



ASSP NORTHEAST FLORIDA CHAPTER NEWSLETTER – MAY 2019

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After MAX 737 crashes - DOT to Review Aircraft Certification Process

In the wake of two airline crashes and an emergency landing involving the Boeing 737 MAX airplane, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has established what it says is an expert Special Committee to review the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) existing procedures for certifying new aircraft.

A March 10, 2018 crash involving an Ethiopian Airlines flight claimed the lives of all 157 people aboard. The October 29 crash of a Lion Air plane into the Java Sea off Indonesia killed its 189 passengers and crew. Both incidents occurred shortly after takeoff, as did the emergency landing that

occurred recently at Orlando International Airport. The Florida incident, which involved a Southwest Airlines flight, had no fatalities.

Did regulators rely on Boeing's data?

The MAX model, along with the process used to certify it, has drawn considerable scrutiny since the Indonesian tragedy. The DOT is investigating whether or not regulators relied on Boeing's own safety evaluations during the certification process, and is one of the agencies scheduled to testify today at a U.S. Senate aviation subcommittee hearing. Representatives FAA and National Transportation Safety Board will also testify.

The DOT's Special Committee will include Air Force General (Ret.) Darren McDew, former head of the U.S. Transportation Command, and Captain Lee Moak, former President of the



Air Line Pilots Association, who have agreed to serve as the interim co-chairs of the Special Committee pending the appointment of other members.

Outside experts

“Safety is the number one priority of the Department, and this review by leading outside experts will help determine if improvements can be made to the FAA aircraft certification process,” said Secretary of Transportation Elaine L. Chao.

The Special Committee to Review FAA’s Aircraft Certification Process is an independent body whose findings and recommendations will be presented directly to the Secretary and the FAA Administrator. The Special Committee is being formed within the structure of the Safety Oversight and Certification Advisory Committee (SOCAC), created by Section 202 of the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2018. The SOCAC will provide advice

and recommendations on issues facing the aviation community related to the FAA’s safety oversight and certification programs and activities.

The SOCAC will be composed of individuals representing a diverse group of stakeholders in the aviation industry. The Department is soliciting candidates to be members of the SOCAC through the Federal Register.

Members of the public who wish to be considered for membership on the SOCAC must submit the required information outlined in the Department’s Federal Register notice, a copy of which is available [here](#).

Boeing, meanwhile, has reportedly completed software upgrades for its MAX 737s aimed at [preventing similar crashes](#) in the future.

ISHN

Online Edition
March 27, 2019

[ISHN](#)

Hepatitis A in Florida

Numbers starkly tell how, as with the rest of the nation, Hepatitis A is spreading across Florida like humidity.

Those same numbers also say the liver disease's blob of infection expanding from Central Florida has touched, but not covered, South Florida -- yet.

What is Hepatitis A?

The Florida Department of Health says, "Hepatitis A is a contagious liver disease usually spread person to person through objects, food or drink that are contaminated by small amounts of fecal matter from a person with Hepatitis A."

Symptoms usually start within 28 days, but can take as long as 50 days before showing. Hepatitis A doesn't hang around forever; the symptoms usually pass within two months. It is a liver problem, so one of the symptoms is jaundice, which is a yellowing of the eyes or



skin. Nausea and vomiting are common, as well as diarrhea, joint pain, pale stool and dark urine.

How fast is it spreading?

The CDC said in a March health alert, "Multiple states across the country have reported outbreaks of hepatitis A, primarily among people who use drugs and people experiencing homelessness. Since these outbreaks were first identified in 2016, more than 15,000 cases and 8,500 (57%) hospitalizations have been reported. Hospitalization rates have been higher than typically associated with HAV infection. Severe complications have also been reported, sometimes leading to liver transplantation or death; at least 140 deaths have occurred nationwide."

The Florida Department of Health's Reportable Disease Frequency Report says there have been 745 confirmed cases of Hepatitis A in the state this year as of April 6. The full year total for 2018 is

548 cases. The full year total for 2017 is 261 cases. The combined full-year totals for 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 is 574 cases. Currently, the full year total of 2019 stands is projected to reach 2,832, assuming that the current pace remains.

As of Saturday, Miami-Dade (nine), Broward (seven) and Palm Beach (five) each had a number of cases that meet or surpass five, the DOH's definition of a "high risk" community. But, each remains low compared to many other counties around the state, both in terms of raw numbers of cases and cases per capita.

