



**AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS**

Hawaii Chapter

January 2023 Newsletter

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- 2022 Lifetime Achievement Honorees
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- Safety Professionals of the Year
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FY 2022 TOP 10 CITATIONS COMPARISON: OSHA vs HIOSH

#	OSHA	Total	HIOSH	Total
1	Fall Protection - Gen Req	5,980	Electrical	213
2	HAZ COMM	2,682	Toxic & Haz Substances	178
3	Ladders	2,471	General Safety & Health Req	137
4	Respiratory Protection	2,430	Fall Protection	106
5	Scaffolds	2,285	Fire Protection & Prevention	78
6	Lockout/Tagout	2,175	PPE & Lifesaving Equip	65
7	Powered Industrial Trucks	1,922	Material Handling & Storage	61
8	Fall Protection - Training	1,778	Stairways & Ladders	56
9	PPE & Lifesaving Equip	1,582	Scaffolds	53
10	Machine Guarding	1,488	Machine Guarding	46

2022 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT HONOREES



Nira Cooray, MS, MPH, CIH, CSP
Apex Environmental Safety & Health

Nira Cooray is a safety and health professional who has helped Hawaii's employees work safely and help preserve the health of Hawaii's workforce for over thirty years. In 2011 she founded Apex Environmental Safety and Health, a consulting firm that provides ongoing health and safety support to business owners in construction, and General Industry. Prior to starting Apex, Nira was a senior consultant at Bureau Veritas, where she managed a portfolio of clients and provided them with environmental safety and health consulting services, that included industrial hygiene assessments, health and safety training, ergonomic assessments, health and safety audits and the preparation health and safety plans and other programs required by U.S. OSHA regulations . She began her career at the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations in Hawaii as an Environmental Health Specialist at Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health Division (HIOSH), and she received a Superior Performance Award in 1994 for her work in enforcement of Occupational Health Regulations. She also worked as an OSH advisor with the HIOSH where she provided outreach in health and safety to small businesses. She was an instructor for the industrial hygiene courses at Honolulu Community College, Occupational Environmental Safety Management Program for nearly 20 years.



Jim Newberry, CHST
Retired

Jim Newberry joined the then ASSE Hawaii Chapter Executive Committee in 2000 and put six years helping lead the chapter before moving on to other leadership positions with ASSP Practice Specialties putting in another six years there as well. Highlights of extended ASSE/ASSP activities include: ISO 31000 U.S. TAG; Risk Assessment Committee; Ambassador on the ASSE People to People excursion to India in 2014, plenary speaker at ASSE Safety India 2015 in Mumbai; ASSE/ASSP Finance Committee

for 3 three years. He has received over the past decade: ASSE Hawaii Chapter SPY (Safety Professional of the Year); ASSE Practice Specialty SPY and the; Charles V. Culbertson Outstanding Volunteer Service Award. Lastly, Jim has been the chair of the Pac Rim Conference twice in 2004 and 2014 and has serviced two terms as the HIOSH Advisory Committee Chair in 2005 and 2022.



**Dan Vasilash, CSP, CIT, CHMM
Safety Trained Professionals**

Dan, owner of Safety Trained Professionals, has provided consultation, training and expert opinions for more than 15 years. Organizations include federal, state, city, county, military, utilities, maritime, educational and private industry clients.

With over 40 years of construction experience, Mr. Vasilash has worked in executive safety management positions at numerous companies, including Swinerton, Watts Constructors and American Electric. Noteworthy is his 22-year career with the Honolulu Fire Department and 20 years as an electrical contractor.

Dan is a senior safety professional, recognized by management and trades throughout the Pacific for leadership, communication skills, and “hands-on” field experience.



