



54th Annual Iowa Governor's Safety & Health Conference

October 28 - 29, 2025

The Meadows Events & Conference Center, Altoona, IA



STATE OF IOWA
KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR

October 1, 2025

Dear Safety Professionals,

On behalf of the State of Iowa, it's our pleasure to welcome you today to the 54th Annual Governor's Safety and Health Conference hosted by the Iowa Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council.

Advancing safety in the workplace is a very important role. A strong and vibrant economy relies on healthy and safe workers. We applaud the work you do every day to minimize injury to workers and ensure workplaces and work processes are safe. We are proud of the work you do every day to protect your employees so they can return home safely to their families each night.

This conference and the work of the Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council is dedicated to sharing best practices and good ideas that you can take back to the factory floor, construction site, food processing facility and all other places of work.

We're confident that the knowledge and skills you gain at the Governor's Safety Conference will be invaluable in promoting workplace safety, preventing injury and saving lives across Iowa.

Thank you for what you do every day to make a difference for employees and employers. Enjoy the conference.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim Reynolds", written over a horizontal line.

Kim Reynolds
Governor of Iowa

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Premise Health.



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CIRCLE OF SAFETY



The Circle of Safety logo was adopted by the Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council in 1974. Since then, it has served as a symbol of purpose for all of their endeavors in Iowa.

Just as the wagon train was drawn into a circle for the mutual protection of the pioneers, the circle of safety is provided by the cooperative efforts of all concerned and surrounds the figure representing the employees of the state. The employee is not just the central figure, but is a part of the circle itself. This embodies the intent of the Occupational Safety and Health Act whereby the government, employers and employees must share in the rights and responsibilities for a safe and healthful environment.

CONTINUING EDUCATION CREDITS

Purpose

The Iowa Occupational Safety & Health Advisory Council is exclusively dedicated to promoting and providing continuing education concerning Iowa workplace safety & health regulations and best practices.

Intended Audience

The Iowa Governor's Safety & Health Conference is intended for occupational safety professionals, risk managers, consultants, business executives, supervisors, occupational health nurses, workers, or anyone that may have interest in, or impact on, workplace safety and health.

Continuing Education Credits

Certified Safety Professional (CSP)

Continuance of Certification (COC) points for Certified Safety Professional (CSP) may be claimed by attending this Governor's Safety and Health Conference, as authorized by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals. For more information please go to [bcsp.org](https://www.bcsp.org).

Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH)

Certification Maintenance (CM) points for Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) may be claimed by attending this Governor's Safety and Health Conference, as authorized by the American Board of Industrial Hygiene. For more information please go to [abih.org](https://www.abih.org).

General Credit

General participation and education certificates will be available upon request after completion of the electronic post-conference evaluation from the Heartland Center of Occupational Health and Safety. 7 contact hours will be awarded for 2 day attendance.



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SCHEDULE – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

8:00 – 9:00 AM **Registration and Exhibits**

9:00 – 9:30 AM **Morning Announcements** **Bishop Ballroom**

9:30 – 10:30 AM **Keynote Speaker – Richard Flynt**

10:30—10.45 **Vendor Break**

10:45 – 11:45 AM **Breakout Session 1**

Skinner A	Next Steps: After You Get Your Citation	Brian Bigley
Skinner B	NFPA 70B Electrical Equipment Maintenance – Now a Standard – Are You Prepared?	Brent Mollenhauer
Skinner C	Heads Up: Heavy Equipment Doesn't Do Second Chances	Justin Bartling
Salon 2/3	See Beyond Safety: Engaging Teams to Uncover & Control Risks with Hazard Mapping	Diane Rohlman

11:45 – 12:45 PM **Lunch / Awards Ceremony / Vendor Time**

12:45 – 1:45 PM **Breakout Session 2**

Skinner A	The Sound of Safety: Best Practices in the Prevention of Hearing Loss	Katie Hacker
Skinner B	Machine Guarding: Ongoing Compliance and Operational Safety	Matt Clutter
Skinner C	High Expectations	Kirk Dighton
Salon 2/3	Cannabis in the Workplace - Part 2	Chris Iverson Terri Davis

1:45 – 2:00 PM **Vendor Break**

2:00 – 3:00 PM **Breakout Session 3**

Skinner A	Using the CIRCLE Method to Achieve Continuous Improvement of Unsafe Conditions in Manufacturing	Richard Flynt
Skinner B	Environmental Overview for the Construction Professional	Morgan Drew
Skinner C	Excavation Safety: Compliance vs Complacency	Drew Caulfield
Salon 2/3	Effective onboarding	Kirk Dighton, Shawn Becker, Penney Neuzil

