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A Newsletter for the Users of CCINFO

Fall 2004

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CCOHS Forum 2005 Are you registered?

**Registration is Limited!
Register Early and Save \$100**

Expires December 31, 2004

**March 3 & 4, 2005
Toronto, Canada**

See page 6 for details



CCOHS Collaborates with Health Canada

For the past five years, The Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) served as the Canadian Health Network's (CHN) Workplace Health affiliate partner. Recently Health Canada awarded CCOHS a two year renewed mandate to continue their collaborative efforts with the CHN.

The Canadian Health Network (CHN) is a unique collaboration of major health organizations that makes e-health information available in English and French, from a single website. The idea is to make it easy for people to find trustworthy, practical information on the many aspects of "health". By having information provided by a network of credible health organizations that includes Health Canada, national and provincial/territorial non-profit organizations, as well as universities, hospitals, libraries and community organizations, Canadians have a wealth of free information on health promotion and disease prevention from which to choose, to help them make informed choices about their health.

As the CHN Workplace affiliate partner, CCOHS provides leadership in the field of workplace health, working with Health Canada and other leading health organizations to provide the most reliable and current information to Canadian workers and their families. CCOHS writes and distributes the Health@Work/Santé @u travail e-bulletin to more than 500 readers, and contributes articles, content and resources to the CHN website. The fact that the workplace can affect and determine the health of its workers makes it also a natural environment in which to "effect" change and promote health. CCOHS actively promotes the CHN and Workplace Health Centre and the accompanying health and wellness messages to varied audiences attending conferences in their outreach initiatives.

As a CHN affiliate, CCOHS has had the opportunity to work with a wide variety of Canadian organizations including Smartrisk, Dietitians of Canada, the Canadian Cancer Society, the Canadian Mental Health Association, Sunnybrook and Women's College Health Sciences Centre, Toronto Public Library, Vancouver Public Library, Canadian Public Health Association, and the Canadian Centre for Substance Abuse. Working with these organizations provided CCOHS a more diverse, wider audience than that of the health and safety professionals' community, to which to deliver the message of workplace injury and illness prevention.

CCOHS President and CEO Len Hong commented, "The impact that the workplace can have in maintaining and improving the health of Canadian workers, makes the work CCOHS does with CHN a natural, mutually beneficial partnership. CCOHS has an important contribution to make in providing information and resources that help keep people safe and healthy, and we appreciate the opportunity to work with and achieve this through an organization as highly respected and trusted as the CHN."

Through the CHN activities CCOHS has increased its visibility and expertise in comprehensive workplace health issues. For example, CCOHS is a member of the Canadian Healthy Workplace Council that seeks to promote a comprehensive approach to workplace health to improve and sustain the health of Canadian organizations, their work environments and their employees. Through the Council, CCOHS is involved in Canada's Healthy Workplace Week and responsible for updating and maintaining the "Resource Well" which prominently displays CCOHS and CHN as key sources of reliable and current information on healthy workplaces.

www.canadian-health-network.ca

The Health and Safety Report



NEW and IMPROVED!

The September 2004 issue of CCOHS' free, electronic newsletter debuted a new and improved design. Based on feedback from a recent readership survey, the revitalized Health and Safety Report design incorporates features and suggestions from our subscribers.

Subscribers asked for a more printer friendly layout that would allow them to easily print the entire issue of the newsletter for distribution, sharing and posting. Past issues of the Report are now archived on the CCOHS website and more easily accessed and printed. The hundreds of stories from the Health and Safety Report collection are searchable on the website and represent a resource rich in current, relevant, practical content that can be referenced and used in a variety of ways.

Many of the people who responded to the survey about The Report said that they use the information in the e-newsletter to affect change in the workplace, as content for their own joint health and safety committees and /or newsletters, or for displaying or circulating to co-workers.

The bottom line... now, more than ever, The Health and Safety Report can provide you with information that can help keep people safer and healthy in the workplace.

