



AICHE Orange County

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September 2003

JOINT OC-LA AICHE SEPTEMBER DINNER MEETING

AN INSPECTOR IS AT THE GATE:
Responding to Unannounced Visits by
Regulatory Agencies

Robert Schuda

Thursday, SEPTEMBER 25, 2003
5:30 PM

- How companies can prepare
- How consultants can prepare their clients
- What to do and what NOT to do

The September meeting will address the technical and legal pitfalls of compliance inspections, a compliance/enforcement tool that regulatory agencies are using with increasing frequency. The presentation will include current agency enforcement focus issues.

The main speaker, Robert Schuda, is an Associate in the law offices McKenna Long & Aldridge, Los Angeles office. He counsels clients on environmental compliance and enforcement issues. Prior to joining MLA, Bob practiced law as a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Coast Guard. He served as the lead attorney responsible for Coast Guard compliance with the Clean Air Act, Toxic Substances Control Act, Endangered Species Act and Marine Mammal Protection Act. Bob has contributed to the Environmental Law Handbook (Government Law Institutes, Sixteenth Edition, 2003).

Speakers from the AQMD, an environmental consultant, and an operating company have also been invited to round out the panel.

Meeting Schedule:

5:30 p.m.	Social Hour
6:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:20 p.m.	Break
7:30 p.m.	After-Dinner Program

Place: Petroleum Club, Long Beach

Directions: Take 405 south to Long Beach. Exit Long Beach Blvd north. Right turn onto 36th Street. Left turn onto Linden Avenue. Petroleum Club is 3636 Linden Avenue. For a map or general information about the club, go to their web page www.lbpetroleumclub.com.

Reservations: *Please make a reservation at (949) 261-2622 by voice by Friday, **SEPTEMBER 19, 2003.** Or, you may email your reservation to west@research.ge.com.* Please specify your preference for either the main menu or the vegetarian menu when making your reservation.

Cost: Members, \$20 with a reservation, \$25 at the door; Non-Members, \$25 with reservation, \$30 at the door; Students/Unemployed/Retired, \$5 with reservation, and \$10 at the door

Please specify your preference for either the main menu or the vegetarian menu when making your reservation.

Important Meeting Notice

- **Starting with the month of June, every third meeting a member attends is FREE with reservation**

Southern California AICHE Meetings

The section for the LA area normally meets every 3rd Tuesday at the Quiet Cannon in Montebello. For reservations call (800) 274-3847. Visit their web site for the latest information www.geocities.com/aiche_sc



Trinity Consultants Upcoming Events

Refinery Clean Air Act Workshop, September 25 - 26, Long Beach, for environmental and other compliance staff of refinery facilities

Complimentary Luncheon Seminars for environmental and operations staff in affected industries:

- Oil Industry Environmental Issues, October 1
- General Manufacturing Environmental Issues, November 4.

Contact Roy Peters or AnnieLaurie Burke at (562)997-0900 for details and registration.

Legal Corner

EPA Finalizes Routine Maintenance, Repair and Replacement Rule Under Clean Air Act's New Source Review

Peter Hsiao and Siegmund Shyu, Morrison & Foerster LLP

On August 27, 2003, the U.S. EPA issued a final rule creating a category of activities known as routine maintenance, repair and replacement ("RMRR") that will automatically be considered as exempt under the Clean Air Act's New Source Review ("NSR") permitting program. NSR was designed to require increasing stricter pollution control standards for new air sources, but exempted older plants unless they engaged in major modifications. A continuing source of legal uncertainty was whether certain maintenance, repair, or replacement activities would be considered major, so as to trigger NSR. In contrast to the Clinton Administration's stricter reading, the Bush Administration urged a broader reading of what would be exempt under NSR. The Bush EPA initiated the process for changes with Bush's Energy Policy released in 2001, which culminated with the August 27 rule. According to the EPA Fact Sheet, the rule "preserves the public health protections provided by the Clean Air Act...while

removing disincentives for owners and operators of power plants and manufacturing facilities to undertake RMRR activities that would improve safety, reliability and efficiency of their plants." As reported by Reuters, industry applauded the new rules, commenting that they were "vital" to achieving a "reliable supply of electricity and continuing air quality improvements."

Environmentalists were less charitable, estimating that the new rules would allow more air pollution from about 17,000 industrial facilities around the country. The American Lung Association commented, "EPA policy should be based on protecting public health, not bolstering industry profits." The New York Attorney General promised legal action challenging the final rule, in which New Jersey and Massachusetts are already set to join, stating that "this flagrantly illegal rule will ensure that...Americans will breathe dirtier air, contract more respiratory disease, and suffer more environmental degradation caused by air pollution."

California Appellate Court Upholds Water Board Rules That Do Not Take Costs Into Consideration

On August 14, a California Court of Appeals upheld a Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board ruling that permits issued to the cities of Los Angeles and Burbank were required to have pollution limitations without regard to economic burden. (City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Board, Case Nos. B150912, B151175, B152562, Second Appellate District). The permits were issued for publicly owned treatment works, the Burbank Water Reclamation Plant and the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant. In the permits, the Regional Board imposed numerical discharge limitations, which the cities objected to as unfair since they imposed a high economic burden in contravention of the federal Clean Water Act. The trial court agreed, ordering the Regional Board to issue new permits. Nevertheless, the appellate court sided with the Regional Board, finding that the Clean Water Act did not require the Regional Board to make an individualized determination of economic burden and that the Regional Board's determination in this instance was rational.

