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From the Director's Desk

Recently, the global investment firm Goldman Sachs JBWere reported some gratifying but not really surprising study results. The firm found that companies who did not adequately manage occupational safety and health performed worse financially than companies that did. The findings suggest that smart investors will do well to look at companies' occupational safety and health policies and practices as a factor for deciding where to put their capital <http://www.gsjobw.com/documents/About/MediaRoom/GSJBW-WHS-Report-Media-Release.pdf>.

Similarly, an article in the December 1, 2007, issue of *The Economist* highlighted the savings that have been realized by a software company that does well by being good to its employees. The company's employee-friendly services include an in-house primary health care center and a long-term wellness program http://www.economist.com/business/displaystory.cfm?story_id=10208507.

These reports are part of a growing body of evidence that it makes good business sense to put a premium on employee safety and health. Productivity, profitability, strong safety and health performance, respect for employees, respect for customers, and social responsibility are all intertwined.

NIOSH and its partners are addressing the questions that often arise from CEOs, Chief Operating Officers, and corporate boards when this "business case" is put forth: What hard evidence exists to support the assertion that worker safety and health is good for business? What gaps exist in that evidence? What and how can other companies learn from good corporate citizens?

In addition to looking closely at pioneering efforts here in the U.S., NIOSH and its partners also are looking at international efforts to bolster the "business case" for the prevention of work-related injuries, illnesses, and deaths. Economic strategists in the U.K. and Australia, as well as financial institutions such as the Inter-American Development Bank and the World Bank, are leading efforts globally to stimulate safety, health, and social responsibility as good management tenets.

The Economics Coordinated Emphasis Area, one of NIOSH's high-priority programs, focuses on those challenges and opportunities, in partnership with diverse colleagues from industry, labor, safety, health, government, and academia. This focus is made explicit through the program's strategic plan, which is built around four strategic goals. These goals emphasize the importance of partners (goal 4) as well as the diffusion of research into practice (goal 3). They also address strategies for research (goals 1 and 2) on

issues that are vital from the employer's business perspective, on ways to integrate economic issues with overall worker safety and health, on leveraging such integration through management systems, and on the economics of occupational safety and health at a global level (<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/econ/goals.html>).

NIOSH is working to address these goals in a variety of ways:

We are encouraging greater dialogue between economists and safety and health professionals:

- To stimulate discussion on the costs and benefits to prevent occupational injury and illness from the employer's perspective, the NIOSH Economics program sponsored a seminar by Dr. Ronald Kessler, professor of health care policy at Harvard Medical School, on "Making the Business Case for Health and Productivity."
- The NIOSH Economics program in collaboration with the NIOSH Global Collaborations Cross-Sector program sponsored a seminar, "Safety and Health at Work: A Perspective from the Inter-American Development Bank." The seminar stimulated discussion concerning research and collaboration on ways to finance the development of infrastructure services needed for national economic growth, while ensuring that each supported project is assessed, approved, and monitored according to fundamental principles for environmental, social, health and safety, and labor aspects.

We are developing new partnerships with outside organizations that have also engaged discussion on an integrated approach to foster a healthier and safer American workforce:

- One such organization is the Integrated Benefits Institute (IBI), a national non-profit research and education organization focusing on the issues surrounding health, productivity, and the bottom line. Through their partnership, the NIOSH Economics program and IBI encourage research in several areas, including the economic aspects of issues raised by the NIOSH WorkLife initiative. WorkLife focuses on the intersections between safety and health, employee health promotion, job satisfaction, product quality, and customer satisfaction.