3:05 – 4:05 PM **Breakout Session 4**

Skinner A	We just had a Fat/Cat, I'm the safety professional, I think there is a lawsuit coming, what do I do now?	John Surma
Skinner B	The Safety Culture Game Changer- Integrating Early Intervention for Holistic Worker Health	Suzanne Clancy
Skinner C	Not So Spooky: A look into the free NIOSH and OSHA Apps	Anna Tuecke

4:05 – 4:35 PM **Closing Announcements / Sponsor Speeches** **Bishop Ballroom**

4:35—6.00 PM **Vendor Reception**

SCHEDULE – WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

7:00 – 8:00 AM	Registration and Breakfast		
8:00 – 8:20 AM	Opening Remarks		Bishop Ballroom
8:20 – 9:20 AM	Breakout Session 5		
	Skinner A	A Winning Safety Game	Marc McClure Gary Higbee
	Skinner B	International Fire Code 2024 changes - Manufacturing Occupancies	Jennifer Ware
	Skinner C	Ladder Safety and Compliance	Chris Murray
	Salon 2/3	How does your safety program impact your insurance pricing?	Rune Haug
9:20 – 9:35 AM	Break		
9:35 – 10:35 PM	Breakout Session 6		
	Skinner A	Naloxone: The Superpowered Tool in Combating the Opioid Crisis	Heidi Wood
	Skinner B	We just had a Fat/Cat, I'm the safety professional, I think there is a lawsuit coming, what do I do now?	John Surma
	Skinner C	Developing Your Safety Culture - A Practical Approach	Rune Haug
	Salon 2/3	OSHA case study-C6 Zero: Explosion Investigation	Fayth Turner Richard Anderson
10:35 – 10:50 AM	Break		
10:50 – 11:50 AM	Breakout Session 7		
	Skinner A	Business Continuity and Emergency Planning	Anthony Romero
	Skinner B	Rigging Awareness	Brandon Black
	Skinner C	Iowa OSHA: Top 10 Violations and OSHA Update	Anna Tuecke
11:50 – 12:00 PM	Closing Remarks		Bishop Ballroom

Participants needed in Salon 1

Be part of an interactive research session conducted by Iowa State University

Iowa State University is conducting a research study examining how noisy environments influence people’s safety decisions and task performance in workplace like settings using computer based/VR simulation. Participants are needed for this study!

The study was reviewed and approved by the Iowa State University’s Institutional Review Board.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Richard Flynt

Richard Flynt is currently a senior consultant with the National Safety Council. He holds a bachelor's degree in Occupational Safety from the State University of New York at Empire State, and he holds the CSP and CIT certifications. Prior to his career in safety, which began in 2001, Mr. Flynt served in the U.S. Army, worked in production, then as an electrician, and then as a contract controls engineer, which allowed him to work in many manufacturing plants across North America.

Since becoming a safety professional, Mr. Flynt has worked for a number of manufacturing companies in the Food, chemical, and automotive industries. Richard has spoken at Regional and National ASSP and NSC conferences and has had articles published in ASSP's Professional Safety Journal.



**SAVE
THE
DATE**

OCTOBER 27 - 28, 2026

GENERAL SESSION DETAILS

Tuesday, October 28 | Bishop Ballroom

9:30 AM | Keynote: A Return to the Fundamentals by Teaching the Skill of Working Safely

Richard Flynt, CSP, CIT – Senior Consultant for the National Safety Council

As a consultant for the NSC, one of the most common questions I hear from clients is, "How can we get our employees to work more safely?" Well, while we don't blame workers for making errors and we know we cannot eliminate human error, we absolutely can and should work to reduce it wherever we can. When asked what "working safely" means, most will say something like "Wearing your PPE and following the safety rules". Well, that is only the starting line for developing the true skill of working safely! If we expect our people to work safely, it's only fair that we teach them HOW! That is what this presentation is about. Along the way, we'll have some fun and demonstrate an approach to presenting safety concepts in a way that "locks them in" to your employees' memories so they are not easily forgotten.

10:45 AM | Breakout Session 1

Skinner A : Next Steps: After You Get Your Citation

Brian Bigley, MS, Health and Safety Manager - Clow Valve

This is intended as a guide for beginners in the Conference/Contestment process. Conferencing your citation is the first step in any situation where you believe your company has been wrongfully or incorrectly cited. It is a process that runs alongside Contesting a citation. We will discuss the difference between the two processes, and how to prepare for both, as you proceed with the typical first step, a conference.

Skinner B : NFPA 70B Electrical Equipment Maintenance – Now a Standard – Are You Prepared?

Brent Mollenhauer, CSP, CEM, Sr. Safety Trainer - ESCO Power and Safety Solutions

For years, NFPA 70B – Electrical Equipment Maintenance, was just a "recommended practice." Recently, it became a "Standard." This moves us from best practice recommendations to "you shall" requirements. We will share some of the main points of NFPA 70B to get you on the right path to fulfilling the requirements.

