



Occupational Health Program

Monthly Newsletter October 2002

◆ **ISO 9001 & 14001 Occupational Health and Safety Management System Standard.** As we all are aware the ISO standards have had a significant influence at all NASA Centers. As of right now there is no ISO OH and S Management Systems Standard, and no active efforts to create one. There are many attempts in progress by other organizations to develop a widely recognized standard, the primary efforts are as follows: 1) OHSAS 18001, 2) ILO/OSH 2001, 3) ANSI Z10 committee's efforts, 4) OSHA's efforts to create mandatory H&S program requirements. Of course there is OSHA's VPP program. Regardless of the outcome of these various efforts to establish a widely recognized H&S management system standard it is important as an agency that we stay abreast of these efforts.

◆ **NASA Center Safety and Health Standown Days:** In October a number of NASA Centers had a day spent focusing on Safety and Health issues at the Center. This day is usually filled with keynote speakers, safety meetings, vendor displays, and other related activities. This is a great example of the strong commitment to Safety and Health there is within NASA. It also is a wonderful opportunity for all disciplines within OH to promote our vital services to the Center Workforces. Organizing a booth is a great time to hand out literature, demonstrate equipment, and increase general awareness of the importance of the Occupational Health Program at a Center. There are other annual events at NASA Centers such as Environmental Awareness weeks, Health and Fitness Day, etc. that are also excellent opportunities to promote Occupational Health Programs at your Center.

◆ **NASA OHP Support Office:** Welcome to the newest member of the Support Office Team, Mae Hafizi, RN. Mae has her MSN from University of California at San Francisco. Most recently Mae was the Workers' Compensation Case Manager at KSC.

◆ **NASA Health Promotion and Wellness Team:** Influenza vaccines are currently being offered at all Center clinics. In Fiscal Year 2002 a total of 19,891 vaccines were given. Though priority is

given to individuals considered high risk, research has shown that administration of the influenza vaccine to "well" population groups is beneficial in reducing illness, lost work days and healthcare costs.

◆ **New OHP website Calendar:** The OHP website (ohp.nasa.gov) has initiated a calendar. The calendar will list all activities related to the OHP office such as ViTS, center visits, sponsored training, national conferences for all OH disciplines, etc.

◆ **Nursing Spectrum:** During the quarter ending in September a total of 36 online continuing education courses were taken by nurses across the Agency on a wide range of health related topics.

◆ **2003 NASA OHP Conference:** The 2003 Conference is scheduled for August 4th to 8th in San Diego, California at the Loews Coronado Resort. <http://www.loewshotels.com/hotels/sandiego/default.asp>

◆ **Agency OHP Sponsored Health Physics Training at NASA Centers:**

- 40 hour RSO Course at Marshall 11/4-11/8
- 16 hour Non-ionizing Course at Langley 11/14, 11/15
- 16 hour Non-ionizing Course at Langley 12/17, 12/18

This is a great opportunity to receive Health Physics training with other NASA professionals. If interested in attending any of these courses please contact Bart Geyer.

- ◆ **OHP NASA Center Evaluation Calendar:**
- October 29- November 1, Michoud Assembly Facility
 - December 3 – 6, Stennis Space Center

- ◆ **Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:**
- Workers' Compensation ViTS - Nov. 4, 2:30-3:30 EST
 - Fitness Coordinators ViTS - Nov. 8th, 3:30-4:30 EST
 - EH ViTS - Nov 20th, 2:00-3:00 EST
 - Health Promotion ViTS-Dec. 3rd, 3:00-4:00 EST
 - HP ViTS - Dec. 8th, 1:30-2:30 EST
 - EH ViTS - December 20th, 2:00-3:00 EST

NASA OHP Monthly is published every Month by the NASA OHP Support Office

Send information, comments or questions to:

◆ E-mail - Bart.Geyer-1@ksc.nasa.gov ◆ Telephone - 867-3473

Find OHP Monthly on the Internet at <http://ohp.nasa.gov/>

◆ **Automating NASA Health Records:** *Since spring the OHP Support Office has pursued a course toward implementation of an automated Agency Health Records System. They will initially assess current requirements and practices at each NASA Center. JSC and LRC have already been visited and MSFC and GRC are scheduled for visits in November. When visits are completed, a composite status will be compiled for the Agency with recommendations for an implementation phase. A concurrent feasibility study of randomly selected medical records at KSC will ascertain their utility for epidemiological determinations.*