



Environmental Information Association

www.eia-georgia.org

Your News

VOLUME I, Issue 1

Fall 2004

CALENDAR:

October 21

Annual Joint Meeting
with Georgia EPD

Atlanta Tradeport
Training Center

Sponsor- Paragon
Insurance Service,
Inc.

October 26

Fall Golf Classic-
Joint EIA, ASSE and
AIHA Golf Outing
The Trophy Club of
Atlanta

10:30 Shotgun Start

December 2

Holiday Gathering
and Annual Chapter
Meeting with Election
Results

Sal Grosso
Restaurant

1927 Powers Ferry
Road

WELCOME TO YOUR NEWSLETTER!

The Georgia Chapter of the EIA wanted another way to help our members receive valuable and informative tools to keep up with the changing world of Environmental, Health, and Safety issues.

This is your newsletter so we want to know what you want in a newsletter! Do you have an article that you would like to contribute to the newsletter? Do you know a member who should be recognized for their accomplishments? Is there a topic you would like to see discussed in the newsletter? Do you know of a great way to improve your newsletter? Please contact anyone on the Board of Directors if you have something to contribute to your newsletter.

LEED Update

GreenBiz.com reported August 2004 that Bank of America and The Durst Organization have begun construction of the new Bank of America 945-foot tall skyscraper in Midtown Manhattan. The skyscraper will be the world's most environmentally response high rise office building and the first to go for the U.S. Green Building Council's Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Platinum designation.

Bank of America Tower will lead the change in the way high-rise buildings are built by using innovative, high-performance technologies to use dramatically less energy, consume less potable water and provide a healthy and productive indoor environment that prioritizes natural light and fresh air. (JB)

Thanks

2004 Sponsors

- Empire Industrial Products
- Epic Consulting, Inc.
- Airgas Safety & Abatement Technologies
- Compass Environmental
- Regulatory Compliance Services, Inc.
- Paragon Insurance Service Inc.

Safety Associated with Cleanup and Recovery from Hurricanes

The National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration's 2004 Atlantic hurricane season outlook indicates a 50 percent probability of an above-normal season, a 40 percent probability of a near-normal season and only a 10 percent chance of a below-normal season. Evidence of an above-normal season has been dominating news coverage in the last few weeks with the occurrence of hurricanes Charley, Frances and Ivan.

Many of us know people who have been affected by the hurricanes in the southeast in previous weeks, and may be needed or compelled to assist in the cleanup efforts. The potential for fatal accidents have prompted OSHA to remind employers, workers and the public to utilize appropriate safety precautions while performing cleanup operations.

There are four areas OSHA have focused on for safety and developed fact sheets or bulletins:

- Cleanup Hazards: includes electrical issues and fires, and suggestions for clothing and personal protective equipment to wear while cleaning
- Flood Cleanup: includes how to protect against hazards in floodwater such as biological pathogens and what to do if symptoms appear
- Fungi: includes information on conditions that develop subsequent to the flooding, and means to protect individuals
- Mold Safety and Health Information Bulletin: provides recommendations to prevent mold growth and protecting workers involved in the cleanup of mold.

You can get a copy of the fact sheets and the bulletin at www.osha.gov. In addition, the Department of Labor has recorded five public service announcements on cleanup and recovery operations including: flooding, mold, falls, electrical and chainsaws. They may be heard or recorded at <http://www2.dol.gov/opa/media/audio>. (AC)

Information for this article was obtained at www.osha.gov.

The EIA Website

The Environmental Information Association website <http://www.eia-georgia.org> has been designed to incorporate general information and the calendar of events for this chapter.



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Potential Toxic Threat Prompts Proposed Banning of Urinal
Deodorizers-

From Cleanfax.com

ALBANY, NY - Legislation that would prevent the use of urinal wafers to control restroom odors in New York schools awaits the signature of Governor George Pataki this coming November, The Albany Times Union reported today.

The urinal wafers, which have been around for decades and are as common as paper towel or soap dispensers, often contain a key chemical - paradichlorobenzene - that can trigger asthma attacks and is a suspected carcinogen, according to The Times Union.

