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Bristol Marriott City Centre Hotel
**Monday April 20 2020**
Before full conference begins on the Tuesday

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The Premier Conference for Occupational Hygiene in the UK

**BOHS**
The Chartered Society for Worker Health Protection
Aerosol Sampling Methods Update

The history of particle sampling shows how advances in the theory of aerodynamics and penetration to the respiratory tract, and advances in sampling technology, have gone hand-in-hand over the past 100+ years, and have resulted in 20-30 year cycles of change in both limit values and sampling procedures, which is continuing today.

NIOSH has been working on revising existing aerosol sampling and analysis methods and adding new methods to the Manual of Analytical Methods (NMAM). This effort is supported by a comprehensive program of laboratory and field work. The update to aerosol methods is a work-in-progress, but substantial changes have already been made and more are coming.

This Course will present the state of affairs concerning what has been done and what is intended for the near future so occupational hygiene practitioners and laboratory analysts will be able to respond appropriately. The current and future evolution of sampling and analytical methods will be placed in context in the progression of theoretical and technical advances. The course will focus heavily on the contrast between “total” and “inhaled” particle sampling, especially in relation to metals, initiatives in silica sampling and analysis to meet lowered limit values, and novel approaches to nanoparticle sampling.

DSEAR, ATEX & LEV for Hygienists

The PDC is aimed at providing Occupational Hygienists who undertake testing of LEV systems, the relevant understanding of the DSEAR Regulations and ATEX Regulations and how this applies to the COSHH Regulations. The course will look at...

DSEAR - What does the regulations say regarding LEV?
- Explosions including KST rating’s & Maximum over pressure
- Risk Assessments
- Elimination
- Zoning definition
- Explosion venting
- Earth bonding
- Labelling requirements

ATEX – What is ATEX?
- Categories
- Labelling

Systems
- Typical system design - What good looks like?
- Zoning of systems
- What checks & advice do we give when testing LEV systems?
- What happens when it goes wrong?
- Further reading

Risk Assessment for Asbestos and Other Elongate Minerals: Workers, Community, Consumers

Despite significant regulation, and in some cases a ban on their commercial use, asbestos and other elongate minerals remain one of the most significant occupational and environmental concerns worldwide. Notwithstanding the attempts to control its use, asbestos remains a hazard in various settings. For example, asbestos fibers can be found in ambient air as a background contaminant, at workplaces where asbestos-containing materials (ACMs) have yet to be removed, where employees are involved in abatement operations, in automotive brakes, in industrial filters, in endogenous soils and rocks, etc. Potential concerns regarding fibrous components of commercial products (like cosmetic talc and other) require special attention. To address these concerns, it is necessary to apply a systematic and scientifically-based approach to controlling exposure and risk. It is not enough just to compare exposure levels with existing regulatory standards, because applicability of these exposure limits can be questionable for various practical settings and for various fiber and particle types, resulting in both under-protective and overprotective limits. As a result, risk assessment has become the method of choice in many situations when occupational hygienists, environmental experts, public health professionals, and toxicologists face, analyse, manage, and regulate elongate mineral contaminants in air, soil, or commercial products.

This PDC will introduce the audience to cutting-edge topics applicable to asbestos and other elongate mineral risk assessment. The participants will utilize the four-step risk assessment paradigm (i.e., hazard identification, exposure assessment, dose-response assessment and risk characterization) that represents the preferred framework for dealing with elongate mineral contamination. New findings in the pathology of asbestos-related diseases will be summarized for the purposes of occupational and environmental hygienists. The audience will test various probabilistic techniques for exposure estimation, including how to evaluate various exposure scenarios utilizing Monte Carlo, Markov’s chains, and Chaos Theory frameworks. The participants will also learn how to apply dose-response relationships for different fiber types and sizes, determine benchmark dose values, and probabilistically predict various health outcomes of exposure. Examples of applying the risk assessment approach to exposures from occupational activities, residential soil contamination, and commercial talcum powder will be demonstrated and discussed.

Office Health for Hygienists

Workplace exposures at the office including ergonomics, distracting noise, lighting, space and indoor air quality are topics many office worker do complain about.

Based on recent literature reports, as well as actual office workplace cases shall be presented. Further, the participants will be introduced to the most relevant measurement strategies and strategies for improving complex situations. Additionally, participants may bring in their own cases to be discussed and worked on in small-group sessions and discussion rounds. Finally, managing distracting noise and indoor air quality in office workplaces will complete the course.

The science and application of RPE fit testing

Respiratory protection is the most utilised control method to prevent worker exposure to airborne hazardous substances. However, if tight-fitting RPE is the wrong size or shape for the worker’s face then it will leak fumes, fibres, dusts, gases or vapours through the seal region. It has been 50 years since the publication of the first standard on respirator fit testing.

This PDC will demonstrate live, the three UK approved RPE fit testing methods available in 2020 and drawdowns, how does the Controlled Negative Pressure (CNP) method, only available in the UK in the last couple of years, compare to the Ambient Particle Counting (APC) method (e.g. TSI Portacount) which has been established for many years? What are the limitations of the qualitative test method – which is available at a fraction of the cost of the two quantitative methods? As well, as an introduction to respiratory protection and face-fit testing the course will cover the requirements in the new HSE guidance INDG 479 on fit testing, which has now replaced the more familiar OC 282/28 guidance document. The practical fit testing guidance in the new Fit2fit INDG 499 “companion” documents, published by the BSIF, will also be covered. How do you identify a face-fit test provider is competent? Competent face-fit testers will be Fit2fit Accredited and the PDC will explain this scheme in full. How to find an approved face-fit tester or training course, what to expect when going for accreditation, how to link in with this BSIF competency scheme when outside the UK...

The course will be presented by a Chartered Occupational Hygienist and Fit2fit Accredited Face-fit tester in all three methods, who is not affiliated to any fit testing equipment manufacturer. The PDC aims to provide the delegate with the information necessary for choosing the most suitable method for their application and keep them up-to-date with the latest standards in RPE face-fit testing.

Book your place