Just looking at the counties of other major cities, Pinellas County, which has St. Petersburg, also has a state-high 168 Hepatitis A cases. Hillsborough County contains Tampa and 63 cases. Orange County is home of Orlando, Disney World and 74 cases. Only Jacksonville's Duval County, with two cases, comes in lower than the

South Florida counties when considering the state's big metropolitan areas.

Some of the smaller counties are being inundated. The U.S. Census Bureau's latest estimate puts Pasco County's population at 525,643, about one-fifth of Miami-Dade County. Pasco has 152 cases. Marion County, with only 354,353 residents or about 100,00 less than the city of Miami, has 43 cases.

Manatee County is also less-populous than the city of Miami, estimated 2017 population of 385,571; but it has 11 confirmed Hepatitis A cases.

How does it spread?

The Florida Department of Health's Hepatitis A handout says, "Hepatitis A virus is in the poop of people who have the virus. If a person with the virus doesn't wash his or her hands after going to the bathroom, poop can transfer to people, objects, food and drinks."

That's why the Department of Health in Miami-Dade



issued a notice in February when a restaurant worker at Primo's Italian Kitchen & Bar, inside the DoubleTree Grand Hotel Biscayne Bay, 1717 N. Bayshore Dr., was diagnosed with Hepatitis A. And it's why handwashing violations get quickly noted on state inspections of restaurants, supermarkets and other food handlers.

The CDC's health alert said that the most vulnerable groups are the homeless, drug users, men who have sex with men, people who are or were recently incarcerated, and people with chronic liver diseases.

What's the ounce of prevention?

As for day-to-day prevention, proper handwashing, which is soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds, after using the restroom or many other common handwashing situations. The Department of Health recommends vaccination, two shots taken six months apart. Call your

doctor or your county's Department of Health if you want to get vaccinated.

If you've already been vaccinated, you don't need another shot. If you've had Hepatitis A in the past, your body formed antibodies as a future defense against Hepatitis A recurrence.

The Miami Herald

Online Edition

April 12, 2019

[The Miami Herald](#)

EPA Strengthens Regulation of Asbestos to Close Loophole and Protect Consumers

On April 17, 2019, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a broad new rule that strengthens the agency's ability to rigorously review an expansive list of asbestos products, that are no longer on the market, before they could be sold again in the United States. This important step closes a 30-year-old loophole that allowed old asbestos uses and

products to come back to the market without any reviews or restrictions from EPA. This action gives EPA the authority to prohibit the use of certain products or put in place restrictions to protect public health. This action does not, however, alter the prohibitions made in a 1989 partial ban.

"Prior to this new rule, EPA did not have the ability to prevent or restrict certain asbestos products from being reintroduced into the market," said EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler. "This new rule, combined with our ongoing risk evaluations, gives us unprecedented authorities to protect public health from domestic and imported asbestos products and gives us the ability to prohibit asbestos products from entering or reentering the market."

"Today, we are following the laws Congress gave us to close the door on certain asbestos products to prevent



them from returning to the marketplace without EPA's review," said EPA Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention Assistant Administrator Alexandra Dapolito Dunn. "This historic step will add to the protections already in place to prevent the American public from experiencing the adverse health effects of asbestos."

This action means products like asbestos vinyl floor tiles, insulation, and other building materials, as well as some clothing and manufacturing products containing asbestos, cannot be imported, produced, or sold in the United States before EPA reviews them and puts in place any necessary restrictions, including prohibiting such use. A full list of products covered by today's rule is available on the agency's website. Previously banned asbestos items remain banned.

This action complements EPA's ongoing risk evaluation

of a handful of very limited, still ongoing uses in the U.S., which EPA is taking under the Frank R. Lautenberg Chemical Safety for the 21st Century Act, which amends the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Addressing limited, ongoing uses of asbestos is one of EPA's top priorities.

The agency is reviewing ongoing uses of asbestos as one of the first 10 chemicals selected for risk evaluation under amended TSCA. The evaluation of the risks associated with ongoing uses of asbestos is required under TSCA section 6.

If EPA finds unreasonable risk, the agency will take prompt action to address those risks, which could include restricting or banning other asbestos uses in products. The risk evaluation and subsequent steps will ensure that asbestos uses in products not covered by the 1989 partial ban or today's final rule are evaluated.

EPA is committed to a transparent and open process

to finalize the asbestos risk evaluation using sound science on the timetable established by Congress. Click this link to view the [EPA Risk Evaluation](#).

This final action takes effect 60 days after publication in the Federal Register. The final rule and supporting documents will be published in the Federal Register and available under docket identification number (ID) EPA-HQ-OPPT-2018-0159 at: [Regulations.Gov](#).