Skinner C : Heads Up: Heavy Equipment Doesn't Do Second Chances

Justin Bartling, CSD, COSM - Heads Up Safety

Working around heavy equipment demands constant awareness and clear communication. Most incidents happen not because people don't know the rules, but because small lapses like blind spots, unclear signals, or rushing the job stack up into serious risks. Staying safe means respecting exclusion zones, making eye contact with operators, and never assuming you have been seen until you know you have. Spotters, PPE, and clear traffic plans save lives. At the end of the day, heavy equipment is only as safe as the people working around it, and the best protection is slowing down, speaking up, and watching each others back.

Salon 2/3 : See Beyond Safety: Engaging Teams to Uncover & Control Risks with Hazard Mapping

Diane Rohlman, PhD, Director - Healthier Workforce Center of the Midwest

Traditional safety talks stale? Learn Hazard Mapping, a collaborative activity that tackles traditional and non-traditional hazards. Imagine engaged employees identifying risks & driving solutions. Empower your workforce, reduce accidents, & create a more positive work environment. Perfect for safety professionals, team leaders, and anyone who wants to elevate their safety program.

BREAKOUT SESSION DETAILS

Tuesday | 12:45 AM | Breakout Session 2

Skinner A : The Sound of Safety: Best Practices in the Prevention of Hearing Loss

Katie S Hacker, M.S., CIH Global Product AE Manager, 3M

This session will focus on four concepts to improve a hearing loss prevention program. It will explore exposure limits for inclusion in an HCP, hearing protection selection, audibility in the workplace and hearing protector fit testing. The session will be interactive.

Skinner B : Machine Guarding: Ongoing Compliance and Operational Safety

Matt Clutter, Director of Educational Services and Customer Fulfillment - Rockford Systems, LLC

Maintaining machine safeguarding compliance is an ongoing commitment that impacts safety, productivity, and regulatory compliance. This session is designed to offer practical guidance on sustaining long-term machine safeguarding program success in real-world manufacturing environments. Learn how to identify and address compliance gaps, adapt to equipment and process changes, create a proactive safety culture, and maintain alignment in safeguarding your workforce from identified hazards while meeting operational goals.

Skinner C : High Expectations

Kirk Dighton, Safety Manager D. C. Taylor Co, Owner / Consultant, Imperial Safety Solutions LLC

In 2017 OSHA initiated the Walking Working Surfaces Standard for General Industry. Many business owners and general industry safety professionals do not have a clear understanding of the expectations that businesses have for protecting employees and contractors who must go to the roof for work duties. Let's have a clear discussion of the standard and hear about best practices for protecting personnel from falls from height.

Salon 2/3 : Cannabis in the Workplace - Part 2

Terry Davis, Attorney, Shuttleworth and Ingersoll

Christopher Iverson, MD, MBA, MPH, Clinical Assistant Professor, University of Iowa

This discussion will be a follow-up to the 2024 conference presentation and will focus on the current state of cannabis drug testing and legal status amid a changing landscape of cannabis acceptance nationwide. The presenters will provide any regulatory or legal updates since the 2024 conference, but most importantly, will answer your questions about cannabis in the workplace. This session will primarily be a question-and-answer discussion.

BREAKOUT SESSION DETAILS

Tuesday | 02:00 PM | Breakout Session 3

Skinner A : Using The CIRCLE Method to Achieve Continuous Improvement of Unsafe Conditions in Manufacturing.

Richard Flynt, CSP, CIT - Senior Consultant for the National Safety Council

Improving conditions in a manufacturing facility is a never-ending endeavor...as it should be! Continuous improvement, through small, incremental reductions of risk is the key. I will present a technique called "The CIRCLE Method" that will:

- Ensure this continuous improvement by a programmed quantity each year.
- Greatly Increase frontline supervisor engagement.

Skinner B : Environmental Overview for the Construction Professional

Morgan Drew, CSP, CHO, Project Manager - Eocene Environmental Group

A brief overview of the relevance regarding safety of the following topics to a construction professional:

- Air Quality
- Construction & Demolition
- Spill Prevention & Reporting
- Underground Storage Tanks
- Waste Management
- Water Quality
- Federally Funded/Permitted

Skinner C : Excavation Safety: Compliance vs. Complacency

Drew Caulfield, LiUNA Certified/A.N.A.B. Accredited Instructor - Iowa Laborers' Education and Training

In this session, we will explore the basic requirements for excavation safety as outlined by OSHA 29 CFR 1926 Subpart P. We will also look at statistics for excavation related accidents and fatalities, and the role complacency plays in determining outcomes.