Within NIOSH, through its strategic planning and activities, the NIOSH Economics program guides and coordinates the infusion of economic issues into related efforts by other NIOSH programs such as WorkLife and Prevention through Design (PtD):

- Economists acknowledge that a company's economic health can be measured, in part, by its employee health costs, but corporate executives and shareholders understandably, from their perspective, demand other measures as well. WorkLife seeks to stimulate research for answering more complex questions: How do health and safety interact with absenteeism, productivity, and morale? How do health and safety relate to employee turnover and recruitment? By extension, how do investments for health and safety pay for themselves in savings from customer satisfaction with high-quality goods and services that are produced by a healthy, motivated work force?
- The employer's perspective, including the importance of management systems, also is explored through PtD, which is based on the principle that companies can achieve substantial savings by incorporating worker safety and health into the design of work and workplaces. With partners such as the American Industrial Hygiene Association, the National Safety Council, and Organization Resources Counselors Inc., NIOSH is stimulating research to better understand how the cost-effectiveness of safety and health interventions relate to PtD overall, and also, how other components of PtD – such as environmental stewardship and product quality – relate to the cost-effectiveness of safety and health.

These NIOSH efforts are beginning to generate excellent, thought-provoking research. As you read the recent reports from Goldman Sachs JBWere and *The Economist*, I encourage you to join us in charting the course of our programs in the coming year and beyond. Partnerships have been vital for our progress to date. They will be even more vital as safety and health moves higher and higher on the agendas of corporate board meetings and shareholder meetings.

(Thanks to Dr. Rene Pana-Cryan, NIOSH Economics Coordinator, for her collaboration on this month's column.)

NIOSH Draft Offers Interim Guidance on Medical Screening of Workers Potentially Exposed to Engineered Nanoparticles

Deadline for public comment is February 15, 2008.

NIOSH is seeking public review and comment on a draft document of interim guidance concerning the medical screening of workers potentially exposed to engineered nanoparticles in the manufacture and industrial use of nanoparticles. The document is posted on the NIOSH Web page, <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/review/public/115/>, along with details on how to submit comments to the NIOSH Docket. The guidance was developed to generate discussion, fill current knowledge gaps and provide interim recommendations until further scientific information becomes available.

NIOSH Science Blog

The NIOSH Science Blog post on Ergonomics for Construction Workers (posted 12/17/2007) discusses simple and inexpensive solutions developed by NIOSH to make construction tasks easier, more comfortable, and better suited to the needs of the human body. Construction is one of the most hazardous industries in the United States. The nature of the work puts many workers at risk of developing work-related musculoskeletal disorders.

The Youth@Work: Talking Safety blog (posted 1/7/2008) highlights a new NIOSH curriculum designed to teach young people about occupational safety and health. Millions of teens work in the U.S. and an estimated 160,000 youths sustain work-related injuries and illnesses each year.

We invite you to share your ideas with NIOSH scientists and each other on the blog at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/blog/>.

Interested in Construction Safety and Health?

NIOSH announces the inaugural issue of the "National Occupational Research Agenda Construction Sector E-Newsletter." This newsletter will cover news and activities of the Construction Sector Council and other new research and events of interest to our construction stakeholders. You can view the inaugural issue at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/news/nora/construction/NORAconstNewsV1N1.html>. Sign-up for future issues via the Web page, <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/news/nora/construction/>.



NIOSH Welcomes National Academies' Panel Report from Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing Program Review

On December 19, NIOSH received a report of findings and recommendations from a review by a committee of the National Academies. The review committee assessed the scientific soundness, relevance and impact of the NIOSH agriculture, forestry and fishing program. The full 311-page report, which includes detailed results of the public review and recommendations for improving NIOSH's program, can be viewed at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nas/AgForFish/review.html>. This program review is one of nine such reviews that the National Academies is conducting at NIOSH's request.



NIOSH Funding Supports Katrina Health Study at Tulane

Under a competitive research grant from NIOSH, researchers at Tulane University are conducting a health study to determine if post-Hurricane Katrina exposures of workers to dusts containing bio-aerosols (bacteria and mold) are associated with changes in respiratory health. The study will include approximately 1,000 New Orleans area workers performing demolition and remediation work; trash and debris removal/disposal and landfill work; street, sewerage and water-line repair; general construction work; tree cutting and landscape restoration; and facilities services work. More information on the study is available from the Tulane program at KatrinaWorkerStudy@tulane.edu or by phone at 504-988-3846.

