich.com>, linking to Sigma Chemical, Aldrich Chemical, Fluka, Supelco

<http://www.vwr.com>

Happy Web Walking!

If you have an idea you'd like me to explore in Web Walking, send an email to [bweiss-](mailto:bweiss-)

## SAFETY PHOTO OF THE MONTH



The family that lifts together...

Falls together..

[man@hillmanngroup.com](mailto:man@hillmanngroup.com). Barry is also the Moderator of RegulatoryPost, a Yahoo! Group that provides current links to EHS information. If you would like to join, send a blank email to: [RegulatoryPost-subscribe@yahoogroups.com](mailto:RegulatoryPost-subscribe@yahoogroups.com)

## SPONSORING THE NJASSE NEWSLETTER IN 2006-2007!!

Sponsoring an advertisement with the NJASSE newsletter is a great way to promote your company in one of the leading Tri-state Area Safety Newsletters. The local NJASSE chapter membership includes over 500 safety professionals representing hundred's of New Jersey's most proactive companies.

NJASSE offers an **Annual Subscription Rates** for our sponsors. An annual subscription includes space in 10 newsletters starting with the September 2006 issue and running through the June 2007 issue. (Pro-rated rates for partial years are available, too). If you wish to advertise a special event or want a one-time advertisement, you may want to try the **Single Issue Rate**.

Rates vary by size - We offer the 1/4 page ad for clients who really want to get noticed. NJASSE also offers the business card size ad for the cost savvy consumer.

All sponsorship proceeds are used to support NJASSE activities including the scholarship fund and the many charity events NJASSE supports.

If your company is interested in sponsoring an advertisement in the NJASSE Newsletter, please call Mr. Daniel Rollino, at 732-763-7646 or [newsletter@njasse.org](mailto:newsletter@njasse.org) for further details.

### 2006-2007 NEWSLETTER

#### SPONSORSHIP RATES

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1/4 Page	\$75

##### Annual Subscription Rate (10 issues)

Business Card	\$175
1/4 Page	\$550

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Excavation equipment continue to work through the night under floodlights, uncovering hot spots at the still smoldering World Trade Center, in a Oct. 10, 2001 file photo in New York. Nearly 70 percent of recovery workers who responded to the attacks on the World Trade Center suffered lung problems during or after their work at ground zero, a new health study released Tuesday, Sept. 5, 2006 shows. (AP Photo/ Stuart Ramson)

**STUDY: WTC DUST CUTS LUNG FUNCTION CAPABILITY**

New York City firemen and emergency personnel exposed to dust from the collapse of the World Trade Center buildings experienced a decrease in lung function capability equal to 12 years of age-related decline, reports a new study published by the American Thoracic Society.

Researchers compared lung function data compiled by the New York City Fire Department for more than 12,000 of its firefighters and emergency personnel for the four years before the attacks and one year after. All of those included in the study were directly exposed to toxins surrounding Ground Zero after the towers collapsed, arriving either before the collapse or in the days immediately following.

More than 14 percent (1,660) of the rescue workers experienced early high-intensity exposure to the dust by arriving the morning of 9/11 and by being present during the collapse of the twin towers, the authors said. Nearly 68 percent (8,185) had intermediate-intensity exposure by arriving two days following the collapse. Roughly 16 percent (1,921) had low-intensity exposure by arriving at the site on or after the third day.

The investigators said that rescue workers who had exposure to early and intermediate arrival-based periods had significantly more frequent and more severe respiratory symptoms than did the group that arrived later. Researchers also noted that the initial lack of adequate respiratory protective equipment decreased any protective impact it would have been able to provide.



**EDITORS NOTE—REMEMBERING SEPTEMBER 11, 2001**

September 11, 2001 touched all our lives in one way or another. Many of us lost family, friends, or co-workers or knew someone who did. We at NJASSE would like to ask that our members take a moment of reflection to remember those who we lost. This tragedy does provide an opportunity to reflect not just on what and who we've lost but on what we have and.. what we can do moving forward.