Salon 2/3 : Effective Onboarding

Kirk Dighton, Safety Manager D. C. Taylor Co, Owner / Consultant, Imperial Safety Solutions LLC

Penney Neuzil, EHS Manager – Newell Machinery Company

Shawn Becker, Safety Director- Maxwell Construction

This session will be a panel discussion with industry leaders discussing their safety onboarding programs for new employees. They will discuss their company's onboarding processes, successes, failures and what they have determined or developed to be best practices with safety onboarding. This panel discussion is also an opportunity for attendees to ask questions or obtain guidance on the subject of safety onboarding.

BREAKOUT SESSION DETAILS

Tuesday | 03:05 PM | Breakout Session 4

Skinner A : We just had a Fat/Cat, I'm the safety professional, I think there is a lawsuit coming, what do I do now?

John D. Surma - Shareholder, Ogletree Deakins, Houston, Texas.

Safety professionals are risk managers and are very aware of the litigious nature of society. While workers' compensation will protect the employer, will it protect the safety professional? If a third party provider of services to the company is seriously injured, will the safety professional be sued? Can OSHA start a civil or criminal proceeding against a safety professional when disaster strikes? This session will answer these questions and give safety professionals tips and techniques to minimize exposure to such risks and liability, as well as providing a roadmap for what post-incident proceedings can look like.

Skinner B : The Safety Culture Game-Changer: Integrating Early Intervention for Holistic Worker Health

Suzanne Clancy, MBA, MPT, CEAS, MSK Product Lead - Premise Health

This session will move beyond traditional reactive safety models to explore the Early Intervention framework—a proactive approach designed to address employee discomfort, fatigue, and stress before they escalate into recordable injuries, costly claims, or chronic conditions. The presentation will review the "Injury Curve" model and highlight how Early Intervention shifts costs left by reducing OSHA recordable injuries and associated lost time.

Skinner C : Not so spooky, a look into the free NIOSH/OSHA Apps.

Anna Tuecke, Safety and Health Consultant, State of Iowa

Available apps free to download and use by NIOSH/OSHA.

BREAKOUT SESSION DETAILS

Wednesday | 08:20 AM | Breakout Session 5

Skinner A : A Winning Safety Game

Gary Higbee, EMBA CSP - President/CEO Higbee & Associates, Inc.

Marc McClure, Safety Professional - Riskill

A Winning Safety Game - Marc McClure vs. Gary Higbee Marc McClure - Riskill & Gary A. Higbee - Higbee & Associates Batter up! Safety is more than just policies and checklists—it's like a baseball game where strategy, teamwork, and precision lead to victory. In this session, we'll break down an engaging "game" between Marc McClure and Gary Higbee, using baseball terms to connect with the audience and showcase how safety is embedded in everything we do. Just like in baseball, safety is a team effort that requires communication, vigilance, and consistency. This session will help attendees see how we can keep putting the same winning team back on the field every day to create a culture of safety success. Join us to learn how to drive home safety in every aspect of work!

Skinner B : International Fire Code 2024 changes-Manufacturing Occupancies

Jennifer Ware, Fire Safety Bureau Chief - Iowa Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing.

Learn the changes with the newly adopted International Fire Code, 2024 edition, specifically related to Manufacturing Occupancies.

Discussion of the key updates to the 2024 edition of the International Fire Code (IFC), specifically related to Manufacturing Occupancies.

Skinner C : Ladder Safety and Compliance

Chris Murray, Safety and Solutions Trainer - Werner

We will begin by discussing 'what' makes ladder use so dangerous and the mentality required to 'create a culture of safety'. We will then discuss examples of improper use of a ladder and safer/compliant options available on the market. We will discuss statistics, inspection process, and proper use of both stepladders and extension/straight ladders. Finally, we will discuss ladders/accessories designed to increase safety. Time at the end will be left to discuss specific applications/questions from attendees.

Salon 2/3 : How does your safety program impact your insurance pricing?

Rune Haug, Vice President of Operations - Aspen Risk Management Group

We will begin by discussing 'what' makes ladder use so dangerous and the mentality required to 'create a culture of safety'. We will then discuss examples of improper use of a ladder and safer/compliant options available on the market. We will discuss statistics, inspection process, and proper use of both stepladders and extension/straight ladders. Finally, we will discuss ladders/accessories designed to increase safety. Time at the end will be left to discuss specific applications/questions from attendees.

BREAKOUT SESSION DETAILS

Wednesday | 9:35 AM | Breakout Session 6

Skinner A : Naloxone: The Superpowered Tool in Combatting the Opioid Crisis

Heidi Wood, PharmD, MAS, BCPS, AAHIVP, Clinical Pharmacy Specialist, University of Iowa Addiction and Recovery Collaborative (UI ARC)

The opioid epidemic continues to claim thousands of lives across the United States. Naloxone—a life-saving medicine that can be easily administered as a nasal spray—empowers bystanders to reverse opioid overdoses and prevent death. This session will equip attendees with the practical skills to recognize the signs of an overdose and respond effectively using naloxone. Participants will also explore and challenge common myths and stigmas surrounding substance use and overdose, fostering a more compassionate and informed approach. Finally, the session will provide actionable resources for accessing and distributing free naloxone within communities.

