



BERYLLIUM HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

BHSC NEWS

SPOTLIGHT: BHSC FALL MEETING—Las Vegas, NV

BY JIM JENKINS

It's about time to pack the bags and head for the city that never sleeps. If you haven't reserved your flight and room, there is still time. For those that usually attend the semi-annual meetings, you know the camaraderie that exists, the quality of presentations, the knowledge gained and shared, and the pleasure of dining with friends after the meeting. For those new to the BHSC, there is a wealth of information available on beryllium. Many members have had responsibility of beryllium programs or activities for many years and will be glad to share experiences with you.

Family or friends coming with you? There is plenty to keep them busy while you are in the meetings. For those of us that can not attend in person remote attendance through conference call and remote viewing (GoToMeeting) are available.

Don't forget to e-mail to Linda Youmans-McDonald at linda.youmans-mcdonald@srs.gov and indicate if you are attending in person or participating remotely (see pg 4).

The agenda has been finalized and is located on pg 5.

The views expressed in this article are those of the editor and do not necessarily reflect those of the BHSC.)

Chairman's Corner

BY MIKE BRISSON

Chairman, BHSC

The fall BHSC meeting is finally at hand, and as this is written, the final arrangements are being made. We have a solid technical program on a variety of topics, for which ABIH continuing education points have been granted. With the webinar feature that we are using again for this meeting, registered remote participants will also be able to obtain points.

I promised a review of the business meeting items in this edition of the BHSC News. BHSC members that are present either in person or by phone at the time of the business session will be eligible to vote. There are three items planned for consideration:

- A revision to the BHSC Charter which would remove from it those items that are now covered in the By-Laws.
 - A revision to the By-Laws that would allow subcommittees to have a chair and a co-chair. Both the chair and the co-chair would be members of the Board, but only one would have a vote at Board meetings. This would normally be the subcommittee chair, but in the absence of the chair, the co-chair would be eligible to vote. This will serve the needs of at least two of our subcommittees.
 - A proposal to stagger the terms of the executive officers and at-large Board members. Currently, for example the terms of both vice-chairs expire at the same time. The proposal would have no more than one incumbent's term ending at any given time.
- Also, as of this writing, AIHA has not yet formally announced the membership of the volunteer boards (AAB, PAT LLC Board, and Registry Programs LLC Board) for the term beginning in January 2010. However, I believe there will be members of the BHSC on all three of the boards when they are announced. I will wait until the official announcement before identifying anyone by name.
- (The views expressed in the Chairman's Corner are those of the chairman and are not necessarily official positions of the BHSC.)*

Special points of interest:

- > SPOTLIGHT ON BHSC Fall Meeting
- > Due Dates for Abstracts
- > Final Agenda—FALL BHSC Meetings

Inside this issue:

Future BHSC Meeting	2
Dates for Abstracts	
Be In Touch	
BHSC Board Report	3
Conference call times	
Notes on the FALL BHSC Meeting	4
Las Vegas Strip	
Final Agenda	5
DOL withdraws Risk Assessment Rule	6
Subcommittee Report	7
Mission Statement	
Directions –Meeting Location	8

MEETINGS: JOWOG [US-UK Joint Working Group] - BHSC BOARD - BHSC

JOWOG / BHSC BOARD Meeting: Fall 2009	
Fall 2009:	DOE North Las Vegas complex Las Vegas, Nevada
BHSC BOARD	Date: November 3
JOWOG	Date: November 3
<i>JOWOG—Q clearance or UK equivalent required</i>	

BHSC Meeting: Fall 2009	
Fall 2009:	DOE North Las Vegas complex Las Vegas, Nevada
Dates: November 4-5	

MEETING LOCATIONS
 locations for the Spring 2011 and Fall 2011 meetings are now being solicited.
 Fall meetings are typically in the western U.S.
 Spring meetings are typically in the eastern U.S. (or at AWE).
 Locations typically need to be at a DOE, DoD, or AWE site.
NOTE: If you would be interested in hosting a meeting, please contact Mike Brisson.

JOWOG / BHSC BOARD Meeting: Spring 2010	
Spring 2010:	Department of Energy Washington, DC.
Dates: March 15	

BHSC Meeting: Spring 2010	
Spring 2010:	Department of Energy Washington, DC.
Dates: March 16-17	

JOWOG / BHSC BOARD Meeting: Fall 2010	
Fall 2010:	Livermore California
Dates: November 2	

BHSC Meeting: Fall 2010	
Fall 2010:	Livermore California
Dates: November 3-4	

NOTE: Participation in JOWOG meetings is limited to members of the Beryllium Health and Safety Committee (BHSC) at NNSA sites and at HQ.

