



**49-02**

**[www.scaa-spill.org](http://www.scaa-spill.org)**

**December 20, 2002**

- ◆ **We are pleased to announce that the place and time of our 2003 Annual Meeting has been set. The meeting will take place February 24-25, 2003, and will be held at the Luxor ([www.luxor.com](http://www.luxor.com)) in Las Vegas, Nevada.** To make your hotel reservations, call the Luxor at 888-777-0188, and use SPILL as the code name. The room rate for weekend nights is \$99.00, and for weekday nights is \$69.00. A limited block of rooms is available, so make your reservations early to ensure that you get the low room rates. SCAA's Board will meet on February 24 beginning at 3:00 p.m. local time, followed by dinner for Board Members and guests. The full day meeting for members and guests will be held on February 25 beginning at 8:00 a.m. local time and will include breakfast and lunch. The Stanfield Award dinner will take place that evening, beginning with a cocktail reception for members and guests. Those interested in playing golf on February 26 should contact Marc Shaye at [marcs@scaa-spill.org](mailto:marcs@scaa-spill.org) before January 10, 2003. If enough people are interested, a golf outing will be scheduled. For more information, contact Marc Shaye at 313.962.8255 or visit SCAA's web site at [www.scaa-spill.org](http://www.scaa-spill.org).
- ◆ Olympic Pipe Line Company and Equilon Pipeline Company will pay a total of \$36 million in fines and more than \$76 million to strengthen their pipeline safety and inspection programs in a settlement stemming from the 1999 pipeline explosion and spillage of some 236,000 gallons of gasoline into Whatcom and Hannah creeks. The Bellingham, Washington incident ultimately killed three young men - an 18 year old drowned after being overcome by gasoline fumes while fishing in the creek, and two 10-year old boys playing on the bank of the creek were killed after the spilled gasoline caught fire. In addition, three employees found culpable in the pipeline explosion and gasoline spill could face fines and jail time for their role in the incident. In October, the National Transportation Safety Board determined that the explosion resulted from an excavation project completed five years before the pipe actually ruptured, and from inadequate pipe inspections. (Source: *Environment News Service*)
- ◆ The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and 21 other federal agencies and departments under the Bush Administration have committed to work together to redevelop brownfields under the new Brownfields Federal Partnership Action Agenda, which includes more than 100 commitments for cooperative work to help communities more effectively prevent, clean up, and reuse brownfields. For its part, the EPA committed to potentially providing \$850 million over the next five years to states, tribes, counties, municipalities and non-profit organizations through brownfields assessment, cleanup, revolving loan funds, job training, and state/tribal

grants. As a part of his fiscal 2003 budget request, President Bush called for some \$200 million for the brownfields program. (Source: *Construction Safety and EHS Reporter*)

- ◆ Lloyd's List will be hosting its "Maritime Security & Safety: New Challenges & Standards for Safeguarding Your Profitability & Growth" conference, which will take place February 12-13, 2003 at One Whitehall Place in London. In addition, a post conference workshop will be held on February 14. In short, the event will focus on the latest developments in security and safety in the global maritime industry. For more information, visit the conference web site at [www.lloydslistevents.com/lm1452](http://www.lloydslistevents.com/lm1452) or call +44.1932.893.860.

- ◆ The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (“NOAA”) recently announced plans for a \$2.7 million restoration of the Patuxent River in Southern Maryland. As you know, this restoration effort follows the April 2000 oil spill from the Potomac Electric Power Company’s (“PEPCO”) Chalk Point Refinery. Eleven separate restoration efforts will address the natural resource damages resulting from the spill. You can review the Patuxent River oil spill assessment and restoration plans on line at [www.darp.noaa.gov/neregion/chalkpt.htm](http://www.darp.noaa.gov/neregion/chalkpt.htm).
- ◆ In light of the numerous corporate scandals brought to light recently, many companies are setting up toll-free ethics hotlines and are encouraging whistle-blowers to come forward. Other companies are setting up web sites where workers can anonymously sound off. After being relatively ignored for years, ethics is again becoming a major issue for company leaders. One of the reasons for this is the potential cost of fraud to companies – a recent survey conducted by Ernst & Young found that employers lose an estimated 20% of every dollar to workplace fraud. (Source: *USA Today*)
- ◆ The Gilmore Commission – a homeland security commission also known as The Advisory Panel to Assess Domestic Response Capabilities for Terrorism Involving Weapons of Mass Destruction – released its fourth annual report this week recommending the creation of a National Counter Terrorism Center. This independent agency would be separate from the FBI, CIA, or Dept. of Homeland Security, and would be responsible for disseminating information to federal agencies, local law enforcement, state officials, and the private sector. A copy of the Gilmore Commission report, entitled *IV. Implementing the National Strategy*, can be found on line at [www.rand.org](http://www.rand.org). (Source: *Emergency Preparedness News*)
- ◆ U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao recently announced that OSHA had fulfilled its promise to deliver strong, fair, and effective enforcement in 2002 by exceeding its inspection goals and increasing both the number of serious violations and the penalties assessed for them. During fiscal 2002 – which ended September 30 – the agency inspected 37,493 workplaces in the U.S., which is 1,093 inspections more than its fiscal year target. The average penalty for serious violations was \$977, up from \$930 in fiscal 2001. (Source: *Construction Safety and EHS Reporter*)
- ◆ **Work/Life/Health:** A decade ago, a survey rated product knowledge as a salesperson’s most important attribute. However, a recent survey conducted in today’s marketplace has revealed that product knowledge has been surpassed by honesty, integrity, and professionalism. When making a buying decision, prospects first judge the salesperson’s integrity – people today won’t do business with someone they can’t depend on. They then decide if the salesperson’s company can deliver on its products/services, and whether what is being offered will take care of their needs. Price usually becomes the final determinant on whether an order is placed. (Source: *The Selling Advantage*)
- ◆ **Quote of the Week:** “Justice is the only worship. Love is the only priest. Ignorance is the only slavery. Happiness is the only good. The time to be happy is now; The place to be happy is here; The way to be happy is to make others so.” – Robert Green Ingersoll (1833-1899), *Creed*
- ◆ **Because of the Christmas holiday, there will be no newsletter next week. With that, we want to extend our best wishes to all of our members and readers for a safe and happy holiday season!**