ASSE Region 6 Course Abstracts

September 2016

Pre-conference course (4 hours)

**15 Emergency Management Lessons Learned 15 Years After September 11, 2001**

The world was forever changed on September 11, 2001, and now 15 years later, change has continued to occur. This pre-conference course will focus on 15 key emergency management lessons learned from the 9/11 experience and then will focus in particular on aspects involving insider threat risks, strategies for correcting health and safety misinformation and rising concerns about the global spread of infectious disease. Ample time will be allocated for questions and discussion.

General session presentation

**Strategies for Keeping Your Health & Safety Program on Course in a Sea of Constant Change**

The University of Texas School of Public Health recently conducted a straw poll of approximately fifty very experienced health & safety professionals and the results were astonishing: 80% had reported to the person they current report to for a period of less than 5 years, and 25% for a period of less than 1 year! These striking results underscore the old adage that “change is constant”. But adapting to change is not something that is traditionally addressed in academic health & safety programs. Interestingly, although change is indeed constant, the underlying data that drives health & safety programs doesn’t change. What does change is the framing of the delivery of this important information to ensure continued program support. This presentation will discuss the dilemma of constant change and provide some tips on the personal management of change and will present options to consider for communicating essential information to the ever-changing environment.

Speaker biography

Dr. Robert Emery is Vice President for Safety, Health, Environment & Risk Management for The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston and Professor of Occupational Health at the University of Texas School of Public Health. Bob has over 30 years of experience in health & safety and possesses master’s degrees in health physics and environmental sciences, and a doctorate in occupational health. Bob holds the unique distinction of holding national board certification in seven main areas of health & safety;

* health physics [Certified Health Physicist, CHP],
* occupational safety [Certified Safety Professional, CSP],
* biological safety [Certified Biological Safety Professional, CBSP],
* industrial hygiene [Certified Industrial Hygienist, CIH],
* hazardous materials management [Certified Hazardous Materials Manager, CHMM],
* security management [Certified Protection Professional, CPP]
* and risk management [Associate in Risk Management, ARM].

While managing a comprehensive safety program, Bob has authored over 70 peer-reviewed scientific journal articles and book chapters on health and safety issues and has provided media interviews to major media outlets such as the Wall Street Journal, LA Times, NY Times, ABC, CNN, FOX, MSNBC, BBC, and NPR. He is a frequent presenter at the local, state, national and international level.