Skinner B : We just had a Fat/Cat, I'm the safety professional, I think there is a lawsuit coming, what do I do now?

John D. Surma - Shareholder, Ogletree Deakins, Houston, Texas.

Safety professionals are risk managers and are very aware of the litigious nature of society. While workers' compensation will protect the employer, will it protect the safety professional? If a third party provider of services to the company is seriously injured, will the safety professional be sued? Can OSHA start a civil or criminal proceeding against a safety professional when disaster strikes? This session will answer these questions and give safety professionals tips and techniques to minimize exposure to such risks and liability, as well as providing a roadmap for what post-incident proceedings can look like.

Skinner C : Developing Your Safety Culture – A Practical Approach

Rune Haug, Vice President of Operations - Aspen Risk Management Group

- Define Safety Culture
- Discuss some of the challenges with creating change
- Assess Culture and Change Model
- Using an Example to Create a Path Forward

Salon 2/3 : OSHA case study-C6 Zero: Explosion Investigation

Fayth Turner, Senior Industrial Hygienist, Iowa OSHA Enforcement

Richard Anderson – Attended Iowa State University (Occupational Safety & Health). Sr. Industrial Hygienist

C6 Zero, a plant that processed shingles into fuel, exploded at the end of 2022. This session will dive into the investigation at C6 Zero. We will discuss what factors contributed to the fire and explosion, and what main OSHA standards were violated.

BREAKOUT SESSION DETAILS

Wednesday | 10:50 AM | Breakout Session 7

Skinner A : Business Continuity and Emergency Planning

Anthony Romero, CEM, Emergency Management Director - Iowa State University

The presentation explores whether individuals and businesses are prepared for unexpected events. It covers key preparedness concepts, including the emergency management cycle: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. The speaker emphasizes creating a 72-hour personal "go-kit" and dispels myths, such as the assumption that stores will remain stocked or that emergency services will arrive immediately. The focus then shifts to business continuity, discussing risk assessment, business impact analysis, and developing an emergency operations plan. The session concludes with a call to action, encouraging attendees to commit to steps to enhance their preparedness.

Skinner B : Rigging Awareness

Brandon Black – CHST, CSHO, SHEP, SHEP, ASC – CSSI Director of Education and Training

This session was designed to give participants a basic understanding of safe rigging practices. The course will cover equipment identification, common rigging hazards, and inspection procedures.

Skinner C : Iowa OSHA: Top 10 Violations and OSHA Update

Anna Tuecke, Safety and Health Consultant - State of Iowa

In this session you will be provided with OSHA updates, Top 10 Iowa OSHA violations and fatality information from October 1st, 2024 to September 30th, 2025.

MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Since 1977, the Iowa Governor's Safety & Health Conference has awarded more than **\$212,850** in scholarships to students in occupational safety at five Iowa colleges. We are proud to announce that in 2025 we are awarding **\$24,500** in scholarships to Iowa students.

These scholarships will be presented during lunch on Tuesday, October 28. Please join us in supporting the educational efforts of these deserving recipients.

Jack Beno Scholarship

Anthony Romero
Iowa State University

Bill Dickinson Scholarship

Caroline Powell
University of Iowa

ASSP Hawkeye Chapter

Paul Wendzel
Iowa State University

Iowa Occupational Safety & Health Advisory Council Scholarship

Elilah Bouman - *Iowa State University*

Ernesto Mendez - *University of Iowa*

Cindy Rico Chavez - *University of Iowa*

Anna Stracciolini - *University of Iowa*

Jake O'Brien - *Iowa State University*

Matthew Saylor - *University of Iowa*

Molly Rhodes - *University of Iowa*

2024 Scholarship Award Winners



The 2024 scholarship award winners were Sierra Virden, Jared Jimenez, Tyler Guzowski, Anna Proctor, and Jack Wachowski.