If you haven't already done so, why not join the thousands of people getting The Report delivered to their inboxes every month. Visit <http://www.ccohs.ca/newsletters/hsreport/subscribe.html> to subscribe to The Health and Safety Report today!

New Disc Information Service (DIS) Ready for Launch

In November, subscribers who receive the CCINFOdisc service will be in for a treat. A new, freshly enhanced version of this service is being released as the Disc Information Service (DIS). The new DIS features more powerful search software and an easy to use browser-based interface (while you are not actually on the Internet, you can use your web browser to interface with the database collections). Discs can now also be fully installed to your hard drive, allowing quick cross-disc and database searching.

CCOHS has been conducting usability testing with selected clients over the past few months and used their excellent feedback to tweak the service. All CD-ROM clients were sent a BETA disc in September, to allow everyone to use the new DIS and provide feedback prior to the product launch. We are confident that subscribers will enjoy the:

Familiar design (web browser-based)

Searching across multiple collections and databases.

Flexible searching - single or multiple words or search phrases can be used, plus finds various forms of the words (stemming).

Tabbed organization of the search results.

Ability to mark records for saving or printing, or between search sessions.

Note: DIS will replace CCINFOdisc in November. Subscribers will receive complete instructions and user tips on how to use the new service, however, as always, CCOHS Client Services are ready to help you and answer any questions you may have!



Watch for the new CD/DVD labels with the 2004-4 issue!

We'll Let You Know... with the Chemical Notification Service

Keeping abreast of changes to chemical information can be time consuming and distracting but when you must have the most current data, there is no short cut. *Or is there?*

As part of Subscriber Extras! CCOHS offers a **Chemical Notification Service** that sends registered clients emails whenever changes occur in the records of chemicals they have chosen to track.

Once registered, you simply enter the CAS Registry Numbers for the chemicals you wish to track and notification messages will be sent to you quarterly when the Web Information Services are updated.

You can update (add, remove) your list of monitored CAS Registry Numbers at any time. And as an added convenience, clicking a CAS number from your monitored chemicals list

automatically conducts a search on the CCOHS Web Information Service.

It's easy to register. Subscribers to any of CCOHS' chemical information services (MSDS/FTSS, CHEMpendium, RTECS, etc) can simply go to notification.ccohs.ca/extras/chemical/add.html, fill in the short registration form, enter their CAS numbers and sit back and wait for emails to arrive!

You must have either a username/password or access to the Web Information Service by IP/domain to use the Chemical Notification Service. Individual accounts can be created when registering by entering unique email addresses and passwords for each.

But remember, we can't let you know - if you aren't registered!

HS-Canada

– A Virtual OH&S Community –



An online community of people who share an interest in occupational health and safety are busy posting and answering messages, this very minute, from all across Canada.

When the HS-Canada electronic mailing list was launched in August 1996 to serve Canada's health and safety community, it was considered to be an innovative and progressive use of the still-fledgling Internet. Its creators at the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) assumed it would catch on – and they were right. Recently HS-Canada celebrated its eight-year anniversary and has grown to include more than 1550 participants.

HS-Canada is FREE to anyone with Internet e-mail. Since its release it has opened the channels for easy exchange of OH&S information and has been hailed for its tremendous potential as a networking tool.

A subscriber can post a message, have it read by everyone on the list – which might include health and safety professionals, chemical experts, safety product manufacturers and health and safety committee members coast

to coast – and receive several responses within days or even hours.

In the words of one participant...

I recently posted a question about the efficiency of ozone-generating air purifiers. I received several responses within two hours of posting my message, including sources of relevant studies. This almost instant access to health and safety related information means I can give my recommendations back to concerned employees quickly... I can now solve some problems in a day which used to require a week's worth of sifting through documents and playing phone tag with the experts."

and another...