To learn more about asbestos: [EPA.Gov/Asbestos](#).

Worker is injured falling down stairs: Does this qualify for workers' comp benefits?

What happens when no one witnessed an injury and the injured worker doesn't remember it?

Terrill Graber worked as a forklift operator for Jackson's Dairy, a Dillon Companies



subsidiary, in Kansas. Graber was required to attend a paid safety meeting at the Dillon headquarters. The meeting was on the second floor.

When the meeting ended, Graber walked to a restroom near a set of stairs. He was found face down on a landing in the stairs about midway down. He broke three vertebra in his neck, was hospitalized for several days and underwent surgery.

Graber didn't remember leaving the restroom and there were no witnesses. There was no evidence to show how the fall occurred.

Graber suffered from diabetes which required him to take insulin and check his blood sugar daily. He says he hadn't checked his blood sugar on the day of his fall, however he'd never had any adverse effects from high blood sugar.

There was no evidence Graber's diabetes contributed to his fall. Two people testified that on the day of

the training, nothing appeared wrong with Graber.

Graber applied for worker's compensation benefits. An administrative law judge awarded him benefits, reasoning the requirement to use the stairs increased the risk to Graber so his fall wasn't from an idiopathic or neutral risk. Dillon appealed, arguing the fall's cause was unknown, which meant his injuries arose from an idiopathic cause.

The Kansas Workers' Compensation Board agreed with Dillon, noting that in 2011, the state had enacted legislation to exclude idiopathic injuries from coverage.

Graber appealed. A state appeals court reverse the Board's decision, saying Graber's injury wasn't idiopathic. Dillon appealed to the Kansas Supreme Court.

This case represents the first time the state's highest court would have to interpret the meaning of "idiopathic" in the 2011 legislation which

revised the Kansas workers' comp law.

Dillon argued idiopathic meant, simply, of unknown origin.

However, after considering dictionary meanings, references in other cases and Larson's Workers' Compensation Law, the Kansas Supreme Court decided:

"The plain language of [Kansas law] renders an injury noncompensable only upon proof the injury or accident arose directly or indirectly from a medical condition or medical event of unknown origin peculiar to the claimant. The term 'idiopathic' as used in the case law and its definition in workers compensation treatises add persuasive heft to this conclusion."

The Kansas Supreme Court found there was no evidence to show why Graber fell, therefore there was no evidence he fell because of a medical condition or event. As a result, his injury wasn't



idiopathic. The appeals court's decision was upheld and remanded to the Board for consideration for workers' comp benefits.

Safety News Alert

Online Edition

April 22, 2019

[Safety New Alert](#)

OSHA Investigation Finds Florida Roofing Contractor Continues to Expose Employees to Fall Hazards

JACKSONVILLE, FL – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited Florida Roofing Experts Inc. for exposing employees to fall hazards at a Jacksonville, Florida, worksite. The company faces the maximum penalty allowed of \$132,598.

OSHA initiated the inspection as part of the Agency's [Regional Emphasis Program on Falls in Construction](#) after inspectors

saw employees performing residential roofing activities without fall protection. OSHA [cited](#) the roofing contractor for failing to provide fall protection for employees working at heights up to 13 feet.

"Implementing OSHA's safety standards can help protect employees from risk of serious or fatal injuries." said OSHA Jacksonville Area Director Michelle Gonzalez. "Employers have an obligation to provide personal protective equipment for their workers to prevent from falls from height."

The company has 15 business days from receipt of the citations and proposed penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's area director, or contest the findings before the independent [Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission](#).

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful

workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to help ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education, and assistance. For more information, visit <https://www.osha.gov>.

OSHA News Release

April 3, 2019

[OSHA News Release](#)

OSHA Cites Ammunition Manufacturer After Explosion Kills Two Employees at North Florida Worksite

PERRY, FL – The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited ammunition manufacturer AMTEC Less Lethal Systems Inc. for exposing employees to explosive hazards after an explosion fatally injured two workers at the company's Perry, Florida, facility. The



company faces \$188,290 in penalties for multiple serious violations, and a willful violation that carries the maximum penalty allowed.

OSHA cited AMTEC Less Lethal Systems Inc. – which operates as PACEM Solutions International LLC – for failing to develop and implement management of change procedures when they increased the maximum explosive limits of pyrotechnic flash powder in or near the blast booths from 200 grams to 500 grams. OSHA also cited the company for failing to maintain the engineer’s specifications for the blowout panels installed on the blast booths; using blast booths that did not comply with good engineering practices; and failing to train employees on the operating procedures for work in the diversion section production room.