PAST SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

2024 Sierra Virden <i>U of I</i> Jared Jimenez <i>U of I</i> Tyler Guzowski <i>U of I</i> Anna Proctor <i>U of I</i> Jack Wachowski <i>U of I</i>	2021 Alessandra Pratt <i>U of I</i> Kelsey Strandberg, <i>U of I</i> Liam Gleason <i>ISU</i> Spencer Baker <i>U of I</i> Anna Proctor <i>U of I</i> Mallory Leazer <i>ISU</i> Abby Espinosa-Gonzales <i>ISU</i>	2017 Darrin Thompson <i>U of I</i> Shaunae Alex <i>U of I</i> Ria Gasaway <i>ISU</i> 2016 Laura Hallett <i>U of I</i> Sai Ramaswamy <i>ISU</i> Mahmoud Metwali <i>U of I</i>	2012 Kelsey Smithart <i>U of I</i> Jessica Mills <i>U of I</i> Mitchel Steffes <i>ISU</i> 2011 Nirmalla Barros <i>U of I</i> Nathan Brayman <i>ISU</i> Adrianne Horne <i>U of I</i> 2010 Lauren Gant <i>U of I</i> Mitchell Kange <i>U of I</i> Abby Harper Maples <i>U of I</i>	2006 Adam Riss <i>U of I</i> William Downs <i>ISU</i> James Lindgren <i>UNI</i> Lindsay Parker <i>U of I</i> 2005 Kira Campos-Anderson <i>ISU</i> Troy Mills <i>ISU</i> Matthew Murphy <i>U of I</i> Matthew Nonnenmann <i>U of I</i>
2023 Emily Huber, <i>U of I</i> Holly Rowland, <i>U of I</i> Elijah Bowman, <i>ISU</i> Ernesto Mendez, <i>U of I</i> Elizabeth Foster, <i>ISU</i> Anna Proctor, <i>U of I</i> Zachary Wiggins, <i>ISU</i> Sierra Virden, <i>U of I</i> Alexander Barnett, <i>U of I</i>	2020 Nastaran Moradi <i>U of I</i> Lindsay Heck <i>U of I</i> Christian Feye <i>ISU</i> 2019 Priyanka Vakkalanka <i>U of I</i> Allison Persing <i>U of I</i> Daniel Chapman <i>ISU</i> 2018 Shelby Clark <i>U of I</i> Misha Griffis <i>U of I</i> Johnathan Hughes <i>ISU</i>	2015 Kayla Faust <i>U of I</i> Sarah Ischer <i>U of I</i> Ayrton Williams <i>ISU</i> 2014 Levi Mines <i>U of I</i> Maya Ramaswamy <i>U of I</i> Maria Melendez <i>ISU</i> 2013 Mark Schall <i>U of I</i> Kelsey Smithart <i>U of I</i> Derek Boshold <i>ISU</i>	2009 Brian Pavilonis <i>U of I</i> Jamie Brown <i>U of I</i> Donna Holzer-Vosbough <i>U of I</i> 2008 Lorenza Cena <i>U of I</i> Mallory Johnson <i>U of I</i> Javier Santella Elias <i>U of I</i> 2007 Robert Ian Poole <i>U of I</i> Alysha Meyers <i>U of I</i>	2004 Nathan Fethke <i>U of I</i> Patrick Murphy <i>ISU</i> Vijay Gola <i>U of I</i> Jeffrey Miller <i>U of I</i> Andrew McNaught <i>ISU</i> 2003 Jon Judge <i>ISU</i> Jessica Ferrie <i>U of I</i> Joung Ae Lee <i>U of I</i> Joshua Jacobsen <i>ISU</i> Timothy Powers <i>ISU</i> Ryan Hoenicke <i>ISU</i>

Jack Beno Scholarship Foundation

When **Jack Beno**, age 60, lost a long battle with cancer in 1997, the safety world lost a truly inspirational leader. His ideas, guidance and tenacity contributed greatly to the many successes of the Iowa Governor's Safety & Health Conference and to workplace safety and health throughout Iowa.

Jack was appointed to the Iowa Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council in 1979 after accepting a position at Iowa State University. Jack's former students continually speak of the profound impact he had on their education and life experiences, and will never forget him or the lessons they learned.

The Jack Beno Scholarship Foundation was established in 1998 to provide scholarships for safety-related education in Iowa colleges. In honor of his memory, many former colleagues, friends, and students have made a contribution to support this cause.

Bill Dickinson Scholarship

Bill Dickinson served the State of Iowa through his work with the Iowa-Illinois Safety Council, American Society of Safety Engineers, and Nationwide Insurance. His work with the council often overlapped with the Iowa Governor's Safety & Health Conference, as he spoke and provided expert speakers on many topics.

Bill Dickinson and Bruce McCann were instrumental in the establishment of the ASSE golf outing that has funded much of the Jack Beno Scholarship fund. More importantly, Bill was constantly mentoring safety professionals throughout the state, encouraging them to excel in their work. Bill and Jack met on a number of occasions to discuss many safety issues affecting the state and the nation.

Gary Higbee captured the spirit and thoughts of many other EHS professionals and colleagues best, stating, "Both men (Jack Beno and Bill Dickinson) were men of honor and stature; I was fortunate to be their friend."