I have found the HS-Canada mailing list the most valuable OH&S resource on the Internet... Although the Internet provides an incredible resource for researching information, the ability to network with other safety professionals via HS-Canada is invaluable"

On average, five to fifteen messages are posted every day. They focus on a broad range of topics, including biosafety, emergency response, hazardous materials, health and safety programs and policies, industrial/occupational hygiene, Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDs), occupational medicine, noise, radiation and other physical hazards, and regulatory information. Responses, as well as questions, are read by everyone on the list and often generate some interesting discussions!

WIS TIPS

Web Information Service

Helping you get the most from your web subscription.

The Toolbar

The toolbar appears at the record level and adds functionality to the record.

Green buttons are on/active.

Blue buttons are off/inactive.

Click on a button to toggle the feature on/off.

This box appears below in its complete form.

Show **Hide** **Show/hide** the toolbar when printing/saving database records.

Return to the listing of search results (and exit from viewing a database record.)

Move to the previous/next record retrieved by your search while viewing database records

Mark/unmark a record (from the search results or while viewing the actual record) for viewing, printing or saving.

Note: In the *OSH References* collection, you can only mark records from within the individual databases or the record itself.

Highlight search terms while viewing database records. Your search terms are then automatically highlighted within the body of the record, i.e. **indoor air quality**. This highlighting will print unless the feature is turned off.



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 • View All...
 • Select a... from the...
 • Create y... select by... Click on... *This fea...



View the in-... viewing da...
 • Rest yo... databas...
 • Clicking... field des...
 * Uses Micr...

Cut out these tips and post them by your workstation.

Subscriber Extras!

Read all about it!

Being a CCOHS Web Subscriber has its perks and **Subscriber Extras!** is an important one. **Subscriber Extras!** is a small but important corner of our Web Information Service dedicated to providing those who subscribe to our web services with additional, valuable resources, services and other helpful tidbits.

Subscriber Extras! can be accessed through the left sidebar of the CCOHS homepage or from the blue tab in the top right corner of Web Information Service pages simply by logging in with the same user name and password used to view database records. Subscribers to the Academic and Labour Support Programs and other clients who access the databases through IP and/or domain name do not require a user ID.)

Once inside, the many features of **Subscriber Extras!** appear in the sidebar and the links can be used to access each feature. The information in **Subscriber Extras!** is updated regularly so subscribers are encouraged to check back often to really get the full value for their subscription dollars.

Subscriber Extras! provides access to the following perks!

Featured Product

Periodically we offer special opportunities for our subscribers to purchase subscriptions, publications and services at special prices. Drop by here often... you never know when the product you're interested in may become our Featured Product!

What's New!

We are constantly working to improve the quality of our products and services in order to serve our clients better. Stay in touch here with new developments and improvements to our electronic products.

Opinion Poll

As a Subscriber we value your opinion, so from time to time we'd like to ask you for it... visit our Opinion Poll to take advantage of this opportunity to tell us what you think!

Subscriber Stories

Our clients have told us that they appreciate hearing what others are doing with OH&S and reading case studies. We are also always interested to hear how our subscribers use their subscriptions in the real world. Why not use this on-line form to tell us your story.

Other features of Subscriber Extras! include Liaison (current issue and archives), Search Tips, Chemical Notification Service, etc. with many more features planned for the future. The content will get richer as we continue to develop the service.

If you haven't checked out Subscriber Extras! yet – you really are missing out. Subscriber Extras! – Read all about it!
www.ccohs.ca/extras

This box appears below in its complete form.

Live Home Page



Favorites

History

Search

Scrapbook

Page Holder



Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety
Canada's National Occupational Health and Safety Resource

CCOHS promotes a safe and healthy working environment by providing information and advice about occupational health and safety.

Web Information Service

Online access to CCOHS data collections including: MSDS plus CHEMINFO, CHEMpendium™, RTECS®, OSH References, Canadian enviroOSH Legislation plus Standards, and Additional Resources etc.)

ENTER

[Academic Support Program](#)

Subscriber Extras!