The NJASSE Newsletter would like to dedicate this newsletter to all those who are no longer here.

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**THE KEYS TO A “BEST IN CLASS” FLEET SAFETY PROGRAM (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)**

Traditional workplace activities such as slips and falls, fires and explosions, and contact with objects and equipment were always among the leaders in this area. Workplace violence began to appear on the list in the past decade as a new factor. However, all of these tragic events have been supplanted by transportation related incidents, which accounted for 43% of all fatal occupational injuries in 2005—Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). (Table 1.).

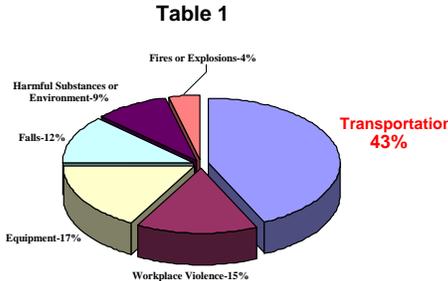
Motor vehicle accidents, both on and off the job, have far-reaching financial and psychological effects on employers, employees, co-workers, and affected family members. Developing and maintaining a comprehensive fleet safety program should be a vital part of your company’s safety culture. Your program must work to keep employees, and those with whom they share the road with, safe.

The program must include efforts to change driver attitudes, improve behavior, and increase skills to build a safe culture within your organization. By instructing your employees in safe driving practices you will help your company avoid unnecessary tragedy. The needs for a fleet safety program are very simple:

- To save lives and to reduce the risk of life-altering injuries within your workplace.
- To protect your organization’s human and financial resources.
- To guard against potential company and personal liabilities associated with crashes involving employees driving company owned or leased vehicles on company business.

**“Best in Class” Fleet Safety Program Components**

The following 10-Step Program was developed by the Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS) for various size commercial sales organizations and light vans and trucks under 26,000 pounds GWT. Implementing and following these steps will help protect your employees and your



assets as well as keep your company’s vehicle insurance costs as low as possible. This article will focus on driver selection and agreements.

- 1.Senior Management Commitment and Employee Involvement
- 2.Written Fleet Safety Policies and Procedures
- 3.Driver Selection and Agreements
- 4.Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) Checks
- 5.Timely Accident Reporting and Investigation
- 6.Vehicle Selection, Maintenance and Inspections
- 7.A Disciplinary Action Process
- 8.Safe Driver Rewards and Incentives
- 9.Driver Safety Training and Communications
- 10.Regulatory Compliance

**Driver Selection and Agreements**

A thorough examination of driving records of all potential new hires and employees who drive company vehicles is an important component of your fleet safety program. Establishing and managing this process is often contracted out to a third-party provider. A company must screen out drivers who have poor driving records since they are most likely to cause problems and have accidents in the future. A Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) should be obtained and reviewed prior to hire, as well as periodically thereafter, to ensure that your drivers maintain an acceptable driving record. Your program must clearly define the number of violations an employee can have, and the related point

values for each, before losing the privilege of driving a company vehicle. Loss of this privilege can also result in termination for an inability to perform an employee’s job function—this is particularly true in sales organizations.

Employers should also establish a contract with all employees who drive company owned or leased vehicles. By signing an agreement, employees acknowledge their awareness and understanding of your company’s fleet safety program, including its requirements and expectations regarding driver performance, following vehicle maintenance, and timely reporting of accidents and moving violations.

Table 2 is a sample criterion that

Table 2. New Hire Driving Record Acceptability Criteria
<b>Unacceptable Driving History</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently suspended license due to moving violations.</li> <li>• 2 or more moving violations in the past 24 months.</li> <li>• 2 or more preventable accidents in the past 24 months.</li> <li>• Gross or willful negligence* within the past 24 months.</li> </ul>

could be used to screen both new hires and employees.

The proper amount of care and planning used in selecting and retaining employee drivers will have a definite affect on your bottom line regarding preventable accidents and unnecessary loses. It is very important to take the time to identify and eliminate unsuitable drivers from your fleet safety program.