GARY HAWK SAFETY AWARD WINNER



Margret Meade Safety Outreach Coordinator IAMU

Margret's professional journey includes pivotal roles such as EHS/ISO 9000 Coordinator at Eaton Corporation, Compliance Assistance Specialist with Iowa OSHA, and Director of Programs at the Iowa – Illinois Safety Council. These roles have allowed her to impact a wide range of workplaces and industries with her knowledge and dedication. As an Authorized OSHA Outreach Instructor, Margret holds certifications in numerous OSHA disciplines, including Courses 500 through 511. She has conducted countless OSHA 10- and 30-hour training courses for workers and students across Iowa. She is also recognized as an OSHA Competent Person in trenching, shoring, and scaffolding, and serves as a certified HAZWOPER 40-hour trainer. These are strong indicators of her technical

depth and her commitment to hazard prevention and regulatory compliance.

Since 2012, Margret has served as the Safety Outreach Coordinator for the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities (IAMU), where she has been a cornerstone of IAMU's safety training and awareness initiatives. She is not only a key resource for IAMU's safety staff but also a constant support to its membership and many other private companies-responding to OSHA-related questions, inspections, and consultations with expertise and care. Her passion for advancing health and safety standards is evident throughout a career that bridges both private industry and public service.

Her qualifications extend into health-related training. Margret is certified by both the American Red Cross and Medic First Aid and is an approved instructor by the Iowa Board of Nursing for bloodborne pathogen training. She also serves as a certified NCCER Mobile Crane Trainer and Evaluator, and as the Director of IAMU's NCCER-accredited program, she has certified hundreds of employees throughout the Midwest in mobile crane operations and rigging safety.

Margret's leadership extends beyond the classroom and training field. She has served in multiple roles within the Hawkeye Chapter of the American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP), including Vice President, Government Affairs Chair, and Student Affairs Liaison. Through these roles, she has mentored aspiring safety professionals and advanced the profession statewide. Her contributions at the state and federal levels have also been profound. While serving as Iowa OSHA's Compliance Assistance Specialist, she was selected as the Iowa Educator for Youth Safety, trained by NIOSH personnel; authored Iowa OSHA's Construction Partnership Program, still in use today; and represented OSHA in the Department of Justice's Iowa Environmental Crimes Taskforce. She also served as Liaison to the Mexican Consulate, improving outreach and communication with vulnerable worker populations. Nationally, Margret contributed to federal OSHA by developing several training presentations still featured on OSHA's website, appearing in numerous official hazard photographs, and creating educational materials-including the original concept for OSHA's popular Quick Cards.

Margret also serves on the Iowa Women in Safety project, where she brings passion, compassion, and an unwavering commitment to ensuring that every worker-regardless of industry, background, or experience, has the tools and knowledge needed to stay safe.

Margret Meade is not only a highly accomplished safety professional but also a mentor, innovator, and tireless advocate for others. Her career reflects the core values and enduring legacy of Gary Hawk, making her an exceptionally deserving candidate for this award.

PAST GARY HAWK WINNERS

2025 Margret Meade



21/22 Dan Deike
2019 Douglas Martin
2018 Jim Withers
2017 Gary Higbee
2016 Cindy Baldwin
2015 Mary Bryant
2014 Marlys Nelson
2013 Dan Broghammer
2012 Dr. Steven Freeman
2011 Rod Swager
2010 Dennis Reichardt
2009 John Izzolena
2008 Ron Snyder
2007 Dr. Denis Zeimet
2006 Jim Hawthorne

2024 Nir Keren



2005 Byron Orton
2004 Chet Fuller
2003 Mary Daniel
2002 Emery Sobottka
2001 Don Sullivan
2000 Pat Payton
1999 Ray Forsythe
1998 Phil Mercuris
1997 Chris Constantine
1996 Al Meier
1995 Lora Summerwill
1994 Norm Popenhagen
1993 Marge Connors
1992 Jack Mickle
1991 Melvin Sanders

2023 Ron Demery



1990 Kenneth Moore
1989 Ted Wire
1988 Mel Smith
1988 Dr. John Thomas
1988 Virgil Deering
1987 Al Victor
1986 Al Sherrick
1985 Dale Hull
1984 Dr. John Robb
1983 Joe Klinsky
1982 Bob Skinner
1981 Harlan Von Seggern
1980 Jerry Addy

About the Gary Hawk Award

In 1996, the annual Iowa Governor's Safety & Health Conference safety award was renamed to the "Gary Hawk Safety Award" in honor of long-time OSH Advisory Council member Gary Hawk, who passed away after a long battle with cancer.

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Flynt: Attendees will leave with a lesson plan on the 4 techniques for working safely, that they can take back to their facilities and immediately present to their workers to reduce unsafe acts.

Flynt: Attendees will learn the "HOW" of working safely in a way they can relay to their own workers. They will also learn how to explain the "WHY" to those workers.

Bigley: Understand the difference between Conferences and Contestments.

Bigley: Become familiar with the timelines and processes for both

Mollenhauer: Understand how the tables work in NFPA 70B to make sure you are maintaining equipment per required intervals.

