

CCOH Newsletter

Canadian Council of Occupational Hygiene

Autumn 2008

<p>CCOH Executive & Members 2008</p> <p><i>Each geographic area / local provincial organization is represented by a director at the CCOH.</i></p> <p>Directors/Assistant Directors:</p> <p>Azmina Hasham (British Columbia)</p> <p>Terry Demianenko / Kurt Dieckmann (Yukon)</p> <p>TBD (Northwest Territories / Nunavut)</p> <p>Luisa Su / Sheldon Weatherby (Alberta)</p> <p>Herb Wooley (Saskatchewan)</p> <p>Jane Maslowski / Edward Gatey (Manitoba)</p> <p>Lorraine Shaw - President / Richard Quenneville (Ontario)</p> <p>TBD (Quebec)</p> <p>Clive MacGregor – Treasurer/ Jason McInnis (Atlantic)</p> <p><u>Website Committee:</u> Chuck Pilger</p> <p><u>Newsletter Committee</u> Yang Ting Shek (editor) Michal Zitnik</p>	<p>Letter from the Editor.... Yang Ting Shek, ROH, CIH Editor – CCOH Newsletter</p> <p>Welcome Readers to the 2008 Autumn edition of the CCOH Newsletter. This will be my last Newsletter as editor. I have enjoyed my time but it is time for someone else to take the helm and infuse their own ideas into the Newsletter.</p> <p>For “my” last newsletter, we have a jam-packed edition for you. There are articles on the Occupational Hygiene Association of Ontario (OHAO) Fall Symposium, the 10th Inhaled Particle Conference in Sheffield, England and an overview of Metal Working Fluids. We are also announcing a CCOH Logo contest (see page 6) and introducing you to some new members of our team.</p> <p>CCOH is also actively looking for a new newsletter editor. If you are interested, please contact your CCOH Director or Assistant Director.</p> <p>Take care everyone and...happy readings!</p> <hr/> <p>In this issue...</p> <table><tr><td>Letter from the Editor</td><td>Page 1</td></tr><tr><td>Overview of the 2008 OHAO Fall Symposium</td><td>Page 2</td></tr><tr><td>Report on 10th Inhaled Particles Conference, September 23 – 25, 2008, Sheffield, England</td><td>Page 3</td></tr><tr><td>Metal Working Fluids</td><td>Page 4-6</td></tr><tr><td>CCOH Logo Contest - In search for our ‘BRAND’</td><td>Page 6</td></tr><tr><td>Profiles of New CCOH Directors/Assistant Directors – Meet <i>Azmina Hasham</i> (BC), <i>Luisa Lu</i> (Alberta) and <i>Jason McInnis</i> (Atlantic Canada)</td><td>Page 7</td></tr><tr><td>Summary of OHS Legislative Change</td><td>Page 8-9</td></tr><tr><td>Upcoming Events across Canada</td><td>Page 9-10</td></tr></table>	Letter from the Editor	Page 1	Overview of the 2008 OHAO Fall Symposium	Page 2	Report on 10 th Inhaled Particles Conference, September 23 – 25, 2008, Sheffield, England	Page 3	Metal Working Fluids	Page 4-6	CCOH Logo Contest - In search for our ‘BRAND’	Page 6	Profiles of New CCOH Directors/Assistant Directors – Meet <i>Azmina Hasham</i> (BC), <i>Luisa Lu</i> (Alberta) and <i>Jason McInnis</i> (Atlantic Canada)	Page 7	Summary of OHS Legislative Change	Page 8-9	Upcoming Events across Canada	Page 9-10
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Overview the 2008 OHAO Fall Symposium

By Yang Ting Shek, ROH, CIH

This year, the OHAO Fall Symposium took place on October 16, 2008, at Black Creek Village in Toronto, Ontario. In addition to the Symposium, two full days Professional Development Courses (PDCs) were also put on by OHAO: *Control of Welding Health and Safety Hazards* on October 15 and *Control Banding: Opportunities and Horizons* on October 17.