Following the lead of several other government agencies - including Erie County, the state Department of Correctional Services, and the cities of New York and San Francisco - the state Legislature this year voted to ban the cakes, also known as para blocks, from public and private school bathrooms, according to the article.

The ban could take effect as soon as November, reported the newspaper, depending on which version of the legislation Gov. George Pataki signs.

"We thought the place we could have the most impact was the schools," said Assemblyman Michael Gianaris, D-Queens, one of the bill's main sponsors, reported The Times Union.

Concern over para blocks came to the forefront in New York last year, according to the article, when an unusually high number of cancer cases among firefighters based in a Brooklyn firehouse were linked to the para block fumes. (KR)

WE NEED NEW MEMBERS



We are always trying to increase membership to bring diversity to EIA. If you know someone you think would like to become a member, bring them to the next meeting.

New members pay ONLY \$15 for the initial meeting and a 1 year membership- that's \$20 saved!

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EIA 2005 CONFERENCE

**Make plans now to attend the National EIA Conference
March 19-23, 2005
in New Orleans, LA**

ALL APPROPRIATE INQUIRY

This article is just a "Heads Up" notice that the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has come to the aid of the environmental marketplace to define for it what constitutes All Appropriate Inquiry (AAI). Apparently the need for this assistance began evolving when President Bush signed the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act on January 11, 2002 (the Brownfields Amendments). These Amendments provide monies to assist parties involved in assessment and clean up of sites under the Comprehensive Environmental Response And Liability Act (CERCLA). The Amendments also clarify CERCLA liability provisions and provide other funds to enhance state and tribal remediation efforts.

The goal of clearly defining AAI was undertaken by EPA and a coalition of the willing from the affected industry. The result of their efforts was published in the Federal Register/Volume 69, No. 165/ Thursday, August 26, 2004/Proposed Rules. The proposed rules, once promulgated, will undoubtedly be somewhat different from their current form; the EPA is accepting public comment until November 30, 2004. The EPA preferred method for receiving comments, is through the EPA's website at www.EPA.gov/edocket; this and other means of commenting are detailed in the proposed rule's preamble. Two of three public meetings are yet to be held; the first of the scheduled three occurred in St. Louis a few weeks ago, September 22, 2004. A meeting in Washington, D.C. is scheduled for October 20, 2004, and a meeting is scheduled in San Francisco for November 18, 2004. Any person may speak at the meetings, but time-sensitive registration is required. Again the EPA web page is the best place to get details on these meetings; www.epa.gov/brownfields/regneg provides places and times for the meetings.

The new rules' primary action was revising the requirements for establishing the innocent landowner defense to CERCLA liability; something the ASTM E1527-2000 and its predecessor editions had been previously purported to accomplish. The new rules define AAI and give specific requirements for how it must be established. It defines those that would qualify for the Rules' protection and introduces two new landowner liability protections: *the bona fide prospective purchaser defense* and *the contiguous property owner defense*. The intent of these new liability protections is to promote the reuse of Brownfields. The Rules also define who is qualified to conduct AAI, and the qualifications are somewhat more restrictive than current guidelines.

To arrive at a haven from CERCLA liability, the prospective party must have conducted AAI as a minimum, but there are other requirements. Most prospective parties in any property transaction currently rely on consultants of one type or another to guide them to the haven of freedom from environmental liability, but the wise parties rarely rely solely on the \$1,000 to \$2,500 investment in the (all to easy to claim) "*Phase I Environmental Site Assessment in accordance with the ASTM Standard E1527-2000*" to completely mitigate their business risk. The wise ones realize that the 1527 standard never really accomplished that task. After all, if some type of contamination is found after the purchase, after the transaction, where was the "all appropriate inquiry"? The argument is that if the problem wasn't found, then the "all appropriate inquiry" wasn't all that appropriate! In my nearly 30 years of working under and trying to comply with ASTM standards, construction specifications, and government regulations, I have never seen one that could not be interpreted creatively, misused intentionally, or out right ignored. Only time will tell if this one will be an improvement or just another adjustment in business as usual.