Being a Subscriber has many benefits including Liaison, Featured Products, Search Tips, Opinion Polls ... *plus much more!* Be sure to visit **Subscriber Extras!** and see how you can benefit by becoming a subscriber.

CCOHS home page sidebar

able of Contents of a database record and allows you to e through the sections of the record. Click on a [section name](#) ctly to that section within the record. You can:

Sections (default).

preset format of frequently used sections (i.e. Identification) e dropdown list.

our own custom format* and display only the fields you y clicking on the box next to the fields you want to display.

[Refresh Record](#) to hide the unselected fields.

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Show > < Hide

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Move to the previous/next record retrieved by your search while viewing database records



Mark/unmark a record (from the search results or while viewing the actual record) for viewing, printing or saving.

Note: In the *OSH References* collection, you can only mark records from within the individual databases or the record itself.



Highlight search terms while viewing database records. Your search terms are then automatically highlighted within the body of the record, i.e. **indoor air quality**. This highlighting will print unless the feature is turned off.





Shows the Table of Contents of a database record and allows you to easily move through the sections of the record. Click on a section name to link directly to that section within the record. You can:

- View All Sections (default).
 - Select a preset format of frequently used sections (i.e. Identification) from the dropdown list.
 - Create your own custom format* and display only the fields you select by clicking on the box next to the fields you want to display. Click on Refresh Record to hide the unselected fields.
- *This feature is session specific.



View the in-context help for the database fields and sections while viewing database records. To activate you can:

- Rest your cursor on the  to view a balloon containing the database field description*.
- Clicking on the  opens a popup window containing the database field description.

* Uses Microsoft Internet Explorer balloon feature.



Cut out these tips and post them by your workstation.

CCOHS Forum 2005 – *Have You Registered?*



New Strategies for Recognizing and Preventing Occupational Disease

A Two-day Occupational Health and Safety Forum

March 3 & 4, 2005
Toronto, Canada

**Early Bird Pricing
in effect until
December 31, 2004**

Each year in Canada, occupational diseases cause hundreds of deaths and pain and disabling illnesses for many thousands more. On March 3-4, 2005, CCOHS will host a national event in Toronto to focus attention on this under-recognized workplace issue that has such an important human and economic impact on Canadians.

With “**New Strategies for Recognizing and Preventing Occupational Diseases**” as its theme, this first of its kind pan-Canadian forum will not only bring together government, employer and labour representatives – but also provide an opportunity for researchers, health and safety

practitioners, healthcare personnel, and others to exchange ideas, discuss how to improve recognition of occupational diseases, and recommend strategies to prevent disease and control exposures to hazardous agents.

Space is limited and filling up fast. Register by December 31, 2004 and get the early bird price of \$350. This is a savings of \$100 and includes participation in all sessions, lunches, refreshment breaks and participants kits.

Visit forum05.ccohs.ca/ for a full itinerary and the latest updates on what promises to be an exciting, Pan-Canadian discussion. ■

New Labour Support Program a Powerful Resource for Labour OH&S Training

A new program from CCOHS developed specifically for labour training centres serves as a powerful tool to educate trainees about occupational health and safety, and promote the importance of a safe and healthy working environment. CCOHS put together a specific collection of databases offered on the web to create the Labour Support Program. The idea is to offer this valuable resource at a reduced rate to make it affordable and widely available to labour training centres, and labour training centre libraries.

The **Labour Support Program** includes Internet access to the following collection of database services: MSDS plus CHEMINFO, CHEMpendium™, OSHLINE™ with NIOSHTIC® and RTECS®. In addition, subscribers to the program gain access to a wealth of free resources offered by CCOHS such as CHEMINDEX, INCHEM, Fatality Reports, WHMIS Classifications and the Workplace Health Promotion Resources database.

Together these databases provide information on a broad range of occupational health and safety topics that cover occupational hygiene, hazardous chemicals, human health effects of substances, WHMIS, hazard communication, and toxicology.

