

# NASP/IASP

## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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## Good Bye New Orleans... Hello Las Vegas!



Our recent CSM class in New Orleans was a huge success with over 40 students from the US and abroad attending. The perfect mix of education and an exciting location provided a unique and fun learning experience for all who attended. If you missed out this time around, don't worry; the next CSM course is just around the corner, and it's going to be amazing. NASP will be heading to the City of Lights, Las Vegas Nevada, February 6-10, 2017. Join us for a week long course at the fabulous New York-New York Hotel and Casino.

This is sure to be a truly unforgettable experience combined with the premiere safety management and training course known worldwide. Register now as space is limited. [Click Here](#) to get signed up now!

## Active Shooter in the Building

Do you or your employees know what to do if someone started shooting inside your building? The threat is real and being prepared can save lives. OSHA reports 1,000 workplace homicides per year and when adjusted for estimated incidents not reported to OSHA, may exceed 1,500 per year. Assaults in the workplace are estimated by OSHA at 2 million per year with other estimates as high as 10 million per year. What can you do to keep you and your workers safe?

The 3 most basic safety tips from the Department of Homeland Security are:

1. **Evacuate (Run)** – Know where the exits are so you can get to them quickly.
2. **Hide** – If you can't get out, lower your chance of being found by hiding. If possible, use a room with a door that can be locked.
3. **Take Action Against the Shooter (Fight)** – Only as a last resort, and only when you are in immediate danger. Attempt to disrupt the shooter by throwing items and improvising weapons, act as aggressively as possible against the shooter.



An active shooter is only one of the possible workplace violence situations you might be forced to deal with. To learn about this and how to handle other workplace violence situations, attend our Preventing Workplace Violence course on December 8-9, in sunny Orlando FL. Follow the link below to register today. [Violence Prevention Specialist](#)

## Worker Dies While Checking Fire Extinguisher

OSHA has fined TimkenSteel Corp. following the death of a worker in March. The employee was found dead in an elevator control room at the company's Canton, OH, plant. He'd been performing monthly fire extinguisher checks.

An investigation determined that on March 20, 2016, nitrogen leaked into the control room resulting in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere. Oxygen levels were measured at just 4%. Kenny Ray Jr., 32,



Just two days earlier, OSHA had been at the plant, responding to a complaint about safety concerns. OSHA issued two repeat and four serious violations with fines totaling \$113,131 after its two inspections. TimkenSteel was cited for:

- failing to protect workers from potentially hazardous atmospheres created by the introduction of nitrogen into the ventilation system
- failing to train workers using pneumatic tools powered by nitrogen on the hazards, effects and how to detect nitrogen leakage exposing workers to fall hazards of up to 20 feet while performing maintenance, and
- failing to install guardrails on walkways.

The company discontinued the use of nitrogen to power tools and removed all the connections from the ventilation systems.

“We have been working with OSHA and our workforce on additional actions to strengthen our safety program,” said Elaine Russell Reolfi, vice president of organizational advancement with TimkenSteel. “We also hired an independent auditor to do assessments and have taken additional actions as a result. We are engaging employees in safety auditing as well, and we follow up on every concern.”

TimkenSteel had signed an agreement with OSHA in August to improve safety conditions at its plants. The company was facing half a million dollars in OSHA fines. OSHA had inspected TimkenSteel plants 29 times since 2005 and issued 76 violations. The company agreed to pay \$350,000 as part of a settlement. These latest fines would be on top of that amount. To learn how to avoid these type of costly citations, and most importantly, to save lives, [click here](#) now.

## Positive worker drug tests rise for third year in a row

An annual report shows drug use in the U.S. workforce has risen to the highest level in nearly a decade. The Quest Diagnostics Drug Testing Index says the positive test rate for 9.5 million urine drug tests in the combined U.S. workforce increased to 4.0% in 2015 from 3.9% in 2014. The rate has risen for three years in a row. The rate had reached a 10-year low in 2010 and 2011 at 3.5%. It was 4.1% in 2005.

The rate rose in both the general U.S. workforce and those employees in safety-sensitive positions where testing is required by federal law.



Another trend is the rising positive rate for post-accident urine drug testing both in the general U.S. and federally mandated, safety-sensitive workforces. Post-accident positives reached 6.9% in 2015, up from 6.5% in 2014. The rate was 5.3% in 2011. Post-accident positives in the safety-sensitive workforce was 2.8% in 2015 compared to 2.3% in 2011.

The increase in drug use extends to several different classes of drugs, according to Quest:

- amphetamine use increased 44%
- marijuana use increased 26%, and
- heroin use increased 147%.

These numbers are staggering. To find out how to protect your company from the liability stemming from on-the-job drug use, become an [ADS](#).

*National Association of Safety*

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