Environmental Data Resources, Inc. got my attention turned to this matter just recently with several timely notices. I would direct interested parties to their web page for additional detailed and timely information www.edrnet.com. (BH)

Know the secrets to moisture control?

The challenge in moisture control is to understand the patterns of moisture movement in the buildings you clean, and manage it - not eliminate it. Remedial advice about controlling moisture, regardless of who does the work, should guide treatment. Keep in mind the following:

- *Avoid remedial treatment without prior careful diagnosis.
- *Undertake treatment that protects flooring and other materials.
- *Address issues of ground-related moisture and rain run-off.
- *Manage existing conditions before introducing humidified/dehumidified mechanical systems.
- *Implement a program of ongoing monitoring and maintenance once moisture is controlled.
- *Be aware of significant landscape and archeological resources in areas to be excavated.

Finding, treating and managing moisture sources requires a systematic approach that takes time, patience, and a thorough examination of all aspects of the problem.

From www.cmmonline.com (KR)

Health & Safety Links

ABSA – American Biological Safety Association
<http://www.absa.org>

ALI – American Ladder Institute
<http://ali.sba.com/ali/index.html>

CDC – Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
<http://www.cdc.gov/>

DOE Chemical Safety Concerns Homepage
<http://www.dne.bnl.gov/etd/csc>

EIA- Georgia Environmental Information Association
<http://www.eia-georgia.org>

EIA- National Environmental Information Association
<http://www.eia-usa.org>

GA DNR: EPD - Georgia Environmental Protection Division
<http://www.ganet.org/dnr/environ>

GA DNR - Georgia Pollution Prevention Assistance
<http://www.ganet.org/dnr/p2ad>

NIH - National Institutes of Health Scientific Resources
<http://www.nih.gov/science>

OHASIS – Office of Health & Safety Information Systems
<http://www.cdc.gov/od/ohs/default.htm>

OSHA - Occupational Safety & Health Administration
<http://www.osha.gov>

USFDA - Food & Drug Administration
<http://www.fda.com>

WHO - World Health Organization
<http://www.who.int>

OSHA Issues Final Rule on Respiratory Protection Revised Standard Adds A New Fit-Testing Protocol

OSHA Trade News Release
U.S. Department of Labor
OSHA, Office of Communications
August 4, 2004

WASHINGTON -- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration today announced an addition to the approved fit- testing protocol in its Respiratory Protection Standard. The revision adds a new quantitative fit-testing procedure to assist workers and employers in the proper fit and selection of respirators.

"Selecting the proper respirator is a vital step in protecting a user against potential over-exposures and adverse health effects," said OSHA Administrator John Henshaw. "The additional fit-testing protocol will help employers and employees to select the right respirator based on the conditions in their workplaces."

The new fit-testing protocol, referred to as the Controlled Negative Pressure (CNP) REDON protocol, requires three different test exercises followed by two redonnings of the respirator. The three test exercises, listed in order of administration, are normal breathing, bending over, and head shaking.

The procedures for administering the new CNP REDON protocol, with three test exercises and the two respirator donnings to an employee, and for measuring respirator leakage during each test, are summarized below:

• **Facing forward.** In a normal standing position, without talking, breathe normally for 30 seconds; then, while facing forward, hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.

Bending over. Bend at waist for 30 seconds and hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.

Head shaking. Shake head back and forth vigorously several times while shouting for approximately three seconds and, while facing forward, hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.

First redonning. Remove respirator, loosen all face-piece straps, and then redon the respirator mask; after redonning the mask, face forward and hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling

Second redonning. Remove respirator, loosen all face piece straps, and then redon the respirator mask again; after redonning the mask, face forward and hold breath for 10 seconds during sampling.

" Complete details of the new respiratory protection fit-testing requirements and the notice of the final rule are published in today's *Federal Register*.

" OSHA's role is to assure the safety and health of America's workers by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach, and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual improvement in workplace safety and health. For more information, visit www.osha.gov. (JB)

|| Keep up with what's going on with the
" **Fairness in Asbestos Injury Resolution**
" **Act of 2003**

|| **www.senate.gov**

|| **S.1125**