Something Completely Different

The squirrel, the bushy-tailed rodent that is bane to many homeowners, is giving Smokey Bear a run for his money. As reported in E/The Environmental Magazine, Forest Magazine created Reddy the Squirrel as an alternative to Smokey Bear.



Instead of Smokey's message that "Only you can prevent forest fires" (recently changed to "Only you can prevent wildfires"), Reddy advocates "Forest Fires happen. Be ready!" Reddy's message echoes what many in the forest service discipline believe, that wildfires are natural occurrences, and that the Forest Service's fire suppression policy has led to a build-up of deadwood and underbrush that contribute to out-of-control fires. Since fires are inevitable, Reddy encourages preparation rather than prevention, recommending to the ever-increasing number of homeowners living near forests that they trim low-hanging branches and clear brush around their homes.

Legal Corner reports on recent news, and is not intended to be legal advice. The reader should consult an attorney about the specific facts before acting upon this information.

Do We Have Your E-Mail Address?

Newsletter delivery by e-mail has proven to be more reliable and expedient than the postal version. If you would like to receive the e-mail version, especially if you only want the e-mail version, please contact the editor at Kris_Ip@edwards.com. Postage presently consumes a significant portion of our budget and volunteer time.

Newsletter Contributors Wanted

The newsletter editor would like to hear from you if you have one or more brief articles to contribute, especially a review or brief discussion of a good website, technical book, etc.

Professional Engineering Employment Update

Job Seeking Members can receive a list of web sites of area companies that sometimes hire ChEs. Contact the Senior Member Everett Knell at EWKnell@aol.com to receive this list by e-mail.

Job Opportunities

Goodrich Corporation, a Fortune 500 company, is a leading global supplier of systems and services to the aerospace industry. The Santa Fe Springs manufacturing facility produces friction materials and high temperature composites for aerospace and automotive applications. Goodrich Corporation – Santa Fe Springs has the following open positions:

Process Manager - Responsibilities include utilizing continuous improvement techniques to improve productivity, develop subordinates, reduce operating costs, and comply with regulatory agencies. Lead operations, maintenance, and engineering personnel within the department. Manage production furnaces and utility equipment. Requires a Bachelors of Science degree in Chemical or Mechanical Engineering. At least three years of process engineering experience with a minimum of two years supervisory experience. Experience with implementation of Lean Manufacturing, Six Sigma, and Continuous Improvement programs is advantageous. This is a staff level position.

Plant Engineer - Lead role in plant environmental health and safety, technical execution of capital investment projects, and maintenance of the physical plant equipment. Provide support to manufacturing operations to improve product quality and cost efficiency as required. Develop and implement tactical plans to ensure production capability for strategic initiatives. Bachelors of Science degree in Chemical, Mechanical, Electrical, Civil, or Industrial Engineering. Minimum 5 years experience in manufacturing or engineering consulting environment. Five years experience working with California regulatory agencies. Professional engineering registration is preferred. This is a staff level position.

Process Supervisor – Supervise hourly employees, coordinate production activities, and lead continuous improvement initiatives. Bachelors of Science degree in Chemical or Mechanical Engineering. At least three years process engineering experience with a minimum of two years of supervisory experience. Previous experience in batch processing is a plus.

For consideration submit resume to:

Goodrich-SFS
Human Resources Manager
11120 South Norwalk Blvd
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670
Fax: (562) 944-2485
Email: SFSJobs@goodrich.com

GeoSyntec Consultants is a growth-oriented employee-owned national geo-environmental consulting firm seeking Chemical Engineers for its Air Quality practice in Southern California. GeoSyntec offers challenging assignments on a



variety of sites including landfills, industrial complexes and petro-chemical facilities.

Job responsibilities include but are not limited to: conducting and/or overseeing field investigations; performing analyses and design; preparing technical reports; and interacting with clients.

Applicants must possess at a minimum a BS degree in Environmental Sciences or Engineering. Applicants should have an interest in air quality and air pollution. Familiarity with Title V (40CFR Part 70) as well as training in air quality and hazardous material preferred. Good written and oral communication skills are a must.

GeoSyntec provides competitive salaries with semi-annual performance bonuses and excellent benefits including: health, dental, vision, RX, life and disability insurance; a 401(k) plan with generous employer match; and paid vacation, holidays and sick leave.

GeoSyntec Consultants is an equal opportunity/equal access/affirmative action employer who welcomes the application of qualified males, females, minorities, veterans, and the disabled.

Interested candidates should submit their resumes via e-mail to:
Joinushuntingtonbeach@geosyntec.com

① If you have an employment opportunity in Southern California for a chemical engineer, the newsletter will advertise it for free.

2003 Orange County AIChE Officers

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