PAC RIM OUTSTANDING SAFETY AWARDS

**PAC RIM OUTSTANDING SAFETY AWARDS
GENERAL CONTRACTOR**



GENERAL CONTRACTOR SMALL SIZE

Layton Construction



GENERAL CONTRACTOR MEDIUM SIZE

Nordic PCL



GENERAL CONTRACTOR LARGE SIZE

Hensel Phelps



HENSEL PHELPS

**PAC RIM OUTSTANDING SAFETY AWARDS
MARITIME**

MARITIME MEDIUM SIZE



Triton Marine Construction Corp.



**PAC RIM OUTSTANDING SAFETY AWARDS
SUBCONTRACTOR**

SUBCONTRACTOR LARGE SIZE



Group Builders



**PAC RIM OUTSTANDING SAFETY AWARDS
GENERAL INDUSTRY**

GENERAL INDUSTRY SMALL SIZE



Raising The Standard Consulting



GENERAL INDUSTRY MEDIUM SIZE



Outrigger Beachcomber Hotel



GENERAL INDUSTRY LARGE SIZE



Costco Kapolei



PAC RIM OUTSTANDING SAFETY AWARDS
GOVERNMENT

GOVERNMENT SMALL SIZE



Haleiwa Elementary School



GOVERNMENT LARGE SIZE



Mililani High School



Mahalo to all who participated in the
16th Biennial
**Safety Intelligence Institute
Pacific Rim Safety and Health Conference**

We are at www.hawaii.assp.org
Follow us on:   

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Hawaii Chapter

Congratulations to all the companies and individuals who recieved this year's safety awards. We hope you were able to learn the latest in safety and health by our talented instructors and that you are able to use what you learned to be the best safety professionals.
Stay tuned for our ASSP Hawaii Golf tournament at the Klipper Golf Course at Kaneohe Marine Corps Base!

Sponsors
Safety Intelligence Institute, Hawaii Occupational Safety & Health, 3M, Building Industry Assn. of Hawaii, Airgas, Moss, G P Roadway Solutions, General Contractors Assn. of Hawaii, Hensel Phelps, Grace Pacific, Hawaiian Dredging Construction Company, Statewide Safety Systems, Swinerton, Morrow Equipment Co, Rosendin Electric, Albert C. Kobayashi, Goodfellow Bros, Milwaukee, C&P Safety Group, Hawaiian Cement, OTIEC-Las Positas, Raising The Standard Safety Consulting, Dorvin D. Leis, Nordic PCL Construction, Hawaii Gas.

E ho'opakele i nā kanaka, nā kumuwaiwai a me nā kaiapuni
Working to protect people, property and the environment



SAFETY PROFESSIONALS OF THE YEAR



**Joey Garza, CSP
SPY 2020**

Joey Shibata Garza brings over 12 years' experience as a project manager and Safety manager on complex large projects. Joey has been involved on managing key safety and health programs with responsibilities that include risk management, audits, safety topic training, and teaching OSHA-30 classes. As a seasoned HSE manager, she understands how to successfully oversee HSE programs and plans to ensure safety for vendors, trades, subs, and the public. Additional experience includes: conducting and/or supervising the delivery of safety programs and orientations to site personnel; implementing and supervising safety, environmental, accident and fire protection programs in compliance with federal and state regulations; implements and monitors PSI programs, coordinates the investigation of incident reporting and field construction activities inspections; and clearly demonstrates a strong commitment to HSE policies and the goal for zero incidents.



**Mary Silva, CSP
SPY 2021**

Mary has 30+ years of extensive experience in the safety and health profession. She has provided EHS leadership, support and consultation across several industries including property and casualty insurance risk control, construction, telecommunications, oil & gas downstream operations.

Several of the notable achievements Mary has achieved in the recent past was assist a client in reducing their workers' compensation premium by \$250,000 over two policy periods. She was integrally involved in revamping the entire safety program including accountability aspects for executive management. She helped develop, write, and implement this program with an insured with 200+ employees over 6 sites across Oahu.