**Part 2 will feature Driver Training**



**SAFETY AUDITS (BY ASSE)**

DES PLAINES, IL (August 29, 2006) – The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) suggests businesses do a company-wide safety audit as part of their efforts to protect workers from on-the-job injuries and illnesses. This process helps businesses identify problems and implement suggestions proactively rather than react after an accident occurs.

“A safety audit is a tool occupational safety, health and environmental practitioners use to assess workplace hazards and risks and make recommendations for reducing these in an effort to prevent accidents, injuries and illnesses,” ASSE President Donald S. Jones, Sr., CSP, P.E., said today. “Tools are readily available for companies to use to increase workplace safety. With more than 5,000 people dying each year from on-the-job accidents and four million more suffering from workplace injuries and illnesses we must continue to work diligently to protect our workers.”

A safety audit is an investigative process with the objective of identifying and analyzing a company’s risk, evaluating their approach to managing those risks, and proposing changes and improvements that will reduce their cost of risk. For example, an audit 1) reviews the record of accidents, injuries, and illnesses sustained by employees since the previous audit; 2) analyzes the time and money devoted to identifying and controlling hazards, to training, and to safety motivation; 3) ascertains the extent to which various levels of management are involved in accident prevention; and, 4) includes the results of a physical inspection of the premises and observations of personnel performing operations that accident records show were hazardous in the past.

“Our ASSE members strive to help their companies move beyond compliance by focusing on proactive measures rather than reactive remedial steps,” Jones continued.

**CPSC APPROVES RULEMAKING ON PORTABLE GENERATORS**

In an effort to reduce consumer deaths from carbon monoxide poisoning associated with the use of portable generators, the Consumer Product Safety Commission voted unanimously to issue a notice of proposed [rulemaking](#) to require manufacturers to place a new warning label on the devices. The labels would include pictograms and statements warning consumers that a generator’s exhaust contains poisonous carbon monoxide, and that a generator should never be used inside the home or in partially enclosed areas such as garages.

National Safety Council



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 karenb@ttienv.com

**FACT: Window cleaning is now governed by ANSI/I-14 safety standards.**

Does your facility and window cleaning contractor comply with these required safety standards?

For a free consultation, please contact:

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**NEW MEMBERS**

NJASSE is happy to welcome our newest members. We looking forward to having you at our upcoming meetings:

- Naeem Subhani
- Maryanne Steele
- Benjamin Bertolotti
- Alexander Herceg
- John Malool
- Vasilios Mihalitsas



**MEMBER ACCOMPLISHMENTS/NEWS**

Every month we highlight accomplishments by our members. If you know someone who has received a certification, award, commendation, let us know! Also, if you've written an article, white paper, research paper, etc., Let us know, too!! It's good to be recognized by your peers and it doesn't hurt to promote your career in this way.

Congrats to: **Daniel Rollino**, Newsletter Editor for achieving the **Certified Safety Professional (CSP)** in July 2006.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!**

NJASSE is looking for volunteers for the following events:

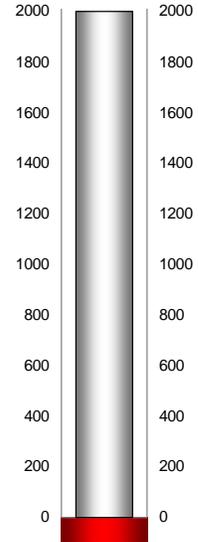
- Looking for Volunteers: Special Olympics NJ: Contact Jack Fearing: [jjfearing@gmail.com](mailto:jjfearing@gmail.com)
- Looking for Volunteers: Habitat for Humanity: Contact Ken Bogdan: [ken.bogdan@yesinsure.com](mailto:ken.bogdan@yesinsure.com)

Let's Show Our Support!!



HAVE YOU MET BOB! In case you didn't know he's the prez, the boss, el hefe! Meet him and all the officers at the September 18th, 2006 Meeting at Rutgers University.

GOOD LUCK TO OUR NEW OFFICERS!!



Last Year's Total—  
2631 points

Let's Do it Again!!!