DUE DATES FOR ABSTRACTS

- January 14, 2010: **ASTM Symposium on Surface and Dermal Sampling, San Antonio, TX**
 [opportunity for presentation and/or publication; info at <http://www.astm.org/d22symp1010.htm>]



In Touch

OSHA Reform

The Senate version of the OSHA reform bill (the Protecting America's Workers Act) was introduced in August. The Senate and House versions are identical, which suggests that the Senate will allow the House to take the lead on the issue. As for timing, it's hard to say when anything might take place.

OSHA Changes VPP in Response to GAO

A Government Accountability Office (GAO) report issued in May that criticized aspects of OSHA's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) has persuaded the agency to make several changes to the VPP, according to an article in the Aug. 20 issue of *Occupational Safety and Health Reporter*. The changes include:

- Barring on-site OSHA evaluators from sharing recommendations on how to achieve VPP status with employers
- Requiring thorough follow-up responses to fatalities at VPP workplaces
- Requiring thorough analysis of VPP workplaces that do not meet program requirements
- Reviewing VPP participants' self-evaluations

OSHA Changes VPP (cont.)

The GAO report found that OSHA does not require VPP sites to provide information about employers' responses to workplace fatalities and injuries. In addition, the report revealed that 12 percent of VPP worksites had injury and illness rates that were higher than the rate for their industries. Despite this finding, from 2003 to 2008 OSHA doubled the number of VPP participants.

The report is available at <http://www.gao.gov>

BHSC Board Report

MIKE BRISSON

Chairman, BHSC

The Board did not meet in October, but will meet on Tuesday, November 3, at the NNSA North Las Vegas office complex.

Conference Call Schedule—November (All times Eastern Standard Time)

Date	Day	Start	End	Lines	Group or Purpose
Cancelled	Thu	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	10	Be by Fluorescence WG
11/10/09	Tue	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	25	Sampling/Analysis SC
11/11/09	Wed	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	10	Med/Epi SC
11/12/09	Thu	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	10	Risk Communication SC
11/12/09	Thu	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	10	Research Needs SC
11/17/09	Tue	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	15	BeO/Digestion WG
11/17/09	Tue	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	10	Meetings/Symposia SC
11/18/09	Wed	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	15	BHSC Board
11/18/09	Wed	3:00 PM	4:00 PM	10	Tech Standards SC
11/19/09	Thu	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	10	Accreditation WG
11/24/09	Tue	12:00 PM	1:00 PM	10	Sampling WG

BERYLLIUM HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

BHSC BOARD MEMBERS

Mike Brisson, Chairman
Geoffrey Braybrooke, Vice Chair

David Weitzman, Vice Chair
Dan Field, Secretary
Amy Ekechukwu
Tony Quinn
Mike McCawley
John Bishop
Tom Ford