She is also most proud of significantly reducing the workers' compensation severity rates while she was at Castle & Cooke Homes Hawaii, Inc. (CCHHI) Because they were an Owner Controlled Insurance Program (OCIP), the insurance cost for the construction projects were bottom line costs/profits for CCHHI. When she started at CCHHI, the workers' compensation cost per hour worked on the projects were \$2+. By 2007, the cost per hour worked was \$0.08, an over 90% reduction in cost. Frequency went from 123 to 14 in that timeframe. That year CCHHI was awarded the National Association of Homebuilder's Association (NAHB) Safe Builder of the Year Award and Mary was named the NAHB Safety Professional of the Year Award.



**Adam Cotton, CSP, CHST
SPY 2022**

Adam is the Director of Safety and Health for Hensel Phelps Construction and oversees the safety and health of all operations in the Pacific Region. He directly leads and supervises 14 safety professionals located in Hawaii and Guam. He manages and administers the Company's Safety and Health Program, Risk Management and Loss Control Programs, general liability, auto claims, workers' compensation for 200 craft employees performing self-work, and over 200 salary employees in managerial positions.

During the last three years, Adam led Hensel Phelps in reducing recordable accidents by 100%.

There were zero recordable mishaps in 2021 with over 650,000 worker hours) by surrounding himself with an outstanding staff of safety professionals and assisting/mentoring frontline workers to create a culture that focuses on safety.

Adam has been on the local chapter ASSP Executive committee for the last six years as a Delegate and Member at Large. He has been part of the ASSP PACRIM Seminar Planning Committee for the previous four years and specifically focused on getting our sponsors to fund the event.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Welcome Back to School Event

Tuesday, January 24, 2023

4:30pm - 7:00pm

Honolulu Community College

Happy new year! My name is Karissa Racoma and I am the Spring 2023 ASSP Student Section President for this term. I am a second year student at Honolulu Community College in the Occupational and Environmental Safety Management Program. I am so excited to see what this term will bring for our student section. As we start to get back into our "normal", we have exciting events planned for our section that offer support for students, community service events, and opportunities to gain new relationships with peers and

new people with similar interests.

We began this term by running our elections to ensure the truest interest of our section. As an executive committee, we want to make sure we are serving our people to the fullest extent possible, and keep their best interests at heart. For this term, our team consists of the following: Karissa Racoma - President, Carla Lewis - Vice President, Joselyn (Kau'i) McElroy - Secretary, John Cortez - Treasurer, and Ke'ala Dangay - Admin.

With the kick-off in the new year, we have some very exciting activities planned! To begin our semester on the right note, we decided to plan a "Welcome Back to School Event" also known as our Pu'u honua Event - Spring 2023. This will take place on January 24, 2023, at 4:30 PM. This is a time that student members will get to come in, have a snack, get a goodie bag, meet their executive committee, and learn more about our plans as a section for Spring 2023. This event will be our first official section meeting, so we are very excited to meet our new members and see familiar faces.

Following our event, we plan to participate in community service events, and fundraising events and show our kokua around the community. As for community service, we will be sending out a survey to see what peaks the interest of our members and begin planning. Ideas in mind consist of a student outreach program, CPR training events, and much more. We are working on different ways to fundraise for our section in order to put on events for their benefit. As an executive committee, we want as much feedback from our members and committee as possible and we are always open to new ideas and suggestions.

We are so ecstatic to see what this term will bring and find new ways to serve people within the safety community. Our goal is to be a resource to those in the safety community, those looking to join in, and even reach out to those who don't know about the safety community. This membership means a lot to us, and we are always searching for ways to better ourselves and the future of our communities.

From the executive committee of your ASSP student section, Spring 2023, thank you so much for your continued support. Mahalo nui loa.



GCA's 2023 Installation Banquet**Saturday, January 28, 2023****5:30pm - 10:00pm****Ocean Lawn, The Royal Hawaiian Resort, Waikiki**

Registration with no-host cocktails and pupus begins at 5:30. Dinner will follow with presenting Committee Awards, passing of the President's Gavel and speeches from both the past and 2023 President's messages. There will be live entertainment throughout the evening. Please note the dresscode for this event is elegant Aloha attire!