With regard to the Symposium, attendees enjoyed a full day of varied topics. The day started with *Tribute to the Fallen*, presented by Steven P. Levine, Professor Emeritus, from the University of Michigan and Monica Szabo of the Municipal Health and Safety Association. The duo presented a collection of beautiful and poignant photographs which told the story of Migrant Workers, Fishermen, Survivors of the Ford Rouge Explosion and Health and Safety Professionals amongst others. The presentation is based on work by Steven Levine and Earl Dotter, Visiting Scholar, Harvard University.

This was followed by a presentation from the Human Resource and Social Development Canada (HRSDC) Labour Program. Approximately 10% of the Canadian working population falls into federally-regulated industries. The presenter, Kerry Piccolotto, discussed the priorities for the Ontario region for 2009. The five priority areas from 2006-2010 are: Air Transport, Communications (including Broadcasting), Road Transport, Public Service Departments and Feed, Flowering and Seeding. New federal regulations on Ergonomics and Violence Prevention were also discussed.

Next, Daniel Drolet from the Institut de Recherche en Santé et en Sécurité du Travail (IRSST) presented *Computer Tools to Help Occupational Hygienist*. Tools range from VEMPire, an excel-based program which assist users in searching a variety of occupational health databases to tools specific to topics such as heat stress, calculating TWAs for mixtures

and breakthrough time of organic vapour cartridges. These tools are available on the IRSST website. Some tools are available in French and English (and other languages) and some tools are available in French only.

http://www.irsst.qc.ca/fr/personne_0119.html#outils

This was followed by a case study on *Asbestos Wipe Sampling* by Michel Crepeau of Water and Earth Science Associates (WESA). This presentation gave fascinating insights into the analytical, interpretative and risk communication challenges associated with asbestos wipe samples.

The afternoon began with a presentation on *Radon in Homes, Offices and Workplaces*. The presenter, Arthur Scott of Arthur Scott Associates, provided a detailed overview of the history of radon in Canada, the updated guidelines on radon from Health Canada (2007) and solutions to radon problems. An overview of Naturally Occurring Radioactive Materials (NORM), was also provided. NORM, of course, is not covered by the guidelines on radon but covered under the *Canadian Guidelines for the Management of NORM*, also published by Health Canada.

Next, Marshall Chassin of the Musicians' Clinics of Canada discussed alternatives to standard audiometric testing in his presentation entitled *Hearing Loss in the Workplace*. Specifically, high frequency testing (i.e. > 8K Hz) and otoacoustic emissions were discussed. An overview of each method, their challenges and advantages were provided.

The final presentation of the day was on *Respiratory Protection Against Airborne Particles: Major Milestones and Challenges*. The presenter was Sergey Grinspun, Professor of Environmental Health and Director of the Centre for Health-Related Aerosol Studies, University of Cincinnati. The presentation focused on the complexity of protecting against infectious bioaerosols and the research on this topic taking place at the University of Cincinnati.

Vendor exhibits are a staple of the OHAO symposiums. This year, there was a strong showing with exhibits from 3M Canada, Astead Technology Rentals, Cantest, CASSEN Testing Laboratories, Concept Controls Inc., Dalimar Instrument Inc., Levitt Safety and Sperian Protection.

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Report on 10th Inhaled Particles Conference, September 23 – 25, 2008, Sheffield, England

By Lorraine Shaw, B.Sc., CIH, ROH

This year I had the honour of attending the 10th Inhaled Particles Conference, held September 23 – 25th in Sheffield, UK. This prestigious conference, organized jointly by the British Occupational Hygiene Association (BOHS) and The Aerosol Society, is held once every five years and draws the “movers and shakers” of the worlds of occupational health and aerosol physics.

Sheffield is a fitting venue for the conference, since it is the cradle of the Industrial Revolution and a major steel making venue. The steel companies have moved to the outskirts of Sheffield. Today Sheffield is a revitalized city with a thriving arts community and two universities.

Photos of the Millennium Garden and the Peace Garden (respectively):



The conference drew attendees from around the globe. Presentations were made by researchers from Australia, Canada, China, Northern Ireland, Poland, South Africa, Sweden, the USA, Wales and other countries. Both old and new hazards were presented, ranging from mesothelioma to nanoparticles. Other interesting topics included:

Composting Facilities:

- An analysis of employee exposure to organic dust at large scale composting facilities.
- This is a growing concern as the green movement increases global composting.