Linda Youmans-McDonald

Lisa Barker

Paul Wambach

Kathleen Noonan

BERYLLIUM HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE BOARD

Conference Call Number

803-725-1403

Pass code 2227011

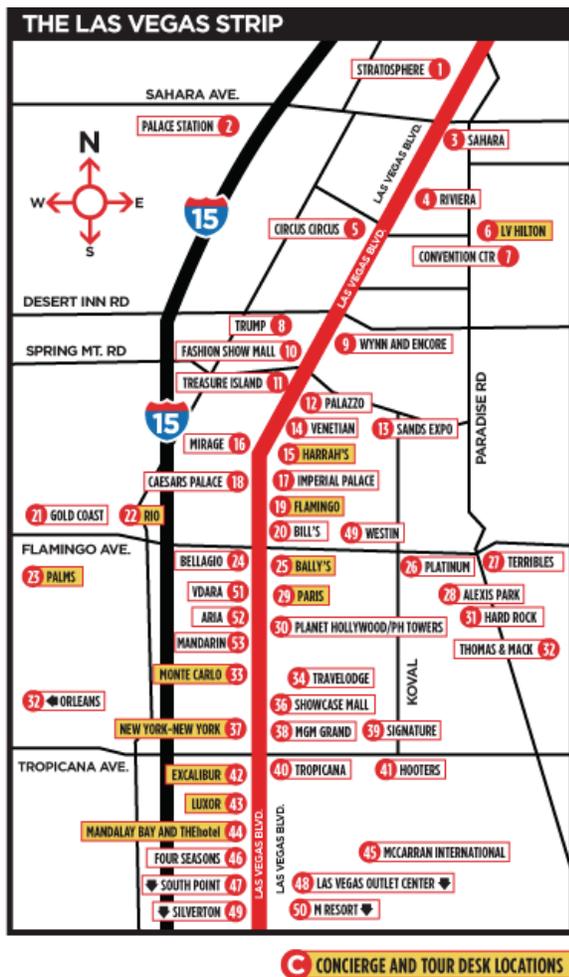
NOTES ON FALL 2009 BHSC MEETINGS

Fall 2009 BHSC and Affiliated Meetings – November 3-5, 2009

NNSA North Las Vegas Office Complex

- **Registration is requested.**
- **Attending?** Please send e-mail to Linda Youmans-McDonald at linda.youmans-mcdonald@srs.gov and indicate if you are attending in person or participating remotely.
- **Attending in person?** If you have a DOE standard badge, there will be no special entry requirements. We are obtaining the entry requirements information for others and will provide that when you register to attend in person. *No security clearance is required, except for the JOWOG meeting on Tuesday afternoon, November 3.*
- **All agenda times** are local (Pacific Standard or GMT-8)
- **ABIH Points** to be requested. Sign-in sheets will be provided at the meeting and to registered remote participants.
- **Telephone conferencing** will be available for the Board and BHSC meetings, but not for the JOWOG meeting on Nov 3.
- **To participate remotely** by phone: +1-803-725-1403, passcode227011. Registration is required in order to obtain the webinar link. We will also provide a blank sign-in form for those who want ABIH points for participating in the meeting. Someone at your site will need to verify, by cross-signature, that you participated. We will then provide the ABIH letter once it is available for your documentation.
- **All members:** A review of the business meeting items will be provided in the October newsletter.
- **Arrangements for remote viewing** of presentations have been made using GoToMeeting; the web link will be provided to those who have Registered to participate remotely. A computer that can use ActiveX controls is required; personnel at DOE and DoD sites should check in advance to ensure the computer they plan to use will be compatible.

LAS VEGAS STRIP



FINAL AGENDA

Fall 2009 BHSC and Affiliated Meetings – November 3-5, 2009

NNSA North Las Vegas Office Complex

Tuesday, November 3**[BHSC BOARD] [JOWOG]**

0815-1115 BHSC Board meeting – Open to all those who are interested

Location: To be Confirmed1230-1600 US/UK Joint Working Group (JOWOG) 3D-1-1
(Focus: Decontamination and Decommissioning (D&D)

"Q" Clearance or AWE equivalent Required

Location: Bldg. A-13, Room 5400**Wednesday, November 4** [BHSC]**Location: Bldg. B-3, Room 295**

0800-0830 Registration, Coffee, Pastries

0830-0845 Welcoming Remarks

0845-0945 Updates on Laser Induced Breakdown Spectroscopy (LIBS)
0845-0915: Mark Guillaume, Applied Spectra, Fremont, CA

0915-0945: Dr. J. P. Singh, Mississippi State University

0945-1030 Decon Blue Gel for decontamination of beryllium from surfaces

Roberto Mandanas, Cellular Bioengineering Inc.

Hector Rodriguez, Albany (OR) Research Center

1030-1045 BREAK

1045-1215 Roundtable #1:

The BeLPT Primer for Non-Medical Folk (Lisa Barker, National Jewish Health) Issues with High Declination Rates

Occupational Medicine Perspective:

Kathleen Noonan, RN, LLNL

Worker Perspective:

Donny McIver, SRS

US Navy Perspective:

John Bishop/David McMillan

1215-1330 LUNCH

1330-1400 Follow-Up: Los Alamos National Lab TA-41 Beryllium Incident
Gary Whitney, LANL

1400-1430 White Papers

1430-1700 Subcommittee Breakouts

Risk Communication

Research Needs

Technical Standards/Practices/Measures

Medical/Epidemiological

Sampling and Analysis

1600-1700 Meetings and Symposia Subcommittee

Locations: Bldg. B-3, Rooms 295, 278, 234**Thursday, November 5****[BHSC]****Location: Bldg. B-3, Room 295**

0800-0830 Registration, Coffee, Pastries

0830-1000 Roundtable #2:

Implications of BeD Reference Material

Round Robin Results:

Tom Datts, Y-12

Method Standardization:

Warren Hendricks, OSHA [remote]

Issues for Sites Not Having BeD:

Chad Hjorth, SNL

Perspective on BePAT Path Forward

Mike Brisson, SRS

1000-1015 BREAK

1015-1115 Abstract Presentations

1015-1035 Wounds in Be Areas:

Dr. Nick Lewis, AWE

1035-1055 A Model for Measurements of Lognormally
Distributed Environmental Contaminants:

Charles Davis, Envirostat

1055-1115 Analysis of beryllium in autopsy tissues from
nuclear weapon site worker:

Maureen Bernard, SRS

1115-1140 DOE BAWR Improvement Initiative – Paul Wambach [remote]

1140-1200 AWE Training Presentation (Quinn/Aldridge)

1200-1330 LUNCH

1330-1345 Brief Updates

10 CFR 85D Revisions: David Weitzman

OSHA Rulemaking: TBD

AIHA Updates: Mike Brisson

1345-1430 Subcommittee Reports

Risk Communication Lisa Barker

Research Needs Mike McCawley

Technical Standards/Practices/Measures

David Weitzman

Medical/Epidemiological Kathleen Noonan

Meetings and Symposia

Linda Youmans-McDonald

Sampling and Analysis Amy Ekechukwu

1430-1445 BREAK

1445-1515 Reports (Board, BHSC Operations, Membership, etc.)

