



Environmental Information Association

www.eia-georgia.org

Your News

VOLUME II, Issue 1

Winter 2005

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

Thanks

2004 Sponsors

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

A Message From The President

The Georgia Chapter of the Environmental Information Association, Inc. is entering its eleventh year. It all started on December 15, 1993 when six individuals met in a small office in east Cobb County to plot the course for the birth of GA EIA and map its direction. The Georgia Secretary of State, Max Cleland, certified the incorporation of the Chapter by the seal of his office on February 10, 1994. Since that first meeting much has been accomplished. The plan of those few visionaries has grown, evolved, and ultimately brought us to the present GA EIA.

On December 2, 2004, I was bestowed the honor and entrusted the office of President of GA EIA. On December 14, 2004, the Executive Committee met and outlined a plan for 2005. The intent of the plan is to continue the work of those before us and hopefully elevate our group further for those that will follow. The plan is intended to make our organization increasing more strong, efficient, and recognizable. It is this plan, and our goals and objectives for 2005 that I would like to share with you in this message.

GA EIA is a volunteer organization. The time that we all spend on behalf of the organization is graciously donated. More often than not, this time would have otherwise been spent with family, friends, or performing our compensated tasks at work. There are many unseen Chapter duties that must be performed to complete the business for the Chapter. We will be instituting changes in 2005 that will hopefully streamline this effort and allow those performing these tasks more time to enjoy the purpose of the Chapter and less on performing its work.

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A Message From The President, continued

The membership renewal process is one of those changes that will be made. Currently, GA EIA is sending membership renewal notifications monthly. This requires considerable time and energy. In 2005 the Chapter will begin sending annual renewal notices. This renewal notice will be sent to all members in June of this year. The Executive Committee discussed this issue at great length. Our fear was that those of you that have joined or renewed your membership in the last half of 2004 would be offended to being "hit up" again in June. Please be aware that this change is not intended to "line the coffers" but to make the business of renewals a less time intense activity. Please look for this notice in June and renew promptly.

Another change that is coming in 2005 is the way we communicate with the membership. Currently, Chapter meeting notifications and other pertinent information is emailed and mailed via the US Postal service. In order to mail notices and other information, the information needs to be copied, folded, postage applied, and mailed. Obviously this is a time consuming and expensive proposition when compared to emailing the same information. In this electronic age, we are going to move away from mailing information and communicate exclusively through email and website postings. Please place the GA EIA website address (www.eia-georgia.org) in your favorite's folder and be sure to review from time to time. New additions to the website include photos of the annual meeting held in December 2004.

Please also note that email communications will be coming from an email address established specifically for the purpose of doing Chapter business. The thought is that the free email account will be used by each administration in coming years. Please include the GA EIA email address in your address book and please be sure not to block with your spam filters. The new GA EIA email address is georgiaeia@hotmail.com.

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Officers

President
Tom Wasson
Southern Environmental
Serv., Inc.
2171-F Kingston Court
Marietta, GA 30067
Phone: 770-933-0005
Fax: 770-933-0028
Email:
tom.wasson@mindspring.com

Vice President
Tod A. Dawson
Compass Environmental,
Inc.
1751 McCollum
Parkway
Kennesaw, GA 30144
Phone: 770-499-7127
Fax: 770-423-7402
Email:
toddawson@mindspring.com

Secretary
David Hewett
Removal & Abatement
Technologies
P.O. Box 1230
Augusta, GA 30903-
1230
Phone: 770-722-4512
Fax: 770-722-4512
Email:
ratcoaugustaga@aol.com

Treasurer
Margaret Emery
EIA
P. O. Box 767
Snellville, GA 30078
Phone: 770-985-5575
Fax: 770-985-5654
Email: eiatrng@aol.com

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.



A Message From The President, continued

In my view, the value and strength of an organization is measured by its membership. GA EIA is a unique organization. Unlike AIHA or ASSE we do not represent a single portion, viewpoint, or aspect of the environmental, health or safety community, rather we are comprised of each portion, viewpoint, and aspect of the Georgia EH&S community.