Exposures from the Burning of Biomass Fuels:

- Respiratory Tract Deposition of Particles from Biomass Combustion
- Measurement of Number and Mass Concentration of Particulate Matter in Rural and Urban Pakistani Households
- Relationship Between Indoor Particulate Matter and Carbon Monoxide Levels in Nepalese Homes
- Indoor Air Pollution in Malawi: Use of Biomass Fuels Produces High Particulate Matter and Carbon Monoxide Concentrations in Both Urban and Rural Homes

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A thought provoking statement made during the closing session is that worldwide, 75% of exposure to particulate comes from biomass burning indoors.

Inhaled Particles XI will be held five years from now. I have offered to advertise the conference in Canada through the CCOH. I would certainly recommend that anyone interested in occupational health research should plan to attend Inhaled Particles XI.

Metalworking Fluids

By Lorraine Shaw, B.Sc., CIH, ROH

Introduction

The term metalworking fluids (MWFs), also known as cutting oils, machining fluids, lubricants and coolants, refer to lubricants used during metal machining, grinding, forming or treating to cool the metal piece being machined or ground, carry away unwanted swarf, chips, fines or contaminants or to lubricate and protect the metal parts.

The different types of metalworking fluids, differing occupational exposure limits and methods of analysis combine to make the sampling and analysis of MWFs confusing for many occupational health professionals. This article will attempt to clarify some of the issues.

Types of Metalworking Fluids

Straight Oil MWFs

These are composed solely of straight oils, usually mineral oils from highly refined petroleum stocks or reprocessed oils of unknown origin. These straight oil MWFs were used extensively in the past, but have largely been replaced by other MWFs today.

Mineral Oil MWFs can also contain polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), formed from the breakdown of the oils.

Soluble Oil MWFs

These are emulsions of water soluble oils which contain 30 – 85% mineral oil, emulsifiers, surfactants, anti-foaming agents, corrosion inhibitors, dyes, biocides and other compounds. They are generally a clear liquid which turns cloudy when mixed with water.

Semisynthetic MWFs

These are MWFs, similar to soluble oil MWFs, which contain smaller amounts of mineral oil (5 – 30%). They also contain emulsifiers, surfactants, anti-foaming agents, corrosion inhibitors, dyes, biocides and other compounds.

Synthetic MWFs

These MWFs contain no mineral oil. They are clear in colour and contain water, chelating agents, surfactants, anti-foaming agents, biocides and other compounds.

Many of the compounds in metalworking fluids are trade secrets which are not disclosed in material safety data sheets (MSDSs) due to the competitive nature of the industry.

Some specific chemical ingredients of MWFs are:

- Ethanolamines, which are used to stabilize pH and as corrosion inhibitors
- Antimicrobial Agents, some of which release formaldehyde
- Nitrosamines formed by a reaction of ethanolamines and nitrosating agents or sodium nitrite.

Microbial contamination

Soluble oil, semi-synthetic and synthetic MWFs, which all contain a large proportion of water, can

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also become contaminated with many kinds of bacteria, fungi and endotoxins.

Occupational Health Risks from MWFs

Occupational exposure to MWF aerosols can cause a variety of respiratory conditions including lipid pneumonia, hypersensitivity pneumonitis, Pontiac fever, asthma, chronic bronchitis and impaired pulmonary function.

In addition, there is evidence linking exposure to MWFs to cancer of the larynx, rectum, pancreas, skin, scrotum and bladder. Some components of MWFs, such as PAHs and nitrosamines are also carcinogenic.

Current Occupational Exposure Limits

The 2008 Edition of the ACGIH Threshold Limit Values in its Notice of Intended Changes, suggests withdrawing the Oil Mist TLV and replacing it with TLVs for Mineral Oil as follows:

Mineral Oil	TWA	Notations
Mineral Oil used in metal working: - Poorly and mildly refined - Highly and Severely refined	0.2 mg/m ³ Inhalable	A2 A4
Mineral oil, pure, highly & severely refined	5 mg/m ³ Inhalable	A4

Notations:

A2: Suspected Human Carcinogen

A4: Not Classifiable as a Human Carcinogen

This TLV is applicable only to straight mineral oil metalworking fluids. There is no TLV for soluble oil, semi-synthetic or synthetic MWFs. Some components of MWFs have individual TLVs, such as 5 mg/m³ TWA for triethanolamine.

