

ON THE LEVEL

— ◊ BALANCING INDUSTRY & ASSOCIATION NEWS ◊ —

On The Level - August 2021



VPPPA Members Receive a
10% Tuition Discount



VPPPA's 2021 Safety+ Symposium



Presents

Safety+

An Integrated Safety & Health
Management Systems Symposium

AUGUST 31-
SEPTEMBER 2
2021

NASHVILLE, TN

#SAFETYPLUS2021

VPPPA.ORG

Safety+ is Less Than Two Weeks Away!

Attendees, staying up to date with everything going on during Safety+ has never been easier, thanks to our 2021 Safety+ Symposium Mobile App! Customize your workshop schedule, receive notifications onsite relaying schedule changes or exciting announcements, participate in our Passport to Prizes Game for a chance to win exciting prizes, and gain instant access to all the important details about Safety+, the Gaylord Opryland, and Nashville—right at your fingertips! Download the app today!

To Download the Safety+ Mobile App

- 1 Visit Google Play or App Store
- 2 Search "Cvent Events" and download
- 3 Search "Safety+" in the app, click on the event

Safety+ National Symposium Highlights

- **3 unique ways to attend** for the first time at this year's Safety+, these include: in-person, virtual, or hybrid.
- **More than 75 innovative workshop topics**, each presented by top EHS professionals, federal and state OSHA representatives, and fellow VPP participants.
- **Mega Workshop Sessions** that provide attendees with more time to learn trending topics that are currently affecting safety professionals.
- **Exhibit Hall with 200+ vendors** will be available to both in-person and virtual attendees.
- **Exclusive (and safe) networking opportunities** for safety professionals of all levels.
- **Earn industry CEUs** while attending Symposium workshops.
- **Post-Symposium Workshops** offered to professionals looking to further their safety knowledge after the conference.
- **Awards & Scholarships** celebration will be held to recognize and honor the best of the best.

COVID-19 Event Information

VPPPA continues to follow the developing COVID-19 situation in Nashville, TN. The safety and health of our attendees and guests is of the utmost importance. As safety and health professionals, we encourage all Safety+ attendees who are not vaccinated to be tested for COVID-19 prior to traveling to Nashville. VPPPA will require that all Safety+ attendees wear a mask for the duration of the event and practice social distancing. Workshop rooms, the exhibit hall, common areas and receptions have all been designed with social distancing in mind. Hand sanitation stations will be readily available throughout the hotel and meeting space. We are relying on our community to help us get through this together and we strongly believe we can have a safe, educational, and memorable event by looking out for one another.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and communicate with attendees on any changes to their Safety+ experience. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the VPPPA National Office by email at conference@vpppa.org or by phone at 703-761-1146. Further information can be found [here](#).

LEARN MORE

REGISTER

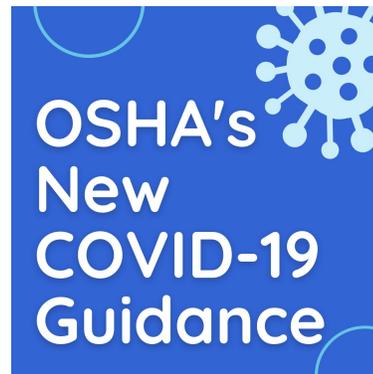
OSHA's New COVID-19 Guidance

On Friday, August 13, OSHA issued updated guidance to help employers protect workers from the coronavirus.

The Update Includes:

- Recommends that fully vaccinated workers in areas of substantial or high community transmission wear masks in order to protect unvaccinated workers.
- Recommends that fully vaccinated workers who have close contacts with people with coronavirus wear masks for up to 14 days unless they have a negative coronavirus test at least 3-5 days after such contact.
- Clarifies recommendations to protect unvaccinated workers and other at-risk workers in manufacturing, meat and poultry processing, seafood processing and agricultural processing.
- Links to the latest guidance on K-12 schools and CDC statements on public transit.

To view this update, along with additional information related to COVID-19, click [here](#).



OSHA's Upcoming Hearing on HCS Update

OSHA will hold an informal hearing in September to discuss proposed updates to the agency's Hazard Communication Standard (HCS). The hearing, which will be held virtually via WebEx, will begin on Sept. 21, 2021, at 10 a.m. EDT and continue on subsequent days if necessary.

Individuals who are interested in participating in the hearing are required to submit a notice of intent to appear. Further details on OSHA's hearing and how to attend are available [here](#).

VPPPA's Blog Opportunities

Are you, or someone you know, an author who would like to add their voice to safety and health? You're in luck! VPPPA is now accepting new articles for our award-winning blog.

Get in touch with Ariana Hanaity at ahanaity@vpppa.org, for further details and requirements.

[Contact Now](#)

August Behavioral Health Column

VPPPA has partnered with the experts at MindWise Innovations to present a monthly article addressing issues and questions that members might be hesitant to ask about. These columns will address your concerns about mental health, substance abuse, brain injuries, family issues, and more.



The August article highlights the importance of fostering psychological safety in the workplace, a vital component in high-performing teams across all occupational fields.

To submit your own question (your information will not be shared) [fill out this form.](#)

[Read Blog](#)

The *Leader* Magazine



Have you read the latest issue of the *Leader* magazine?

The summer issue discussed **Chemical Safety & Hazard Communication**. You can check it out [here](#).

Our upcoming Autumn 2021 issue of the *Leader* will be focusing on **Workplace Violence & Safety**.

Authors: If you would like to contribute an article or request further information, please contact communications@vpppa.org.

Advertisers: Receive a FREE VPPPA web ad with the purchase of a Half Page or Full Page. Please contact Heidi Hill, at hhill@vpppa.org, to reserve your space.

[Learn More](#)



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Advocacy - Voluntary Protection Program Act

Tell Congress to PASS the Voluntary Protection Programs Act!

Shortly after the Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association (VPPPA) was formed in 1985 there was movement to make the country's Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) law. When Fed-OSHA adopted the California program, invented by Labor just a few years earlier, they adopted it as a discretionary program. This means VPP could be canceled with a pen stroke today. The VPP Act would codify the VPP into law, provide it a dedicated line item in OSHA's budget, and would maintain the existing VPP process.

When constituents speak, Congress listens. The VPPPA needs your help to support our efforts to pass the Voluntary Protection Programs Act. If passed and signed into law, the Voluntary Protection Programs would be cemented into law, protecting the program from dramatic swings in political power.

[Take Action](#)

Association Announcements

Safety+ Attendee Pages

Are you attending VPPPA's upcoming Symposium and looking to get a jump-start on networking with your safety peers and workshop speakers? Join our Safety+ Attendees Group on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) to get started!

2021 Award & Scholarship Recipients

Winners from VPPPA's Annual Awards & Scholarships is now live on our website. Our staff here at the National Office want to express a massive congratulations to each of the recipients! We will be highlighting these individuals in Nashville at our upcoming Safety+ Symposium. To view this year's winners, click [here](#).

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



Congratulations to the August VPPPA Member of the Month, Michael Hancock!

Make sure you visit the [Member of the Month](#) section on our website!

If you would like to nominate someone as the VPPPA Member of the Month, please

send it to communications@vpppa.org.

fill out our [nominations form](#).

We would love to add your updates to the next **On The Level** newsletter or post it on our social media pages.

Stay Connected



Make It Safe.
Make It Home.



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