Office of Extramural Program's Announces new RFAs

New Extramural Research Funding Opportunities

With the passage of the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2008 in late December, NIOSH received increased funding targeted to its extramural programs. An increase in NORA and Mining research funding will enable NIOSH to sponsor several new research initiatives and to fund additional research under its general program and cooperative agreement announcements. Potential extramural applicants are encouraged to monitor funding opportunity websites (NIH Guide at http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/search_guide.htm and <http://www.grants.gov/>) for existing funding opportunities, and for opportunities that will be published in the near future. A summary of these opportunities and their funding deadlines follows:

Career Development Grants in Occupational Safety and Health Research (K01):

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-08-070.html>

The upcoming deadlines are Feb. 12, 2008 and June 12, 2008 for new applications, and March 12, 2008 and July 12, 2008 for renewals, resubmissions, and revisions.

Mining Occupational Safety and Health Research:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OH-08-003.html>

Application deadline of March 26, 2008.

National Mesothelioma Virtual Registry and Tissue Bank:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OH-08-002.html>

Application deadline of March 26, 2008.

NIOSH Exploratory and/or Developmental Grant Program (R21):

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-552.html>

The upcoming deadlines are Feb. 16, 2008 and June 16, 2008 for new applications, and March 16, 2008 and July 16, 2008 for renewals, resubmissions, and revisions.

NIOSH Small Research Grant Program (R03):

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-06-551.html>

The upcoming deadlines are Feb. 16, 2008 and June 16, 2008 for new applications, and March 16, 2008 and July 16, 2008 for renewals, resubmissions, and revisions.

NIOSH Support for Conferences and Scientific Meetings (R13):

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-08-072.html>

The upcoming deadlines for all applications (new, renewals, resubmissions, and revisions) are April 12, 2008 and August 12, 2008.

Occupational Safety and Health Research (R01):

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-318.html>

The upcoming deadlines are Feb. 5, 2008 and June 5, 2008 for new applications, and March 5, 2008 and July 5, 2008 for renewals, resubmissions, and revisions.

Small Business Innovation Research Grants (R43 and R44):

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-07-280.html>

The upcoming deadlines for all applications (new, renewals, resubmissions, and revisions) are April 5, 2008 and August 5, 2008.

Workplace Violence Prevention Research:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/rfa-files/RFA-OH-08-004.html>

Application deadline of March 26, 2008.

National Center of Excellence for the Prevention of Childhood Agricultural Injury:

Anticipated application deadline of March 26, 2008. (Pending)

Please contact the NIOSH Office of Extramural Programs for additional details (Telephone: 404-498-2530; E-mail: oeppcorrespond@cdc.gov).

Update on NIOSH Hearing Loss Prevention Efforts

Theresa Schulz completes term as President of National Association

Dr. Theresa Schulz of the NIOSH Pittsburgh Research Laboratory (PRL) will complete her term as President of the National Hearing Conservation Association during their annual meeting next month. Dr. Schulz is the Manager of the Audiology Team in the Hearing Loss Prevention Branch at PRL. The National Hearing Conservation Association will host its 33rd Annual Meeting February 21-23, 2008 in Portland, OR. http://www.hearingconservation.org/conf_info2008.html.

New Hearing Loss Prevention Publications

Inquiring Ears Want to Know: A Fact Sheet about Your Hearing Test (2008-102) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/pubs/pubreference/outputid2573.htm>.

They're Your Ears: Protect Them (2007-175) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2007-175/>.

Have you Heard? Hearing Loss Caused by Farm Noise is Preventable (2007-176) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2007-176/>.



Hearing Loss Prevention Unit rolls into Vegas

The Hearing Loss Prevention Unit will be on display at “ConExpo/CONAGG 2008” in Las Vegas, NV, March 11–15. More information on the conference can be found at <http://www.conexpoconagg.com>. This international conference exposition showcases the latest equipment, products, services and technologies.