The Atlantic Provinces, Alberta and Manitoba have adopted the ACGIH TLVs as their

regulation. In Ontario, the TWAEV for mineral oil mist is 5 mg/m³; Quebec, Saskatchewan, NWT, Nunavut, and Yukon list a TWAEV of 5 mg/m³ and a STEV of 10 mg/m³ for mineral oil mist. There are no occupational exposure limits for soluble oil, semi-synthetic or synthetic MWFs in any of these provinces or territories. British Columbia list TLVs for both mildly and severely refined mineral oil mists as 0.2 mg/m³ and 1 mg/m³ TWA respectively.

In 1998, NIOSH published a recommended exposure limit (REL) for all types of MWF aerosols of 0.4 mg/m³ TWA measured as thoracic particulate mass. This corresponds to approximately 0.5 mg/m³ TWA measured as total particulate mass.

Sampling and Analysis of MWFs

The methods used for sampling and analysis of MWFs are determined by the applicable occupational exposure limit and type of MWF being sampled. The ACGIH TLV for mineral oil requires sampling using an inhalable sampler, such as the IOM sampler, which is sampled with a pump calibrated at 2 litres per minute (lpm). The NIOSH REL requires sampling with either a thoracic sampler, such as the BGI GK2.69 sampler, or taking a total dust sample. This is due to the fact that few thoracic samplers are commercially available.

NIOSH Method 5524 can be used for the analysis of all types of MWFs. The method involves sampling with a Teflon filter. The MWF is eluted from the filter using a tripolar solvent mixture (a 1:1:1 mixture of dichloromethane, methanol and toluene). The use of a preweighed filter allows for the determination of not only MWF but also co-sampled particulate.

The NIOSH REL involves a gravimetric analysis of the samples (NIOSH Method 0500).

NIOSH method 5026, used for the determination of mineral oil mist only, is not offered by many laboratories. This is due to two factors: first, the carbon tetrachloride used to elute the samples is a chlorinated solvent, which destroys the detector the Fourier Transform Infrared Spectrophotometer used

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for the analysis. Secondly, it is an ozone depleter. Many people are under the misconception that this method can be used for straight mineral oils, soluble oils and semi-synthetics, since they all contain some mineral oil. This is not the case. The soluble and semi-synthetic MWFs do not contain enough mineral oil and the cloudy emulsions formed when the MWFs are mixed with water do not allow light to pass through the samples, which is required for the analysis.

Summary

In summary, a conservative approach, which best protects the health of the workers exposed

to MWFs is recommended. In the absence of an occupational exposure limit for soluble, semi-synthetic and synthetic MWFs, the NIOSH REL can be used as a guideline, while the respective provincial and territorial occupational exposure limits can be used for cases where straight mineral oil is in use. The appropriate sampling method specified in the regulation or guideline must be used. NIOSH Method 5524 can be used for all types of MWFs and is therefore a good choice for an analysis method, especially in cases where you are unsure of the type of MWF in use, or in industries where several types of MWFs are used.

In search for our 'BRAND' contest

By Luisa Su

As a 'newbee' director from Alberta, I would like to engage the dormant creative side of all members and request that you think about a 'BRAND' that will separate us from the crowd. We are looking for a sign, icon or symbol that will help identify the Canadian Council of Occupational Hygiene. For those budding artists, here is your chance for the limelight! Please don't be afraid to send us your ideas!!!!!! Deadline for submission is January 9, 2009. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact me at 780-497-4230 or at sul@macewan.ca



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Profiles of New CCOH Directors/Assistant Directors

By Yang Ting Shek, ROH, CIH

This past year, three new Directors and Assistant Directors join CCOH. Please join myself and the rest of CCOH in welcoming these new members!

