

# Safety & Health

## SPOTLIGHT

**NOTE about Username/Password:** Many of the links in *Safety & Health Spotlight* require login to the STI/SPFA website at [www.steeltank.com](http://www.steeltank.com). If you already have a username and password, log in and click "Members" on the homepage. If you don't have Member access, [contact our office](#).

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Members Only

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## OSHA's final rule on hazcom

According to the National Safety Foundation, "the final rule aligning OSHA's Hazard Communication Standard ([1910.1200](#)) with the United Nations' [Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals](#) was released March 20 and published in the *Federal Register* March 26. It is effective 60 days after publication on May 26.

"The new [rule](#) is intended to more easily communicate substances' hazards through labels and Safety Data Sheets with a standardized approach that will use pictograms, signal words, and hazard and precautionary statements...

**CAUTION  
HAZARDOUS  
MATERIALS**

"The rule's requirements will go into effect in [phases](#), beginning December 1, 2013, with the requirement that employees must be trained on the new label [elements](#) and Safety Data Sheet formats

Read the May issue of [Safety+Health magazine](#) for more details on the rule change.

**2012  
FALL  
CONFERENCE**

September 11-13  
Houston TX  
*Save the dates!*

## ANSI confined spaces standard

Robert Clouse (Phoenix Tank) is vice-chair of STI/SPFA's Safety and Health Committee. He's also a member of the ANSI A10.43 Confined Spaces in Construction Subcommittee.

ANSI's A10.43 standard is currently under review and a task group of STI/SPFA members has been established to review the standard and submit comments. The task group will meet by teleconference during the next month or two.



If you are interested in getting involved with the task group, email [Dana Schmidt](#) of the STI/SPFA staff. For a status update on other ANSI A10 standards, [click here](#).

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## Scaffold safety training presentation

STI/SPFA's Safety & Health Committee is putting the final touches on an online training presentation to complement our "Tank Builders' Scaffold Guidelines." It can be used to train employees or educate a

customer about your safety practices.

The presentation will be posted on the [Members Only/Safety & Health page](#) beginning May 1. You must login with your username and password.

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## Safety assessment checklists

Continuous improvement in safety practices is a goal for all of us. To help you assess your safety program, STI/SPFA's Safety & Health Committee has posted several checklists on the [Members Only/Safety & Health page](#). You must login with your username and password.



While these checklists are useful in assessing your safety program, it's important to remember that each manufacturer is responsible for complying with state requirements and local rules.

The checklist from Zurich is provided with permission. Zurich Insurance is a provider to the CIC Group, Inc. where Tim Racicot, Chair of the Safety & Health Committee, is Corporate Director, Safety.

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## 2011 annual Safety, Product awards

STI/SPFA annually recognizes the safe performance of your fabrication and field operations. Member companies that received 2011 Safety Awards were announced at the SI/SPFA Awards Dinner, Saturday, March 31, at the Annual Meeting in Tucson.



Also presented in Tucson were the 2011 Product of the Year Awards for field erected and shop fabricated tanks, as well as Affiliate New Product of the Year.

Congratulations to the winners, and thanks to all who submitted entries!

[Click here](#) to see 2011 award winners and entries

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## CSB strategy: influence regulatory standards

Last month, the US Chemical Safety Board (CSB) announced its draft strategic plan for 2012-2016. Two of its goals are worth noting:

- "Conduct incident investigations and safety studies that involve accidental releases or potential releases of hazardous substances.
- "Improve safety and environmental protection by securing implementation of CSB recommendations and broadly disseminating its findings..."

According to the CSB's press release, these goals ensure that it engages in "incident investigations that have the potential to generate recommendations with high preventive impact." CSB's earlier 2012 budget request to Congress also emphasized its overall efforts to "influence regulatory standards through recommendations to standard-setting agencies and organizations such as OSHA and ICC."

The CSB's strategic plan targets completion of seven studies over the next four years, in areas including safety performance indicators, worker fatigue, OSHA's outdated PSM standard, industry safety culture, and hydrogen fluoride alternatives.



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Content courtesy of Pillsbury Winthrop Shaw Pittman LLP  
For more information, [click here](#)

## Chemical, noise hazards at drum refurbishing plant



### NIOSH reports on Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE)

"The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), a part of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, received a request for a Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE) at a chemical drum refurbishing plant. The plant had about 50 employees. Some of the employees reported respiratory irritation, chemical burns, and headaches from exposure to chemicals in the drums. They were also concerned about high noise levels at the plant.

"The plant received 55-gallon drums, most of which had been used to store caustics and acids, and 275- or 330-gallon totes that previously held various chemicals. It only accepted drums and totes that contained drip-dry nonviscous material, or up to one inch of viscous material. Totes were made of plastic surrounded by steel mesh; most of the drums were plastic. The plant also refurbished steel drums, but we did not observe these being cleaned during the HHE. Drums and totes were emptied of residual chemicals, cleaned, and then shipped to customers for reuse. Drums that were worn out or had leaks were shredded and recycled..."

[Click here for complete article](#)

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## STI/SPFA consultants at your service

Contact them for FREE assistance

Got a question or a quandary? Did you know that as a Member of STI/SPFA, you have access to a group of expert consultants? STI/SPFA has contracted with them to provide brief, complimentary consultation services.



Take advantage of this Members Only benefit. Contact our consultants:

- Safety & Health: Jim Rhudy, [jrrhudy@yahoo.com](mailto:jrrhudy@yahoo.com), 281-216-1456
- Fabrication: Bill Herdman, [wherdman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wherdman@sbcglobal.net), 317-885-1270
- Fire Codes: Jeff Shapiro, [Jeff.Shapiro@IntlCodeConsultants.com](mailto:Jeff.Shapiro@IntlCodeConsultants.com), 512-795-2900

[Click here](#) to print the consultant contact list

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## STI/SPFA's Safety & Health resources

Find a broad array of information and resources for your safety program on STI/SPFA's [Safety & Health Committee website pages](#). If you already have a username and password, log in and click "Members" on the homepage. If you don't have Member access, [contact our office](#). Our website is a valuable resource. Check out these useful links:

- [WebNet Safety Training](#): Train employees inexpensively, at your plant, for a full year via the internet
- [Training Resources](#): Materials for use by Member companies for safety training sessions--more than 100 presentations and posters
- [Equipment Failures](#): Descriptions of equipment recalls and failures, as well as solutions
- [OSHA Issues](#): Updates to OSHA programs of current interest
- [Personnel Incidents](#): Discussion of personnel incidents and lessons learned
- [Tank Use Mishaps](#): STI/SPFA monthly online newsletter with stories of mishaps involving

tanks and petroleum

- [Safe Tank Alliance](#) : OSHA Alliance Program with STI/SPFA, NFPA and API
- [Safety Awards](#) : Information about STI/SPFA's Safety Award of Excellence and the Safety Award of Achievement

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