CDC's Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report

Evaluation of Results from Occupational Tuberculin Skin Tests – Mississippi, 2006

The December 21, 2007 issue of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* (MMWR) highlights the results from a NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluation, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5650a3.htm>. NIOSH investigators, responding to a request from a Mississippi fire department, evaluated the accuracy of a two-step tuberculin skin test (TST) which had been administered to fire department personnel. Nine firefighters had tested positive for tuberculosis (TB) infection based on the skin tests. NIOSH investigators retested the firefighters and seven tested negative. NIOSH concluded that the false-positive results were the result of interpretation errors resulting from the change in the tuberculin used and inexperience in interpreting TST results.

Acute Pesticide Poisoning Associated with Pyraclostrobin Fungicide – Iowa, 2007

The January 4, 2008 issue of MMWR, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5651a3.htm>, describes five events involving occupational exposure to the pesticide [pyraclostrobin](#). In July 2007, the Iowa Department of Public Health received reports of five events that sickened 33 people, including 27 migrant workers who were exposed during a single aerial application. All of the exposures except one were due to off-target drifts of the pesticide to adjacent fields or property. The report recommended pesticide applicators avoid aerial application of pesticides when workers are in nearby fields and take measures to minimize off-target pesticide drift.

NIOSH Docket 105: Hazardous Drugs

The Web page for the NIOSH Docket 105 “Hazardous Drugs” has been updated with presentations and transcripts from an August 28, 2007, meeting to discuss the draft document, “NIOSH Hazardous Drugs List Update.” The update also includes public comments submitted to the NIOSH Docket. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docket/nioshdocket0105.html>.

In Memoriam: Joseph Costello

(by Michael Attfield, NIOSH Division of Respiratory Disease Studies, with contributions from other of Joe's former co-workers at NIOSH)

Joseph Costello's friends and former co-workers at NIOSH were saddened to learn that Joe passed away on December 28. Joe started his long and distinguished career at NIOSH in 1972. Prior to that he had received his B.S. at the University of Vermont and M.S. from Louisiana State University, and had then gone on to work as a biomedical statistician for several drug companies before joining NIOSH. He became a major researcher on mortality from occupational lung disease within the Division of Respiratory Disease Studies, publishing on coal miners (1974 – 79), metal miners (1974), oil shale workers (1979 – 85), granite workers (1988 – 2004), and crushed stone workers (1995). His work on coal miners was featured in the NIOSH Criteria Document for respirable coal mine dust (1995), while his results on Vermont granite workers were especially noted by the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) in their 1997 Monograph as evidencing risk of lung cancer from silica exposure. Joe retired in 1999 after 27 years with NIOSH. He was a quiet but kindly and helpful man. Following heart surgery in his retirement, he found it painful to support



the weight of his accordion. So he then took up piano lessons, and later managed to entertain fellow nursing home residents playing his favorite songs. All through life he pursued these and many other interests, which included writing a history of the regional airport. As a personal remembrance, I recall with fondness how he took me under his wing when I first came to this country in 1977.

Global Collaborations

South East Asian Region Workshop

NIOSH participated in the World Health Organization's (WHO) South East Asian Region Workshop in November 2007. The workshop was held in Chennai, India and brought together individuals from Ministries of Labor, Ministries of Health, WHO Collaborating Centers and country-level WHO offices. During the workshop, participants received training on selected risk-management toolkits that apply control banding principles, and developed post-workshop actions to improve occupational safety and health conditions. Participants took part in country-level activities, which created incentives for small- and medium-sized enterprise owners to use the toolkits, and generated guidance sheets of specific practical control solutions for workplaces.

r2p Corner

Featured Partner

NIOSH has a long history of working with partners to achieve our mission of protecting workers from illness and injury. The Research to Practice (r2p) initiative has confirmed NIOSH's commitment to partnership involvement throughout the research process by promoting the adoption of technologies, interventions, and knowledge in the workplace. The Featured Partner section will appear quarterly to recognize active partners who currently work with NIOSH to achieve improved worker safety and health.



Pan American Health Organization

NIOSH has been a Collaborating Center of the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the Americas region of the World Health Organization, since 1976. Through the NIOSH Global Collaborations cross-sector program in partnership with PAHO, several projects have seen success for workers in the Americas, including the Americas Initiative to Eliminate Silicosis, Global Road Safety for Workers, and Needlestick Injury Prevention. NIOSH and PAHO also work together on technical assistance for the Americas region. Dr. Maritza Tennessee and her team at PAHO are valued partners of NIOSH.