Name	Azmina Hasham	Luisa Su	Charles (Jason) McInnis
Where are you located?	British Columbia	Edmonton, Alberta	Beautiful Fall River, N.S.
Who is your current employer?	WorksafeBC, Abbotsford.	Grant MacEwan College	International Brotherhood of Boilermakers
How did you find out about occupational hygiene as a profession?	1984: When I was working in the chemistry department at the University of Alberta, I saw an ad to make chemical safety data sheets for the Government of Alberta. I was hired as an Occupational Hygiene Technologist, researched information on supplier MSDS and made custom format MSDS for Alberta Government chemical products. I also calibrated and maintained Occupational Hygiene equipment and then moved on from there.....	I actually did not know there was such a field, prior to my first exposure at university. I was working towards a degree in Kinesiology and took a course in Occupational Hygiene during my 3 rd year. During the course, I worked on a research project studying the short term effects of Methyl Mercaptan on humans and enjoyed it so much that it led me to find out more about Hygiene. The rest is history.....	My first contact with occupational hygiene was through university in an undergraduate program. Helen Mersereau was one of my instructors and an occupational hygienist to boot. Thanks to her, I'm sure she's been responsible for turning more than a few students on to the occupational hygiene profession.
Do you have a special interest in some aspects of hygiene and if so, why?	Specially interested in safety and hygiene in Hospitals and Health Care and agriculture facilities. Interested in applying for Industrial Hygiene projects globally.	I don't have any favourites. I enjoy the 'mixed bag' of topics, that's what keeps hygiene so interesting.	I find a lot of areas within occupational hygiene interesting but especially the overarching concept of risk assessment (and the less well understood but ever present challenge of risk communication). Given my current job, I have a particular interest in welding fumes, noise and radiation.
What made you become active with your local provincial organization/ CCOH?	Position was posted in the local AIHA chapter and I went for it as am very interested in what happens in Hygiene across Canada as well as internationally.	Being active in the AIHA Local Section and similar organizations helps keep me informed of what is happening. I also enjoy working on issues with peers.	Volunteering has been a great way to network with other hygienists, to discuss common issues and challenges and to discuss the future of the profession. Quite simply, I wanted to do my part to support our hygiene profession.

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Summary of OHS Legislative Changes – August to November 2008

By Michal Zitnik, ROH, CIH

British Columbia

WorkSafe BC Revises Compliance Schedule for Working Alone

BC's Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) Regulation enacted provisions that required retail employers to ensure that workers are protected from violence during late night hours by either assigning two workers or providing a locked door or barrier to the lone worker. However, there has been problems identifying appropriate barrier designs and completing the barriers in a timely manner. As a result, certain phases of the implementation have been delayed.

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/PDFs/ProposedAmendments/BarriersAdvisoryCommitteeUpdate2.pdf>

WorkSafe BC Amendments to the OHS Regulations

Amendments cover areas such as environmental tobacco smoke, designation of chemical and biological substances, cranes & hoists, transportation of workers, construction, excavation demolition and under ground works and gases. These amendments come into effect on January 2009.

<http://www2.worksafebc.com/publications/OHSRegulation/Home.asp>

Ontario

Ontario Amends Technical Standards and Safety Act (TSSA) regulations :

- Ontario Regulation 249/08 Amending O. Reg. 221/01 Amusement Devices : A new subsection will require that persons applying for, or renewing, a license to operate an amusement device must “have full knowledge” of the above named regulation. Change takes effect Jan. 1, 2009.

<http://www.tssa.org/regulated/amusement/amusementSafety.asp?loc3=act>

- Ontario Regulation 251/08 Amending O. Reg. 21/01 Certification of Petroleum Equipment Mechanics: The definition of “direct supervision” and “mechanic” has been added/modified. Regulation is now in full force.

http://www.elaws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_010216_e.htm

- Ontario Regulation 252/08 Amending O. Regulation 209/01 Elevating Devices : definitions, a new Section 12 regarding compliance with O. Reg 209/01, the *Elevating Devices Code Adoption Document*, and requirements for inspections within 60 days after minor alterations. Regulation comes into force on Jan. 1, 2009.

<http://www.tssa.org/CorpLibrary/ArticleFileMain.asp?Instance=136&ID=E67057705C9D497FB781F83FD54EFE4A>

Ontario Regulation 35/08 Return-to Work and Re-employment-Construction Industry (Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, 1997)

The above referenced regulation came into force on September 1, 2008. The regulation requires employers of injured workers to co-operate in early and safe return-to-work of the worker and specifies

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actions that employers must take. This regulation applies to all employers in the Construction industry, regardless of the number of employees. "Suitable work" is defined.

