

7th International Industrial Hygiene Conference and PDC, New Delhi, India

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The Central Industrial Hygiene Association (CIHA) of India conducted its 7th International Industrial Hygiene Association Conference and Professional Development Course in India from 3 to 5 February, 2020. The conference was held in collaboration with the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), the International Occupational Hygiene Association (IOHA), the Indian Association of Occupational Health (IAOH), the Board for Global EHS Credentialing (BGC), and the Institute of Science and Technology for Advanced Studies and Research (ISTAR).

The conference was supported by Nanozen, SKC/Swan, Dupont, and Reliance Industries Limited (RIL).

Kathy Murphy, president of AIHA, and other industrial hygiene professionals from India presented technical papers on various aspects of industrial hygiene and ethics. Shrenik Ranpura, former secretary and board member of CIHA, presented a most engaging full-day PDC on industrial ventilation.



Participants in the 7th International Industrial Hygiene Association Conference and Professional Development Course of the Central Industrial Hygiene Association (CIHA) of India

Photograph: Maharshi Mehtar

International Occupational Hygiene Association activities

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The IOHA is currently working on its 2021–2025 strategic plan. Many ideas have been raised for the promotion and recognition of our profession. Feel free to contact our president, Rene Leblanc, should you wish to express your opinion.

The IOHA2020 conference that was scheduled to be held in Deagu, Korea in October 2020 has been postponed to 21–26 August, at the same venue. Conference registration information can be found at <http://www.ioha2020.org/index.php>. New information and deadlines for symposium, podium, and PDC submissions will be posted shortly.

The IOHA board meeting that was scheduled to be held in Bristol, England at the British Occupational Hygiene Society (BOHS) conference on 18 April 2020 was, instead, held by teleconference,

as the conference was postponed to 28 September–1 October 2020. The National Accreditation Recognition Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee meetings were held the next day, by teleconference, on 19 April 2020.

The IOHA Spanish Certification Development Task Force is meeting monthly to move towards the creation of an independent certification body and exam programmes. The group is currently creating governance documents, exam development and implementation protocols, and exam questions.

As you can see, we are very actively representing the voices of occupational hygienists, and providing resources to reduce illnesses and fatalities to workers, globally.

Société Française des Hygiénistes du Travail (SOFHYT)

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For several years, Société Française des Hygiénistes du Travail (SOFHYT) has combined its annual conference with other activities. This year, SOFHYT will combine several activities on 18 and 19 November 2020 in Paris, France. Administration of the SOFHYT certification exam and SOFHYT general meeting will take place on 18 November 2020, and will be followed by the annual conference on 19 November 2020.

For this conference, SOFHYT will be aligned with the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) current campaign theme (musculoskeletal disorders); thus, the annual conference will be dedicated to ergonomics. This is an opportunity for SOFHYT to benefit from the expertise of Société d'Ergonomie de Langue Française (SELF) – the French-language Ergonomics Society – and initiate collaboration with this society, in addition to our international societies (IOHA and IEA).

During the conference, participants will have the opportunity to listen to presentations on the science of ergonomics, and the EU-OSHA campaign for assessment methods. They will also get feedback from international groups and small companies, and will be able to engage in discussions about musculoskeletal injuries and prevention. Attendees will be invited to participate in an interactive workshop based on a real-life study case. The conference will also allow participants to meet, exchange ideas, and increase their networks. For more information and conference registration, visit <https://www.sofhyt.fr/forum-2020>.

COVID-19 WEBPAGE

SOFHYT has created a COVID-19 page on its website: www.sofhyt.fr/cov.



The webpage provides a place for all valuable French-language documents on the topic, including articles, fact sheets, and links to other webpages or videos. The aim is to help our occupational safety and health colleagues easily and quickly find useful information.

Several chapters are available on the COVID-19 page, including:

- reference websites (e.g. WHO, CDC)
- how to manage the pandemic at work (with some documents on ventilation, disinfection, etc.)
- hygiene measures
- respiratory personal protection equipment (with a focus on the different types of masks, the way to adjust them, and their disinfection)
- home offices and ergonomics

On this page, people can find not only French references but also Canadian or Swiss ones. This information has been sent to the Belgian Society for Occupational Hygiene (BSOH), Swiss Society of Occupational Hygiene (SSHT) and Conseil Canadien d'Agrement des Hygiénistes du Travail (CCAHT) boards to be shared with their members and networks.



American Industrial Hygiene Association

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The American Industrial Hygiene Association has created a COVID-19 'Back to Work Safely' initiative to help employers and employees get back to work safely with industry sector-specific guidelines and resources. The AIHA has created a series of free guidelines that include recommendations on ventilation, personal hygiene, physical distancing and enhanced cleaning. Guidelines are available for the following industries:

- At-home service providers
- Construction
- General office settings
- Gyms and workout facilities

- Hair and nail salons
- Retail establishments
- Restaurants
- Rideshare, taxi, limo and other passenger driver-for-hire services

All resources are available to download on www.backto-worksafely.org. Additionally, COVID-19 resources on personal protective equipment (PPE) and re-entry into the workplace hazards can be found at the AIHA media outreach page at <https://www.aiha.org/about-aiha/communication-center/aiha-media-outreach-regarding-covid19-pandemic>.