



OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Monthly Newsletter October 2005

◆ **HealthierNASA 2006 Kicks Off:** "The Road to Resilience" health information topic for the first quarter FY 2006 has kicked off the year long HealthierNASA 2006 Health Promotion Campaign. "The Road to Resilience" is a brochure produced by the American Psychological Association (APA) intended to help readers with how to develop personal strategies to better deal with hardship. The brochure will be mailed to your respective Health Promotion and Wellness committee member. Refer to [HealthierNASA 2006](#) at a glance. "Nutrition", "Indoor Air Quality" and "Sleep Well" sum up the other three quarterly health information topics.

◆ **International Continuing Health Education (ICHE) Series 15:** The new ICHE series is titled *Emergency Health and Medical Preparedness and Response to Disasters*. There are 8 sessions to be held every other Friday starting December 2, 2005, and ending March 17, 2006. Please note that the time slot has been moved up to 1000-1200 EST to accommodate our Russian Colleagues. Given the disasters that have occurred this year this topic is very timely and should be a benefit to all of us as we seek to better plan for our Emergency Health and Medical Preparedness across NASA.

◆ **Updates on the NASA Occupational Health website:** Recent additions or enhancements made to the website within the last month have included a number of articles. One such article is a new [communication](#) from the Chief Health and Medical Officer regarding the status of Avian Influenza. Another recently revamped area of the website includes an updated [Health Alerts](#) page and [Health Threats](#) page.

◆ **Avian Flu update:** On October 19, 2005, Dr. Rich Williams held a special ViTS regarding the Agency's response to the potential health threats of avian influenza. After a brief overview of avian flu by Dr. Williams, Dr. Logan from JSC spoke about JSC's efforts to develop the first draft of a contingency plan for NASA. For timely information refer to the CDC [Avian Influenza page](#). A copy of this ViTS can be requested via an email to [Mae Hafizi](#).

◆ **Electronic Health Record System (EHRS) Project Update:** On Tuesday November 1, 11:00-12:30, a ViTS with the Agency EHRS Task Force is scheduled to introduce John Eckman, EHRS project lead, and to provide an overall project update. Come to the ViTS if you are interested in hearing a project update and or have any questions concerning the project.

◆ **Occupational Health Support Office to Receive Special Service Award:** The Headquarters Honor Awards Committee has selected the Occupational Health Program Support Office Team to receive NASA's Special Service Award. On behalf of the OH Support Office, Helen Shoemaker, RN, MS, COHN-S/CM, Manager, OH Support Office, will receive the Special Service Award presented by the NASA Administrator and Deputy Administrator at NASA Headquarters on November 9. The citation reads, "For the outstanding and continuing excellence of the numerous innovative team efforts that make NASA's OH Program a world-class model for promoting employee physical and mental health and well-being".

◆ **2006 NASA Safety Directors / Occupational Health Managers Meeting:** The 2006 NASA Safety Directors / Occupational Health Managers Meeting will be held January 30 – February 2, in Cocoa Beach, FL at the Doubletree Hotel. [Registration](#) for this meeting is now available on the NASA Occupational Health webpage. Please register for the meeting on the website and make your hotel reservations directly with the hotel.

◆ **OH Training Needs Survey Results:** A big thanks to all of you who responded to our request to complete the training needs survey. Over 130 responses were received. These results will facilitate planning of future Occupational Health training initiatives and future utilization of training resources.

◆ **Radiation Safety Officer Course at Goddard:** The OCHMO is sponsoring a 40-hour Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) training course the week of November 14-18, 2005 at the Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD. The course is being taught by [Radiation Safety Academy](#). A great deal of planning has gone into this educational offering as topics were selected to match the needs of NASA Radiation Safety personnel. The course is open to all NASA contractors and civil servants. To register please e-mail [Tad Blanchard](#). For more information, contact [Kurt Geber](#).

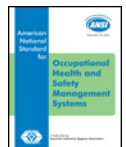
◆ **Upcoming ANSI Z10 ViTS:** This newly developed voluntary consensus standard provides critical management systems requirements and guidelines for improvement of occupational health and safety. On November 1, 2-3 PM EST, chair of the Z10 committee, Alan Liebowitz, will provide an overview of the standard and the possible impacts the standard will have for the Health and Safety profession.

◆ **NASA OH Center Review Calendar:**

- Headquarters rescheduled; November 28 – November 30

◆ **Upcoming Occupational Health ViTS:**

- EHRS ViTS – November 1, 11:00-12:30 PM EST
- EH ViTS on ANSI Z10 – November 1, 2:00-3:00 PM EST
- Fitness ViTS – November 9, 11:30-12:30 PM EST
- EH Monthly ViTS – November 16, 11:00-12:00 PM EST



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