NORA

NIOSH requests poster submissions for the NORA 2008: Public Market for Ideas and Partnerships Symposium, July 29, 2008

The Symposium held in Denver, CO, will be accompanied by a parallel virtual conference on the internet. The poster presentations, both online and face-to-face, will be at the heart of the exchange between researchers and practitioners. Posters will describe project results or ideas for future work. Conversations, comment cards and message boards will encourage dialogue between the presenter and the viewer about the importance of the work to the viewer as well as possible collaborations and partnerships to use the results to improve workplace practice. All poster submissions will be considered for both the live and virtual meetings. The deadline for submission is March 7, 2008. For more information, go to <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nora/symp08/callforposters.html>.



News From Our Partners

CDC's Injury Center Finds Increase in Injury Mortality

After a two-decade period of decline, injury death rates in the U.S. rose more than five percent between 1999 and 2004. Using data from the National Vital Statistics System, researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control found increases in unintentional injury mortality, suicide and death from injury of undetermined intent. The full report is available in the December 14, 2007 issue of CDC's *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, <http://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/preview/mmwrhtml/mm5649a1.htm>.

Communication Products

Health Care

Use of Blunt-Tip Suture Needles to Decrease Percutaneous Injuries to Surgical Personnel (2008-101) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2008-101/>.



Waste Anesthetic Gases – Occupational Hazard in Hospitals (2007-151) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2007-151/>.

Mining

NIOSH has released the 2004 series of the Mining Fact Sheets covering underground and surface mining; coal, metal, non-metal, stone, sand and gravel operations; and coal and non-coal contractors.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/statistics/facts.htm>.



Technology News

528 - Recirculation Filter Is Key to Improving Dust Control in Enclosed Cabs (2008-100)

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/pubs/pubreference/outputid2546.htm>.

529 – New Technology for Ground Control in Multiple-Seam Mining (2008-103) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/pubs/pubreference/outputid2549.htm>.

Three publications previously available in print have now been added to the NIOSH Web site.

Effectiveness of Selected Diesel Particulate Matter Control Technologies for Underground Mining Applications: Isolated Zone Study, 2003 (2006-126) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/pubs/pubreference/outputid1778.htm>.

Handbook for Methane Control in Mining (2006-127) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/pubs/pubreference/outputid1779.htm>.

Field Evaluation of Seat Designs for Underground Coal Mine Shuttle Cars (2007-100) <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/mining/pubs/pubreference/outputid2227.htm>.

Health Hazard Evaluations

Manufacturing Sector: Evaluation of chloramine exposure

NIOSH responded to a request for technical assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) concerning potential exposure of inspectors to chloramines in a poultry processing facility. HHE program researchers recommended that USDA staff continue to monitor any reported health problems and collaborate with the facility's operators to identify specific controls that may be implemented to prevent

symptoms. HHE program researchers also recommended that inspectors report any work-related health problems that they experience to facility health personnel immediately. The final report is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/reports/pdfs/2004-0337-3051.pdf>.

Services Sector: Evaluation of a cholinesterase monitoring program

NIOSH responded to a request from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to assess the need and best methods for biological monitoring of coumaphos, an organophosphate pesticide, in animal health technicians responsible for a tick eradication program. Coumaphos was not found in the air, but was found on workers' hands and clothing. Urinary chlorferon, a metabolite of coumaphos, levels rose significantly after application of the pesticide. HHE program researchers made recommendations that USDA managers determine appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) for tasks performed by the animal health technicians, and enforce its use. Researchers also recommended that USDA managers continue cholinesterase monitoring, consider use of field test kits, and determine if urinary chlorferon levels can be used to monitor coumaphos exposure. HHE program researchers recommended that USDA employees wear appropriate PPE when working with pesticides. The final report is available at <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/hhe/reports/pdfs/2002-0203-3050.pdf>.

Upcoming Events

Look for Us

The NIOSH Exhibit Booth will be at these upcoming conferences.