Register Here:

<https://business.gcahawaii.org/events/Details/gca-s-2023-installation-banquet-786381?sourceType=Website>

**2023 ASSP Safety Focus (In Person & Virtual)****February 13 - 17 & , 20 - 24 2023****Nova Southeastern University - Orlando Campus**

The American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP) developed SafetyFOCUS as an immersive educational event where you can take a deep dive on topics significant to you, your industry and your organization. Unlike a traditional safety conference, where you get an overview of several important safety concepts, SafetyFOCUS instructors spend more time on each subject. It's a more focused way to learn what you need to know and get back to business.

Connect in person or online with your peers for insightful discussions on leading issues facing the safety profession. Our world-class instructors deliver safety training that you can immediately apply to your most challenging issues.

Register Here: <https://safetyfocus.assp.org/registration/>



2023 Pacific Coast Safety Fest Virtual Event

March 13 - 16, 2023

Safety Fest originated in Denver CO, in 2005 when the OSHA Regional office collaborated with several professional construction associations, an insurance company and the Colorado State University OSHA consultation project, to address fall protection issues in the construction industry. The idea was to hold a low-cost event where all employees and employers could receive pertinent information concerning how to protect themselves and their employees from falls. The event was named Safety Fest of the West. This event has since evolved and continues in the Denver area today. Safety Fest has spread to different parts of the country and has various names such as The Pacific Coast Safety Fest and Safety Fest of the Great Northwest.

Course topics will include, but are not limited to: Health Hazard Awareness, Bloodborne Pathogens, Pandemic Illness Preparedness, and Fall Hazard Awareness.

Registration on Feb 28: <https://pacificsafetyfest.com/virtual-event-2/>

On-Going Local Training Opportunities:

AGC <https://business.gcahawaii.org/events/?CategoryValues=352760>

BIA <http://www.biahawaii.org/upcoming-courses>

CWR Rigging (by D. Allen Tavares Jr.) <https://cwrhawaii.com/training/>

Fed Fire (PAI Training) 2nd Thursday each month, reservations required!

Contact: mona.e.amisone.civ@us.navy.mil

Cc: brandon.s.romero.civ@us.navy.mil

Renewals: 7:30AM - 8:00AM

New Trainees: 8:30AM - 9:30AM

Lawson & Associates <https://www.safetyintelligenceinstitute.com/>

USCD Extension <https://extendedstudies.ucsd.edu/oshahome>

If there are additional local training entities not currently posted,

please let us know!

SAVE THE DATE



ASSP Golf Tournament @ Marine Corps Base HI
April 26, 2023

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

ASSP Member-Get-A-Member Program

Do you have friends, colleagues and associates who would find value in ASSP membership? Tell them about ASSP by using our Refer-A-Friend e-mail tool. Follow the link: [Get-A-Member LINK](#)

Know someone looking for a career in Safety?

Job opportunities are regularly posted on our website at <https://hawaii.assp.org/>. If you know about other opportunities not currently listed, please e-mail the job information to our local Chapter President at president@hawaii.assp.org.

[Visit the ASSP Hawaii Chapter Jobs Website Page](#)

Donations for Safety Scholarship

We are accepting donations to help establish our scholarship fund that will help the next generation of Safety Professionals succeed. Your contribution is appreciated!

Volunteer Opportunities

ASSP Hawai'i Chapter is looking for volunteers to join and help build and grown our chapter. This is a great opportunity to gain experience and meet our member network. If you or someone you know are interested, please contact our local Chapter Vice President at vp@hawaii.assp.org

Newsletter Suggestions?

We are always looking to improve our content to better suit YOU! If we missed something, or if you would like to see additional information, please feel free to contact our local Chapter Vice President to add to our newsletter vp@hawaii.assp.org. We strive to support local and build our Safety Ohana!

LAUGHTER: GOOD FOR THE SAFETY SOUL





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