Mollenhauer: Understand the elements of an Electrical Maintenance Program.

Bartling: Every participant should walk away with the mindset that working around heavy equipment is about visibility and communication.

Bartling: Attendees should commit to respecting exclusion zones and using spotters to control high-risk areas.

Rohlman: Attendees will understand traditional and non-traditional hazards.

Rohlman: Attendees will learn how to facilitate a hazard mapping activity.

Hacker: Define the value of implementing a dermal exposure management program in the workplace.

Hacker: Define the value of implementing a dermal exposure management program in the workplace.

Clutter: Develop an understanding of ongoing compliance program planning .

Clutter: Understanding ongoing compliance

management and documentation tools

Dighton: Identify fall protection expectations for personnel employed in General Industry based upon the Walking Working Surfaces Standard 1910.28 Subpart D.

Dighton: Understand and clarify the terms temporary and infrequent for required fall protection on elevated surfaces including roofs.

Dighton: Explain the options available to protect workers who are exposed to fall hazards in their routine and non-routine job duties.

Iverson/Davis: Identify best practices for employers to implement and carry out a drug testing policy for cannabis amid a changing legal landscape for cannabis acceptance nationwide.

Iverson/Davis: Understand any legal or regulations changes in the recent year.

Flynt 2: Attendees will leave this talk with a roadmap for how they can put their companies on a path of continuous improvement of conditions in their facilities or worksites

Flynt 2: Attendees in leadership roles will discover a new way for them to "get in the game" when it comes to truly leading their company's safety effort .

Drew: Understand the safety risks and regulatory requirements of environmental factors of a construction site.

Caulfield: Explain the basic requirements for excavation safety compliance .

Caulfield: Describe the dangers of complacency in excavation activities.

Dighton/Becker/Neuzil: Participants will be able to explain best practices and lessons learned for new employee safety

onboarding from professionals who's businesses have successful onboarding protocols

Surma: To inform safety professionals about their exposure to litigation in the event of a catastrophe or fatality.

Surma: To provide safety professionals with information concerning evidence they may generate or encounter and how to handle that evidence.

Clancy: Participants will be able to analyze the "Injury Curve" model and articulate the business case, quantifying how Early Intervention shifts costs left by reducing OSHA recordable injuries and associated lost time.

Clancy: Participants will be able to formulate the initial steps for implementing a non-punitive, data-driven Early Intervention program within their own organization.

Tuecke: Identify free resources available

Tuecke: How to use the NIOSH/OSHA resources and their limitations

McClure/Higbee: A new way to present safety to their workers

McClure/Higbee: A winning mindset and a primer of the actions and behaviors that can help you jumpstart your safety efforts.

Ware: Gain an understanding of key changes between the 2015 and 2024 International Fire Code in relation to manufacturing occupancy types.

Murray: Discuss and demonstrate what to do and not to do for workers to stay both safe and compliant while using ladders .

Murray: In addition to the rules and regulations for safe ladder use, we will also discuss the mental side associated with risk taking when using a ladder.

JACK BENO MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

Be a leader in safety and health and help guide the profession forward. Donate to the Jack Beno Memorial Foundation because safety matters to you.

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Jack Beno Memorial Foundation

MAIL TO:
IOSHAC
6200 Park Ave., Suite 100
Des Moines, IA 50321

Save the Date: ASSP Beno Golf Fundraiser

July 31, 2026

EDUCATIONAL OBJECTIVES

Haug: Understand how underwriters evaluate risk.

Haug: Understand proactive loss control inspection tips.

Wood: Attendees will be able to identify the signs of an opioid overdose and describe appropriate use of naloxone as a nasal spray to effectively intervene and potentially save a life.

Wood: Address Stigma and Access Resources: Attendees will be able to articulate common myths and stigmas surrounding substance use and overdose, and identify community-based resources for obtaining free naloxone.

Surma: To inform safety professionals about their exposure to litigation in the

event of a catastrophe or fatality.

Surma: To provide safety professionals with information concerning evidence they may generate or encounter and how to handle that evidence.

Haug: Develop common language around safety culture.

Haug: Discuss a practical approach to develop your safety culture.

Turner/Anderson: Incident investigation of explosion and fire. Communication with several government departments.

Turner/Anderson: Participants will learn what OSHA standards pertain to explosion prevention.

Turner/Anderson: Participants will see

how OSHA communicates with several government agencies/departments.

Romero: Identify the four phases of the emergency management cycle: mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery.

Romero: Create a basic structure for a business continuity plan, including essential functions, succession orders, and communications.

Black: Recognize different types of rigging equipment and their use.

Black: Identify hazards associated with rigging and load control.

Tuecke: Recognize workplace hazards.

Tuecke: Identify corrective actions.

The Meadows Events and Conference Center

