



Beryllium Health and Safety Committee

Charter

(Approved March 17, 2010)

The Beryllium Health and Safety Committee (BHSC) is self-chartered by its Executive Board and is defined by the following. The BHSC is not established under the jurisdiction or requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, and does not provide advice to any governmental agency in a manner inconsistent with that Act.

Mission:

The BHSC is committed to promoting activities/efforts that will help to understand and prevent beryllium-induced conditions and illnesses, including beryllium sensitization (BeS) and chronic beryllium disease (CBD), that may be caused or exacerbated by workplace exposure to beryllium. The BHSC mission is primarily educational in nature, and is accomplished through generation, collection and dissemination of information to members and other interested parties.

Goals:

- Promoting safe practices in the use of beryllium
- Improving the understanding of methods for maintaining safe working conditions including
 - Recognizing conditions that create exposure risks
 - Optimizing exposure monitoring strategies
 - Fostering improved exposure controls
 - Preparing information workers need to protect themselves
 - Preparing information concerning best work practices and risks associated with beryllium exposure
 - Promoting improvement in beryllium sampling and laboratory analysis
 - Promoting medical surveillance for early identification of unsafe conditions
- Improving the understanding of opportunities for the prevention of the disability associated with CBD including
 - Medical surveillance for the early detection of signs or symptoms of CBD
 - Optimum strategies for targeting screening
 - The value of removal from exposure
 - Information workers need to make informed decisions

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- Improving the understanding of the potential environmental health impacts of beryllium operations including
 - Communities surrounding facilities
 - Individuals with whom workers come into contact
 - Exposures associated with the life cycle of product use and disposal.
- Identifying and preparing information on beryllium health hazards from health studies that is useful to health protection professionals
- Identifying and promoting research to enhance or improve worker health and safety protection programs
- Providing a forum for discussion among people in different fields, e.g., chemical analysis, industrial hygiene, occupational medicine, safety, health, and environmental protection.

Organization and Membership:

The mission is enabled by the Committee's executive officers (including Chair, two Vice Chairs, and Secretary), Executive Board, Subcommittee Chairs as necessary, and regular members. Organization, membership, meetings, subcommittees, officers, terms and duties are addressed in the BHSC By-Laws.