**NJ ASSE OFFICERS FOR 2006-2007**

Position	Name	Telephone	E-Mail Address
President	Bob Sagendorf, CSP	908-276-1000	President@njasse.org
President Elect	Nazer Ali, CHMM, CPEA	908 740-4993	Pres-elect@njasse.org
Vice-President	Kristin Kelley	973-252-2642	Vp@njasse.org
Treasurer	Alex Ruiz, CSP	732-445-2550	Treasurer@njasse.org
Secretary	Frank Gesualdo, CSP	732-563-6800 x 4268	Secretary@njasse.org
Immediate Past President	Gina Mayer-Costa, CSP	201-684-7531	Past-president@njasse.org

**NEWS ITEMS!**

*Have you received a promotion, new job, marriage, birth? Let us know. We would like to share this information with our membership.*

Email:  
[Newsletter@njasse.org](mailto:Newsletter@njasse.org)



## TWO SAFETY PROS FROM NEW JERSEY ASSE CHAPTER WIN ASSE NATIONAL NAOSH CHAMPION AWARD (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

friends in support of North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week 2006.

The NAOSH Champion Awards were given at the annual ASSE Professional Development Conference in Seattle, WA, June 10 to New Jersey Chapter President Gina Mayer-Costa, CSP, CHMM, of Oakland, NJ, Director of Environmental, Health and Safety for Ramapo College of New Jersey; New Jersey Chapter Public Affairs Chair Jack Fearing, CPEA, of Flemington, NJ, AON Risk Services of Greater New York; To promote workplace safety during NAOSH Week 2006 (April 30 – May 6, 2006) New Jersey ASSE Chapter President Gina Mayer-Costa, CSP, CHMM, worked with the Governor's office on securing statewide support, worked with 20 chapter members on providing volunteer construction safety oversight services on two Extreme Makeover Projects in New Jersey, set up a 10-hour construction

safety program with the New Jersey Department of Labor with ASSE members volunteering their expertise, worked with Safe Schools providing new worker safety tools along with general health information and resources on asbestos and lead.

ASSE New Jersey Chapter Public Affairs Chair Jack Fearing led the chapter's participation in the 20th Annual Lincoln Tunnel Challenge with the ASSE Metro NYC Chapter. All proceeds benefited the Special Olympics of New Jersey. He developed and distributed key information throughout the state on how safety positively affects the bottom line, secured the Governor's proclamation in support of NAOSH Week and was the keynote speaker on international safety at the Joint ASSE NJ/ NYC/Penn Jersey Chapter meeting which took place at the Mid-Atlantic Safety Expo in Atlantic City.

"These NAOSH Champion Award winners

went above and beyond and on their own time to help people stay safe," ASSE President for 2005-06 Jack H. Dobson, Jr., CSP, said. "They are just the tip of the iceberg and we are very proud of their efforts. We salute everyone – members and non-members alike who help show the importance of safety to businesses, families, friends and our communities not only during NAOSH Week, but every day."



## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (CONT. FROM PAGE 1)

bership and participation by 10%

4. Promote the safety profession through local high schools, colleges and universities
5. Increase our general membership by 5%
6. Continue to reach out to our community and provide training and assistance
7. Incorporate web-based meetings and training materials

I need YOUR help. Yes, you. Our organization is dependent on YOUR support. I am only asking you to spare a couple of hours each month to attend our monthly meetings. If you are unable, then help us with writing an article for our newsletter or Professional Safety, or helping our Executive Board with a specific committee assignment. We have planned some exciting activities this upcoming year, and I am asking for your help. Don't be too surprised if you get a phone call, e-mail or even a personal visit to ask for

your professional assistance.

Our first monthly meeting will be on Monday September 18<sup>th</sup> at Rutgers University starting at 11:30am. Mr. Jack J. Murphy, Managing Director of JJM and Associates, a highly recognized fire safety professional from the tri-state area will be the speaker. Jack has been involved in campus and dormitory fire safety for many years. We are quite honored to have Jack speak to our organization. This will be a joint meeting with the College Health and Environmental Safety Society (CHESS) members. Please note that new ASSENJ members and college students enrolled in a health and safety program curriculum get in FREE!!!!!!!

