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DULUTH

MASTER of ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH and SAFETY NEWSLETTER



THANK YOU

Author: Duane A. Dockter

I would like to thank the key people that who are leading the UMD MEHS program. It has been a pleasure getting to know you. First of all, our professors, Dr. Robert Feyen and Dr. Katherine Schofield. I would like to thank you for all of the work that you do in order that we as students might have the best experiences possible in our class room studies as well as through the involvement in off campus opportunities such as the professional networking events like the Northern Regional Safety Day, Superior Safety Day, ASSE Northwest Chapter Professional Development Conference, and the MN Safety and Health Conference. Thank you for making it possible to attend these events which provide numerous valuable learning opportunities. Also, thank you for sitting in on our ASSE NW Chapter Student meetings and offering guidance, recommendations, and suggestions.

I would also like to thank our Adjunct Instructors Wade Roseth, Mike Marturano, Jim Stauber, and Sean Taylor for taking time out of their busy schedules to come into the classroom and provide us with background and information on real life concerns and issues that are present in the workplaces of today.

Thank you to all of our professors and instructors for all that you do for us students in the MEHS program. It is greatly appreciated.

Spring Semester is Winding Down

Spring semester is getting close to wrapping up. April marks the last month of coursework for the MEHS students. Projects and exams are not the only items occupying the student agendas however with job searches fully underway. Some students have even landed their internships and jobs for this summer already and were willing to share about it in this newsletter.

Graduation

Many students are preparing for their graduation this May. Numerous students have recently purchased their gowns, hoods, and caps to participate in the ceremony in Canal Park. This spring's ceremony will once again be held at Amsoil Arena on May 6th at 10:00 A.M. Congratulations graduates!

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- **Student Jobs and Internships**
- **Previous Safety Experience**
- **Upcoming Events**

Lunda Construction Safety Manager Position

Author: Zach Malinowski

Lunda Construction was founded in 1938, Lunda Construction Company began as a small construction company that focused primarily on minor transportation projects. A lot has changed since 1938 and today, Lunda is a major highway, civil, and industrial general contractor. The company prides itself on being one of the largest bridge builders in the United States. Some of their more notable projects include the Hastings Bridge (MN), the Lowry Bridge (MN), and the St. Croix Crossing (MN). Although the sizes of Lunda's projects have changed over time, their mission has remained the same: to provide the highest standard of engineering and excellence with safety of the workforce and the traveling public being the highest priority.

As an MEHS graduate-to-be, I have recently accepted a position as one of Lunda's safety managers. As one of the company's safety managers, I will work under the guidance of the safety director to keep all of Lunda's projects running as safely as possible. Some of my specific job responsibilities will be completing jobsite health and safety inspections, coaching and collaborating with supervisors and craft workers on day-to-day project improvements, incident investigations and control, and industrial hygiene testing and control. I am really excited to begin this new opportunity in his health and safety career.



Travelers Insurance Risk Control Internship

Author: Andrew Cayard

As a 2nd semester student who will be graduating this May, I will be traveling out to Connecticut and will be working for Travelers Insurance as a Risk Control Intern. Travelers is an insurance leader, committed to keeping pace with the ever-changing needs of their customers, and anticipating their needs for the future. Travelers is one of the nation's largest property casualty companies. A component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, Travelers has more than 30,000 employees, 13,000 independent agents and multiple market segments across the personal, business, financial and international insurance groups. I cannot wait to be a part of such a great organization.

Upcoming Events

- Student Safety Day April 11th
- TSI Visit April 11th
- Graduation Ceremony May 6th
- Minnesota Safety and Health Conference May 16th

Safety Experience

Author: Jake Burton

My first experiences with safety began about seven years ago, working for my dad in the custom cabinet industry. My dad runs a custom cabinet company in Rochester, MN, and in the summer of 2010 he had a working crew of nine guys. With a largely increasing workload he decided to hire on my brother and I for the summer, and thus obligating the company to be within OSHA compliance. One of my first jobs starting with the company was to work with the shop foreman in finding what areas around the workshop that needed adjusting to be within compliance. One of the biggest problems around the shop was dust accumulation. My first week of work consisted mostly of environmental control and clearing out all the accumulated standing dust around the shop, and thankfully not long after that the company implemented a new house keeping policy to combat the issue.

Another issue that the foreman and I found was the location, labeling and communication of hazardous substances. Building cabinets entails many steps, and some of those deal toxic and hazardous substances to stain and finish the cabinets. We worked on properly labeling and storing these substances, as well as making sure that all employees were aware of the dangers of working with them and what PPE should be utilized working with such substances. These were just some of the first things to be done around the shop, and over the years they have continually made safety more of a priority.

At the time, I didn't think about the implications of what I was doing, to me it was just the job assigned and the tasks to be done. But looking back on that experience and the following five summers of working in that industry, I feel that helping make those changes and implementing new polices really made a difference to the company and its employees. The EHS program has allowed me to really see the value in Safety and what it can do for a company, it has also given me plenty of ideas for my father's cabinet company to talk with him about.

Seagate Technology Summer Internship

Author: Sara Ozan

As a first semester MEHS student, I am excited to announce my summer internship opportunity with Seagate Technology in Bloomington, Minnesota. I will be the Environmental Health and Safety Intern with two of our own MEHS alumni; Jamie Denninger and Laurie Francis. "Seagate is the global leader in data storage solutions, developing amazing products that enable people and businesses around the world to create, share and preserve their most critical memories and business data." My days will be spent working with a variety of safety professionals and learning alongside their expertise to analyze job safety and update the current risk analysis system. I am very excited to expand my EHS knowledge and experience.