Our membership deals with the challenges of environmental, health, and safety issues on a daily basis. GA EIA is represented by contractors, consultants, laboratories, educators, facility managers, regulators, vendors, suppliers, public utilities, insurance, bonding, military, hospitals, schools, home inspectors, attorneys, and undoubtedly a few more that I have failed to mention. However, as I read this list I see one gaping hole; those that will perform these tasks in the future, the student.

In 2005 GA EIA will strive to bring student members into our organization. The inclusion of student members will grow the Chapter in future years as these students become our future members and leaders. The students too will benefit by establishing contacts for future employment and obtaining a real world view of the issues and people in the EH&S field.

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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!

Board of Directors

Jennifer Bailey
Emory University
1462 Clifton Road, Suite 312
Atlanta, GA 30322
Phone: 404-727-9955
Fax: 404-727-5904
Email: jbailey@ehso.emory.edu

Robert T. Hadden
GEC
514 Hillcrest Industrial Blvd.
Macon, GA 31204-3472
Phone: 912-757-1606
Fax: 912-757-1608
Email: bhadden@GEConsultants.com

David Hogue
Director
The Environmental Institute
1300 Williams Drive, Suite E
Marietta, GA 30066
Phone: 770-427-3600
Fax: 770-421-2484
Email: hogue70@atc-enviro.com

Kate Ryan
AirGas Direct
2700 Breckinridge Blvd.
Duluth, GA 30096
Phone: 770-381-1640
Fax: 770-381-5936
Email: kate.ryan@airgas.com

Deborah Wolfe-Lopez
Chemical Safety Coordinator
Georgia Tech
Environmental Health & Safety
490 10th Street, 3rd Floor
Atlanta, GA 30318
Phone: 404-385-2964
Fax: 404-894-5042
Email: deborah.wolfe-lopez@facilities.gatech.edu

EIA 2005 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Make plans now to attend the National EIA Conference

March 19-23, 2005
in New Orleans, LA
www.eia-usa.org

A Message From The President, continued

Due to the diverse membership and the broad reach of the GA EIA network, I have found through the years that any question relating to EH&S can be answered through a member or a contact of a GA EIA member. In 2005 it is our hope to elevate the awareness of GA EIA throughout the EH&S field and the Georgia community. Our plan to accomplish this goal contains three basic elements:

1. Offer GA EIA members as guest speakers to community groups, schools, churches and other organizations seeking knowledge on an issue relating to environmental, health, and safety;
2. Develop, perform, and publish the data of a pertinent research study involving some facet of EH&S. The paper will be authored by members of GA EIA and submitted for publication as a Chapter; and
3. To become active within the community on a charitable level. Beginning with our first meeting and throughout the year we will be collecting cash donations that will be used to purchase and ship much needed personal supplies to the Family Readiness Group for the soldiers of the Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 121st Infantry, stationed out of Lawrenceville, Georgia. These supplies are everyday common items that, I for one, have taken for granted as an unimportant part of my life. These items include, soap, shampoo, razors, pens, paper, and toothpaste among others. Our hope is that this small gesture of support will help to provide our soldiers some connection to home while serving our country so far from home. These items will be donated on behalf of GA EIA.

The final aspect of the 2005 plan that I would like to inform you about is the meeting schedule. In 2005 the GA EIA Chapter will meet the first Monday of every even numbered month (February, April, June, August, and October). Our hope is that a repeating meeting day will make it easier for each of you to remember when meetings will be held and arrange your schedules to attend.

Which brings me to our first meeting; our first meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 7, 2005. The presenter is Mr. Jason Styron of FLIR Systems Ltd. Mr. Styron will provide a technical presentation on Thermal Imaging technology. Please mark you calendar and plan to extend your knowledge on the history, use, and technology of Thermal Imaging for building diagnostics.

On behalf of the 2005 Board of Directors and Executive Committee I would like to thank those fore thinking individuals from December of 1993 and the effort of our Founding President, Tom Laubenthal for their effort, vision, and their "let's get this done" attitude. I would very much like your continued support of our Chapter by attending the meetings and being as active as time will permit. An organization is only as strong as its membership. We look forward to seeing you at upcoming meetings

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Best regards,

Tod A. Dawson
President, GA EIA

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**