The Labour Support Program is offered at a \$1000 annual subscription fee – half the regular subscription rate – and includes access via the Internet for up to 5 users.

An annual subscription to the Labour Support Program on the Web also includes:

FREE technical support

LIAISON (CCOHS' quarterly subscriber newsletter)

Access to Subscriber Extras! under CCOHS' Web Information Service

If you are a labour training centre, test-drive the Service by signing up for your FREE 7-day trial! There is no cost and no obligation to buy. The trial will give you on-line access to the most recent data along with help and access to technical support. Contact Client Services today to register! ■

Visit Us at these Upcoming Events

**Alberta Health & Safety
Conference and Trade Show**
November 8-10
Edmonton, AB

**Ontario Hospital Association (OHA)
Convention & Exhibition**
November 15-17
Toronto, ON

Women's Health Matters
January 14 & 15, 2005
Toronto, ON

**Canadian Labour Congress (CLC)
Health, Safety and Environment
Conference**
January 28-30, 2005
Ottawa, ON

**Health & Safety Training for
Managers and Supervisors Course**
December 6-7
Hamilton, ON

**CCOHS Forum 2005
New Strategies for Recognizing and
Preventing Occupational Disease**
March 3-4, 2005
Toronto, ON

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Attention MSDS CD-ROM Subscribers

Swap that Stack for a Single DVD

Do you receive your MSDS plus CHEMINFO subscription on CD-ROM? If so, you must receive a stack of them every quarter! Did you know that CCOHS has released the entire collection of Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) on one single DVD (Digital Video Disc) to make the collection easier, faster and more convenient to use?

The DVD gives users access to more than 200,000 chemical information records on one disc and eliminates the need to swap CD-ROMs to get the information they seek. The more convenient access on DVD comes as we add our seventh CD to the collection to accommodate the increasing volume, particularly the number of PDFs being received directly from some 1200 chemical suppliers and manufacturers across North America. The DVD provides you with the same content that you have come to expect from your CCOHS subscription while eliminating the need to switch discs. In addition, it's offered to subscribers at the same price.

The MSDS plus CHEMINFO collection also features profiles of more than 1,300 workplace

chemicals in CHEMINFO and several CCOHS publications about MSDSs and their interpretation.

Users who find the CD-ROM stack inconvenient may also consider switching their subscription to our web version of the database. The advantages of the web subscription include the more frequent monthly updates, (compared to quarterly disc updates), easier access – from any computer connected to the Internet, and the PDF files directly linked to database records. In addition, there are a number of collections in the database on the web that are not available on the CD/DVD. Visit <http://ccinforeweb.ccohs.ca/msds/search.html> and try the simple web search interface for yourself.

The annual subscription cost for DVD, Web or CD-ROM, is \$350*. So pick the format that best suits your needs and contact our Client Services at 1-800-668-4284 or 1-905-570-8094 to make the switch!

*In Canada and the United States



7 CDs
or



DVD

CCOHS Website Celebrates a Decade of Diligence

The CCOHS website has been a solid, dependable source of health and safety information for Canadians and those around the world, for a decade. When the CCOHS website launched in 1994, it was one amongst thousands taking up residence on the virtually unknown Internet. Today it is one among tens or perhaps even hundreds of millions on the 'net.

Over the years the site has evolved to offer varied types of information (databases, OSH Answers) and even expanded the number of languages to include Spanish OSH Answers.

Over the last decade millions of people have visited the CCOHS website and in the past year alone, the site served 1.18 million individual visitors who accessed OSH Answers in English, French and Spanish – over 3.7 million times.

But one thing hasn't changed. CCOHS has continued to be an innovator, using the

Internet and the latest technology to deliver information and resources in formats and services that meet the varied needs of the people we serve. CCOHS has maintained its commitment to serving as a trustworthy resource for occupational health and safety information that can help prevent illness and injury, and keep people safe.

And from what our subscribers and visitors tell us, the CCOHS website is aging gracefully!



www.ccohs.ca