Construction Safety Council – Booths 412 and 414

Rosemont, IL

February 12 – 14, 2008

http://www.buildsafe.org/confnews/2008/conf_dx.html

Society of Mining Engineers (SME) Annual Meeting and Exhibit – Booth 1535

Salt Lake City, UT

February 24 – 27, 2008

<http://www.smenet.org/meetings/details/?meeting=2008%20SME%20Annual%20Meeting%20%26%20Exhibit>

Fire Department Instructors Conference – Booth 248

Indianapolis, IN

April 9 – 12, 2008

<http://fdic08.events.pennnet.com/fl/index.cfm>

Call for Abstracts

“14th International Society for Respiratory Protection,” September 14 – 18, 2008, Dublin, Ireland. Deadline is June 30, 2008. <http://www.isrp.com/dublin/>.

“International Roofing Expo 2008”

February 21 – 23, 2008, Las Vegas, NV. <http://www.theroofingexpo.com/Roofing07/public/Content.aspx?ID=6980&left=0&Nav=0>

“Work, Stress, and Health 2008: Health and Safe Work Through Research, Practice, and Partnerships”

March 6 – 8, 2008, Washington, DC. <http://www.apa.org/pi/work/wsh.html>.

“Semiconductor Environmental, Safety and Health Association (SESHA) Annual Symposium and Expo”

March 25 – 29, 2008, Portland, OR. <http://www.seshaonline.org/meetings/2008/index.php3>.

“Fire Department Instructors Conference 2008”

April 7 – 12, 2008, Indianapolis, IN. <http://fdic08.events.pennnet.com/fl//index.cfm>.

“American Association of Occupational Health Nurses”

April 25 – May 2, 2008, Salt Lake City, UT. <http://www.aohn.org/education/symposium-expo/index.cfm>.

“International Association of Fire Chiefs 2008 International Hazardous Materials Response Teams Conference”

May 29 – June 1, 2008, Hunt Valley, MD. <http://iafc.confex.com/iafc/haz08/cfp.cgi>.

“2008 American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition”

May 31 – June 5, 2008, Minneapolis, Minnesota. <http://www.aiha.org/aihce08/>.

“NSTI Nanotech Annual Conference”

June 1 – 5, 2008, Boston, MA. <http://www.nsti.org/Nanotech2008>.

“2008 World Safety Conference and Exposition”

June 2 – 6, 2008, Las Vegas, NV. <http://www.nfpa.org/wsce>.

American Society of Safety Engineers “SAFETY 2008” Professional Development Conference and Exposition

June 9 – 12, 2008, Las Vegas, NV. <http://www.asse.org/speakerpage08>.

“12th US/North American Mine Ventilation Symposium”

June 11 – 18, 2008, Reno, NV. <http://www.unr.edu/ventsymp2008>.

“2008 ASTM Boulder Conference on Surface and Dermal Sampling”

August 4 – 8, 2008, Boulder, Colorado. Kevin Ashley in the NIOSH Division of Applied Research and Technology is the Symposium Chair. http://www.astm.org/cgi-bin/SoftCart.exe/filtrexx40.cgi?U+mystore+swqs8906+-P+EVENT_ID+1080+/usr6/htdocs/astm.org/SYMPOSIA/callforpapers.frm.

“International Association of Fire Chiefs Fire Rescue International 2008”

August 14 – 16, 2008, Denver, CO. <http://www.iafc.org>.

“2008 National Occupational Injury Research Symposium (NOIRS)”

October 21 – 23, 2008, Pittsburgh, PA. <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/noirs/2008>.

“8th Conference of the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology”

November 12 – 14, 2008, Valencia, Spain. <http://www.ea-ohp.org>.

Word of the Month

Pyraclostrobin: an agricultural pesticide used to kill fungi, such as blights, mildew, molds and rusts. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency has classified it as a category II toxin. It can cause substantial but temporary eye injury and skin irritation. It can be fatal if swallowed..

[NIOSH eNews on the Web: www.cdc.gov/niosh/enews/](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/enews/)

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