

## On The Level - August 2018



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### Upcoming Events & Deadlines

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### Safety & Health News Round-Up

[Five Ways to Ignite Collaboration and Support by Design](#)  
*EHS Today*

[ABA Releases Report on Opioids Crisis](#)  
OHS

[Five questions about back-to-school safety you should be asking](#)  
*Safety+Health*



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### See You at Safety+

The 2018 Safety+ Symposium in Nashville, TN, is taking place in less than two weeks! Join us in Music City from **August 28-31** for a week of [workshops](#), networking, [top notch safety and health products](#), prizes, and more.

Before you attend the event, check out the [candidates running for the VPPPA National Board of Directors](#) and familiarize yourself with their campaign platforms. Have any final questions about this year's event? Check out our [FAQ page](#) or feel free to contact us at [conference@vpppa.org](mailto:conference@vpppa.org).

[REGISTER FOR SAFETY+](#)

Already registered for the event? Download the mobile app. It's free and easy! [You can find instructions for downloading here.](#) If you have any questions about downloading the mobile app, or need help locating something in the app, please feel free to email Jamie Mitchell at [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org) or visit the Information Booth during the symposium for hands-on assistance.

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## North Carolina Codifies VPP

Under the leadership of Labor Commissioner Cherie Berry, North Carolina became the fifth state to codify its Voluntary Protection Program. North Carolina joins a bipartisan mix of states - Indiana, Virginia, Arizona and Maryland - in passing legislation to make voluntary compliance a permanent part of workplace safety. "Workplace safety is my passion," said Commissioner Berry, who has grown the largest state-based VPP program in the nation, with 145 worksites participating. "Codifying VPP is important because it tells business and labor that we are committed to keeping a great thing going."

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### Sponsored Content

Improve program visibility, accuracy and productivity and discover the simplicity of going digital with Gensuite! Learn more at Safety+, booth 721, or join our webinar. [Register today!](#)



## Tennessee Governor Proclaims Safety & Health in the Workplace Week

On July 10, 2018, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, put out a proclamation declaring the week of the 2018 Safety+ Symposium, August 27-31, 2018, as **Safety and Health in the Workplace Week**. Haslam encourages all citizens to join him in this worthy observance. Haslam's proclamation honors the partnership between the VPPPA and the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Tennessee Chapters of the American Society of Safety Professionals to co-host VPPPA's Safety+ Symposium and the Tennessee Safety & Health Conference. Mike Guillory, Chairman of VPPPA's Board of Directors, said, "We are honored to learn of Governor Haslam's proclamation. Safety and Health in the Workplace Week is another step toward recognizing the importance of the safety and health industry, and the efforts of all those organizations striving for safer workplaces."

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## Free Webinar Opportunities From OHS

**OHS** is offering a variety of FREE webinars in upcoming weeks. You can find a full list of webinars [here](#), and a few are highlighted below:

### **Effective Hazard Communication for Transforming How Workers Understand Chemicals**

Aside from compliance, how effective are we at communicating the hazards of chemicals? In assessments done over 28 years, a lack of hazard recognition is apparent in the workforce, but the area most lacking is in the understanding of basic chemical safety. Learn to communicate to increase employees' understanding of chemical hazards, making your program more effective and your employees more involved. [Learn more and register here.](#)

**Date:** August 22, 2018

**Time:** 2:00 PM Eastern Time

### **Common Occupational Health & Safety Pitfalls in The Utilities Sector**

Managing EHS matters in the critical infrastructure environment of the Utilities Sector, where much is at stake, is wrought with complexities for even the most seasoned safety professionals. Whether you operate as an EHS Professional in the electric generation, electric transmission and distribution, water, wastewater, sewer, gas, or telecom utilities industry, this webinar is for you. Commonly missed hazards can be a cause of big trouble. Join us for a discussion of some occupational health and safety pitfalls common to all utilities, together with some tried and true solutions to proactively minimize the impact of these pitfalls in your organization. [Learn more and register here.](#)

**Date:** September 12, 2018

**Time:** 2:00 PM Eastern Time

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## **VPPPA Celebrates Safe + Sound Week**

It is officially Safe + Sound Week! VPPPA is a proud partner of OSHA's 2018 Safe + Sound Campaign. While the week is almost over, there is still time to participate at your site. [Click here](#) to see a map of safety events in your local area. Tune into the [VPPPA Facebook page](#) for daily Safe + Sound Week posts.

### **What Is Safe + Sound Week?**

A nationwide event to raise awareness and understanding of the value of safety and health programs that include management leadership, worker participation, and a systematic approach to finding and fixing hazards in workplaces.



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## **Association Announcements**

### **Write for a VPPPA Publication**

Have you checked out the [VPPPA Blog?](#) Send us an article regarding any safety or health topic, and we might add you to our blog schedule for 2018.

If you would like to write for a VPPPA publication, or know of someone who is interested, please email [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

### **The Leader Magazine**

The Autumn 2018 issue will focus on addiction and the drug epidemic in the workplace, and how this can impact the safety and health of workers. Feature articles will be due on **September 13**.

### **Membership News**

If you have any news or pictures from your site that you would like to share (an award, a VPP approval, a member who went above and beyond, etc.), please send it to [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org). We would love to add your updates to the next On The

Level newsletter or post it on our social media pages. In addition, please send us any safety "lessons learned" and we can share them with our membership.

### **Member of the Month**

Have you checked out the [Member of the Month](#) section on our website? If you would like to nominate someone as the VPPPA Member of the Month, please email [membership@vpppa.org](mailto:membership@vpppa.org).

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Stay Connected



**VPPPA**  
7600-E Leesburg Pike, Suite 100  
Falls Church, VA 22043

[www.vpppa.org](http://www.vpppa.org)  
(703) 761-1146

A decorative graphic consisting of a grid of blue and green squares, with some squares missing, creating a pixelated effect.

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[www.vpppa.org](http://www.vpppa.org) | Phone: (703) 761-1146 | Fax: (703) 761-1148 |  
7600-E Leesburg Pike, Suite 100  
Falls Church, VA 22043