

Call for Papers and Presentations

Designing for Safety and Health in Construction: A Research and Practice Symposium

September 15-16, 2003
Hilton Portland Hotel
Portland, Oregon

Sponsored by

University of Oregon Labor Education and Research Center
Center to Protect Workers' Rights
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Oregon State University Construction Engineering Management Program
Industrial Design and Construction

Research suggests that addressing safety and health hazards in the design and planning phases of construction projects can yield significant improvements in safety and health outcomes for construction workers. Safety-in-design efforts have expanded in recent years, but diffusion of such initiatives remains limited. This symposium invites construction and design researchers, practitioners, and policy makers to share their knowledge and experience in safety in design in the construction industry. The primary theme of the symposium will be implementation and evaluation of safety-in-design efforts that target improvement of construction worker safety and health in building, public works, and road construction, and as such the symposium has two main goals:

- The further development and proliferation of safety-in-design initiatives in construction, and effective means of researching their impact, and
- The collection and presentation of examples of safety-in-design efforts from those with direct experience in the implementation of such initiatives.

The symposium seeks contributions that address processes and tools for reducing safety and health risks to construction workers through design, and methods and metrics for assessing the impact of safety-in-design activities. Contributions are invited that relate to the roles of all parties critical to safety in design- architects, engineers, clients (owners), contractors, workers, consultant/facilitators, and safety professionals. Specifically, papers and presentations of the following types and topics are invited:

1. Research contributions that document design, planning, and organizational factors in the causation of construction accidents, injuries, and illnesses.
2. Research or position papers regarding the role of trade contractors, craft workers and their trade unions in safety-in-design processes.

3. Research or position papers regarding potential liability issues raised by safety-in-design efforts.
4. Papers providing an overview of government or industry standards and guidelines regarding designing for safety and health in the jurisdictions where they exist, including but not limited to the European Union, and assessment of the practical impact of such regimens.
5. Case studies of safety and health in design initiatives, including implementation tools and methods, and assessment of process and outcome measures. Case studies may address an overall design process or may target specific design features, e.g. substitution of less hazardous building materials, design elements to reduce fall exposure, improved access to reduce ergonomic risks, etc.
6. Research papers or case studies that address organizational factors that affect the success of safety-in-design initiatives, particularly barriers that exist in design and construction organizations and means of overcoming them, including the use of outside facilitation.
7. Position papers proposing or documenting ways to disseminate safety-in-design concepts in the construction industry and in higher education programs where design and construction professionals are trained.

Contributions from both researchers and practitioners are strongly encouraged and may be in the form of standard research papers, case studies, policy papers, and curricula.

Submission Guidelines

Proposals for papers and presentations must include:

- Name(s), position, affiliation
- Address, telephone, and email contact information
- Title of paper/presentation
- An abstract of no more than 500 words. The abstract should clearly describe the research question, policy issue, case study, or other topic the presentation addresses and how the proposed submission relates to one or more of the themes outlined above.

Deadline for submission of proposals is May 1, 2003.

Proposals may be submitted electronically (preferably in MS Word) to:
shecker@oregon.uoregon.edu or via mail to:

Steven Hecker, Associate Professor
Labor Education and Research Center
1289 University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403

Symposium Information

Location: Hilton Portland, Portland, Oregon.

Fees and Travel: Symposium registration fee is \$125, including continental breakfast, lunch, and refreshment breaks during sessions, evening reception, and a copy of proceedings. The registration fee will be waived for presenters. Some funds for travel expenses may be available for presenters. Further information will be provided with notification of acceptance.

Proceedings: A proceedings volume will be published after the symposium. Presenters will be invited to revise and complete their papers/presentations for publication following the symposium.

Important Dates:

May 1, 2003	Deadline for proposal submission
May 30, 2003	Notification of acceptance
Aug. 29, 2003	Deadline for submission of draft papers/presentations
Sept. 15-16, 2003	Symposium
Nov. 15, 2003	Deadline for submission of final articles for proceedings

Further Information:

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