1515-1545 Business Meeting
Revisions to Charter
Staggering of Terms
Revisions to By-Laws

1545-1600 Wrap-up

1600 Meeting closes

NOTE: Interested in hosting a BHSC meeting? Please contact Mike Brisson.

DOL Cites Opposition from Public in Withdrawal of Risk Assessment Rule

Citing opposition from worker advocacy organizations, labor unions, and risk assessment experts, the U.S. Department of Labor has withdrawn a controversial risk assessment rule that critics charged would have unnecessarily delayed rulemaking to protect workers from toxic substances.

The proposal would have required DOL agencies to issue an advanced notice of proposed rulemaking (ANPR) for every health standard involving toxic substances or hazardous chemicals, apart from emergency temporary standards; post documents related to a rulemaking on the Internet; and discard the assumption of a 45-year working life per worker in favor of industry-by-industry exposure data. Opponents contended that the ANPR requirement would delay rulemaking, that a 2002 law already required department agencies to post information related to rulemaking on the Internet, and that a reliance on industry-by-industry data would underestimate worker exposures.

DOL declined requests from members of Congress to hold public hearings on the proposed rule and extend the 30-day public comment period. In extensive comments submitted in September 2008,

AIHA stated, "After review of the proposed rule by the AIHA Risk Assessment Committee, AIHA is concerned that the proposed approach will result in increased exposure to workplace toxins based on assumptions which do not accurately reflect workplace conditions or worker experience. AIHA is also concerned that DOL has not solicited input from those individuals who have wide ranging expertise in evaluating worker exposure from chemicals and toxins, including industrial hygienists." The rule was withdrawn on Aug. 31, 2009.

Articles Needed

SPACE AVAILABLE



The **Beryllium Health and Safety Committee (BHSC)** is committed to preventing beryllium sensitization and chronic Beryllium Disease (CBD) and other adverse health effects that can be caused by workplace exposure to beryllium.

The Mission of the BHSC will be accomplished by:

- Promoting the safe use of beryllium
- Obtaining a better understanding of exposure risks
- Improving exposure monitoring
- Fostering improved controls
- Accumulating and Disseminating information concerning beryllium process best work practices, as well as, data from the health studies concerning the hazards associated with beryllium
- Training / mentoring of beryllium health professionals
- Identifying and promoting research that has the potential to enhance or improve our worker safety programs

BERYLLIUM HEALTH & SAFETY COMMITTEE

Subcommittee Report

BY Paul Wambach

Occupational Medicine and Epidemiology Sub-committee

Co-Chairs

Paul Wambach

Kathleen Noonan

The Occupational Medicine and Epidemiology (Med/Epi) sub-committee underwent a transition with Paul Wambach of DOE, HS-II and Kathleen Noonan of the LLNL Occupational Medicine Clinic volunteering to be co-chairs. In a series of conference calls the group has focused on developing a white paper on the use of the BeLPT in cohorts with a suspected low prevalence of CBD to aid in decision-making on the test's value for a particular cohort. An outline has been prepared and the literature that will be summarized in the paper has been identified. The paper will discuss what is known about the BeLPT and methods for estimating its positive predictive value in cohorts with differing prevalence of CBD. The value of early detection, informed consent of participants and the psychological and social counseling of those with sensitization and disease are equally important factors in the design of a screening program that will be discussed as well. Overlap with the risk communication area will require coordination and communication with that sub-committee.

The BHSC is planning to conduct a roundtable on the BeLPT as part of its fall meeting, November 4-5, at the NNSA North Las Vegas office complex. Med/Epi sub-committee members have been asked to participate in presentations on:

- Primer on the BeLPT for non-medical folk
- Field clinician perspectives
- Department of Defense perspectives
- Issues with high declination rates

Jim Jenkins
BHSC NEWS, Editor

Industrial Hygiene
 B&W Y-12 National Security Complex
 Phone: 865-576-7180
 Fax: 865-576-2213
 E-mail: jenkinsjljr@y12.doe.gov

NNSA North Las Vegas Office Complex