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2008/elaws_src_regs_r08035_e.htm

Ontario Regulation 474/07 on Needle Safety

The regulation came into force on Sept. 1, 2008 and applies to public and private hospitals and metal institutions. The regulation requires these employers to provide healthcare workers with safety-engineered needles appropriate for the work and outlines circumstances where such needles are not required.

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_070474_e.htm

This regulation was then amended/expanded (O. Regulation 317/08 amending O. Reg 474/04) as of Oct. 4, 2008. The amendment expands mandatory use of safety-engineered needles to long-term care homes, laboratories, specimen collection centres and psychiatric facilities, effective April 1, 2009.

http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/source/regs/english/2008/elaws_src_regs_r08317_e.htm

Nova Scotia

New Underground Mining Regulations (N.S. Reg 296/08)

This regulation took effect on Aug. 1, 2008. The regulation addresses, amongst other topics : general safety requirements and work procedures, emergency preparedness and mine rescue, fire prevention and dust explosion prevention, electrical and mechanical work,

ventilation, monitoring flammable gas, mechanical equipment and travelways, mine hoisting plants for shafts, blasting operations, storage and handling of explosives and job training.

<http://www.gov.ns.ca/just/regulations/regs/ohsmine.htm>

Prince Edward Island

Regulatory Revisions Regarding Noise and Confined spaces:

- Changes cover: assessing noise exposure, reducing noise exposure, wearing hearing protection, providing hearing tests to workers and maintaining records for hearing tests.
- New definition of confined spaces

<http://www.wcb.pe.ca/index.php3?number=1020305&lang=E>

Upcoming Events across Canada*

*Where provided to CCOH, information requiring costs and maintenance points are shown. Where such information is not provided, readers are advised to contact course providers for verification.

Alberta

AIHA Alberta Local Section – Professional Development Course and Symposium/AGM

Application for ABIH/CRBOH/CRSP points will be made.

March 19 and 20, 2009

Calgary, Alta

Cost: TBD

For more information on the Professional Development course:

Leanne Varkonyi

lvarkonyi@hydrasolutions.ca

For more information on Symposium and AGM:

Ryan Stewart

RStewart@canadian-fertilizers.com

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Manitoba

AIHA Manitoba Local Section – **Non-Ionizing Radiation Myths and Realities (Teleweb)**

ABIH 0.5, CRSP 0.5 RM points are awarded per every three (3) hours rolled up

October 22, 2008

Winnipeg, MB (NOTE: Teleweb)

Cost: FREE

For more information:

Ed Gatey (204) 474-3356 or
egatey@hydro.mb.ca

AIHA Manitoba Local Section – **ACGIH Adjusting TLVs (Webinar)**

ABIH 0.5, CRSP 0.5 RM points are awarded per every three (3) hours rolled up

October 28, 2008

Winnipeg, MB (NOTE: Webinar)

Cost: FREE

For more information:

Ed Gatey (204) 474-3356 or
egatey@hydro.mb.ca

AIHA Manitoba Local Section – **Ventilation Conference**

Please note that this conference has been cancelled due to reasons beyond the control of the AIHA Manitoba Local Section. The AIHA Manitoba Local Section hopes to reschedule the Conference next year.

Québec

L'Association québécoise pour l'hygiène, la santé et la sécurité du travail (AQHSST) – **31st Annual Conference**

Cost : \$400

May 13-15, 2008

Drummondville, QC

<http://www.aqhsst.qc.ca/>

Atlantic Canada

AIHA Atlantic Canada Local Section - **Spring Technical Session 2008 (tentative)**

Program details - TBA

Westin Nova Scotian, Halifax, NS

March 25, 2009.

<http://www.aihaaps.ca/main/main.html>

Nova Scotia Safety Services (formerly Nova Scotia Safety Council) - **27th Annual Conference**

Westin Nova Scotian, Halifax, NS

March 25-27, 2009

<http://www.safetyservicesns.ca/>

USA

American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) - **PCIH 2008**

November 8- 11

Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel & Marina
Tampa, Florida

<http://www.aiha.org/pcih08/>