In addition, I want to personally thank my wife, Luisa for her constant encouragement and understanding as I take another responsibility that will take time away from her and my three sons. She is truly a remarkable companion.

In closing, it is true honor and privilege to serve as your 2006-7 President of OUR

New Jersey Chapter. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting or event. Should you have any comments, ideas or would like more information on OUR chapter, please feel free to e-mail me at [president@njasse.org](mailto:president@njasse.org)

Very truly yours,

Robert J. Sagendorf, CSP, CHST  
President  
New Jersey Chapter  
American Society of Safety  
Engineers



**SEPTEMBER 18TH  
MEETING NOTICE**

The New Jersey Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers' (ASSE) will be holding a joint meeting with the College Health and Environmental Safety Society (CHESS)

Topic: "Fire Safety- Lessons Learned from Seton Hall University".

- Evacuation Planning
- Building Suppression and Detection Systems
- Best Practices

Date: Monday September 18, 2006

Time: 11:30AM

Location: President's Room @ the Rutgers Club, New Brunswick, NJ

See the website for directions.

*Look forward to seeing you there!!*

**MSD STUDIES  
LAUNCHED BY ASSEF,  
LIBERTY MUTUAL  
INSTITUTE**

The American Society of Safety Engineers Foundation Research Committee and the Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety announced they will fund two studies aimed at helping prevent work-related musculoskeletal disorders. Waldemar Karwowski Ph.D., CPE, and Nicole Gravina have been selected for this program and will have their research results published in ASSE's *Professional Safety* journal.

The studies are part of the Liberty Mutual Safety Research Fellowship Program to enhance workplace safety. Karwowski is a professor and director of Industrial Ergonomics at the University of Louisville who focuses his investigations on how non-linear movement of the shoulder during pushing and pulling affects human strength.

**RECALLS**

**Dell Announces Recall of Notebook Computer Batteries Due To Fire Hazard**

Name of Product: Dell-branded lithium-ion batteries made with cells manufactured by Sony

**Hazard:** These lithium-ion batteries can overheat, posing a fire hazard to consumers.

**Incidents/Injuries:** Dell has received six reports of batteries overheating, resulting in property damage to furniture and personal effects. **Description:** The recalled batteries were sold with or sold separately to be used with the following Dell notebook computers

**Consumer Contact:** For additional information, contact Dell toll-free at (866) 342-0011 between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. CT Monday through Friday, log on to the firm's Website at [www.dellbatteryprogram.com](http://www.dellbatteryprogram.com),

**2006-2007 MEETING SCHEDULE**

DATE	TYPE	TOPIC	LOCATION
Sept 18, 2006	Lunch	Fire Safety—Lessons learned from Seton Hall (Joint Meeting with CHESS)	Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ
October 12, 2006	Dinner	Developing & managing an effective contractor Safety program	TBD
November 2, 2006	All-Day Event	Planning & Conducting Domestic and International EHS Audits	PSEG Training Center, South Plainfield, NJ
November 9, 2006	Dinner	Product risk Assessment & Recall Plans Joint Meeting with NY Metro ASSE	TBD
December 7, 2006	Dinner	OSHA/VPP Update & Scholarship Awards	L'Affaire, Mountainside,
January 12, 2006	Webinar	Fleet Safety: Are you hiring your next accident?	Liberty Mutual (Host)
February 9, 2007	Dinner	Laser Safety	Rutgers Univ., New Brunswick, NJ
March 8, 2007	Dinner	Pandemic Influenza Joint Meeting with NJ AIHA	Snuffy's Pantagis, Scotch Plains, NJ
April 18, 2007	Safety Expo	Safety Training Games and Activities Joint Meeting with NY Metro, Penn-Jersey, and Long Island ASSE	Safety Expo, Atlantic City, NJ
May 2, 2007	All-Day Event	Nanotechnology	TBD
May 17, 2007	Breakfast	Facility Safety Tour & Networking Event	TBD