“When employers disregard safety standards, they place their employees at risk,” said OSHA Jacksonville Area Director Michelle

Gonzalez. “This tragedy could have been prevented if AMTEC had complied with OSHA standards.”

The company has 15 business days from receipt of the citations and proposed penalties to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA’s area director, or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA’s role is to help ensure these conditions for America’s working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education, and assistance. For more information, visit <https://www.osha.gov>.

OSHA News Release

March 19, 2019

[OSHA News Release](#)

Job Market Links

General Employment Links



**Safety Manager,
St. Augustine, FL**

Position Summary:

Ring Power has a newly-created position of Safety Manager at its St. Augustine location. Reporting to the Safety Director, the Safety Manager will be responsible for managing the EHS management system & third party contractor safety processes (ISNetWorld, Avetta, etc.), creating and updating safety programs and processes, developing and presenting safety-related training materials including weekly toolbox meetings, provide safety services to Ring Power’s specialty divisions, and help the team create a proactive safety culture.

The ideal candidate will have a degree in Safety or a closely related field and 2



years' experience in a related industry. Experience in electrical safety is a plus. Strong communication skills, both written and verbal required. Travel throughout Florida and some US travel required.

If interested, please apply at <https://ringpower.com/careers> and search for job 19-5663, Safety Manager.



**Assistant Safety Manager,
Fernandina Beach, FL Mill**

Position Summary:

This role is the #2 person responsible for the leadership & technical support of all matters pertaining to facility safety and employee health.

The successful candidate will be a key leader at the location, helping to create a culture of safety excellence.

The position has the responsibility to work in concert with Operations and Maintenance leaders to

design, modify, recommend and implement safety and health programs to assure a safe work environment.

They will support the mill as it accomplishes important tasks by offering practical and compliant solutions for working safely. Additionally, supporting compliance with all applicable safety and health regulations, corporate requirements and audit processes, will be critical.

They will also participate in post injury case management and lead the audit preparation and response processes.

Interested parties should contact Randi Leonardis at randi.leonardis@westrock.com.

Generic Job Links

- [ASSP](#)
- [BCSP General Safety Jobs](#)
- [BCSP Construction Safety Jobs](#)
- [BCSP Industrial Hygiene Jobs](#)
- [EHS Careers](#)

[ASSP NFL](#)

Find us on Facebook at:

[ASSP NFL](#)

Local Chapter Officers and Chairs

Elected Officers

- President - Steve Brown
- President Elect - Bob Dooley
- Secretary - Steve Wilson
- Treasurer - Yaniv Zagagi
- Delegate - Dave Bedsole

Appointed Chairs

- Membership Chair - Eric Gray
- Newsletter Chair – Bob Dooley
- Nominations Chair – Dan Hemsall
- Past President - Dan Hemsall
- Program Chair - Tom Drygas
- Social Chair – Ravyn Tyler
- Social Media Chair - Vernon Adams
- SPY Awards Chair – Open

ASSP Chapter Links

Find us on the web at:



Local Chapter Information

The North Florida Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals, formerly the American Society of Safety Engineers, was chartered in 1952 and currently has more than 165 members.

Professional meetings are held nine times per year in the Jacksonville area. Meeting notices are distributed and RSVP's are returned by email. If you are a member of ASSP and are not receiving notices by email, please email the [Chapter Secretary](#).

Help Wanted – We Need Leadership Volunteers

Local Chapter elections are coming soon, and volunteers are needed to support the various functions of the chapter. If you are interested and able to devote time to

the local chapter, please contact [Dan Hemsall](#) (Nominations Chair) or [Steve Brown](#) (President) for details. We believe that you will enjoy the experience and comradery and we most-certainly appreciate your help.

Local Chapter Meeting Schedule

- **Date:** May 15, 2019
Topic – Path to Zero Accidents Safety Management System; shift to total worker health and reducing operational risk tolerance
Time: 11:30 Lunch & Networking
12 Noon Meeting and Technical Session
Location: Northeast Florida Safety Council
1725 Art Museum Drive
Building B, Classroom D
Jacksonville, FL 32207

To attend any meeting, please RSVP to the

[Chapter Secretary](#).

Or, you may sign up online at [ASSP Northeast FL Chapter](#)

Meeting Cost:
\$15 for Members
\$20 for Non-members

PayPal is available on the website for an added convenience fee of .50 for members and \$1 for non-members.