

30th International Congress on Occupational Health
March 18-23, 2012 Cancun, Mexico

30^{avo} Congreso Internacional de la Salud Ocupacional
18-23 de marzo de 2012 Cancun, México

Advancing Occupational Hygiene Worldwide

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IOHA President 2011-2012



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Introduction

“From an idea through to an International Training Program – a 21st. century paradigm shift in Occupational Hygiene training – www.OHlearning.com”

International Training and Qualifications

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The Challenge

- With the exception of Australia the number of occupational hygienists is static or decreasing in most western countries.
- The projected need for hygienists in developing countries is very high.



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Background

- Increasing need for occupational hygiene as countries industrialise
- 6-year evolution of a new international scheme for education, training and qualification

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Emerging Economies

Increasing need for OESH risk management as countries industrialise



Unaware of chronic & insidious risks
Limited recognition of OH professions

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Global burden from risks at work*

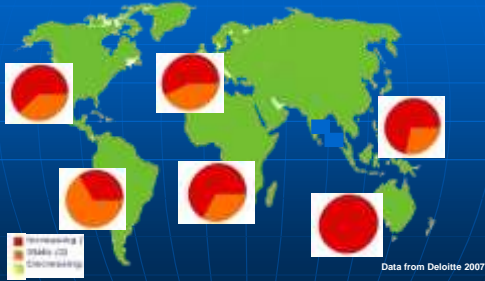
- 318,000 deaths due to Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease
- 102,000 deaths due to lung cancers and leukaemia
- 38,000 deaths due to asthma
- 30,000 deaths due to pneumoconiosis
- 9% of all lung cancers
- 2% of all leukaemia
- 13% of Chronic Obstructive Lung Disease (bronchitis)
- 11% of Asthma
- 100% of pneumoconiosis
- 16% of all hearing loss
- 37% of back pain

Each year there are 2 million deaths due to occupational injury and illness (312,000 due to injuries)

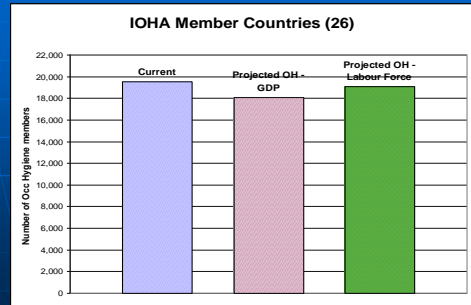
(*data derived from: Fingerhut, M, et al, SJWEH Suppl 2005;no 1:58-61)

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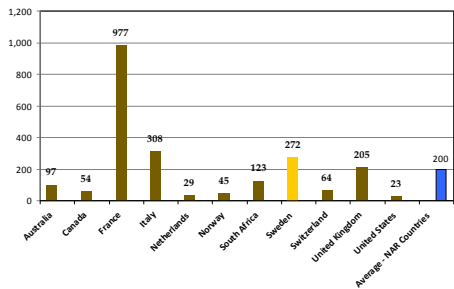
Demand for Occupational Hygienists



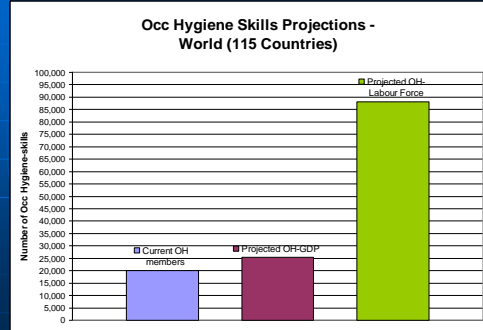
Where are the Hygienists & Workforce?



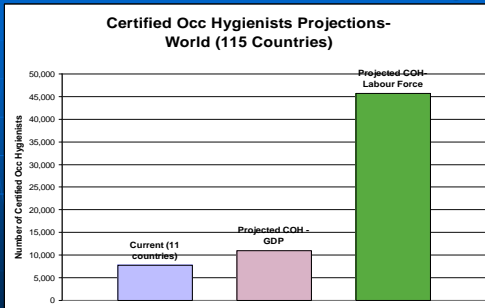
Thousand Workers Employed/Certified Occupational Hygienist



Where are the skills needed?



Professional COH Skills Gap



Skills Gap

Based on Labor Force
 >37,000 Certified Occ Hyg. Professionals Needed

Based on GDP
 >3,100 Certified Occ Hyg. Professionals Needed

Shared Vision

We aim to reduce the global burden of ill health from the work environment

- Building industrial hygiene capabilities where needed
- Promoting consistent quality of training
- Encouraging transferability of skills & qualifications
- Fostering a global community of hygiene practitioners
- Creating a sustainable business model for training
- Engaging stakeholder organisations as partners



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Key Partners

Professional bodies
National associations
Exam boards

Large companies
Oil and gas
Pharmaceutical
Mining
Petrochemicals
Metallurgical

Education and training providers
Universities
Non-profit institutes
Commercial businesses
National institutions

Collaboration with professional bodies, employers, training providers, other voluntary organisations



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Occupational Hygiene Training Association (OHTA) Ltd

- a not-for-profit organisation of volunteers
- dedicated to improving protection of people worldwide from the risks of the working environment
- manages the global training and qualifications scheme in occupational hygiene
- supported by the International Occupational Hygiene Association and its members
- provides **free access** to educational materials through its website (www.OHlearning.com)

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Sponsors and supporters

- All time and effort is provided by volunteers and supporters. Operating costs are funded through sponsors and organisations that share our aims

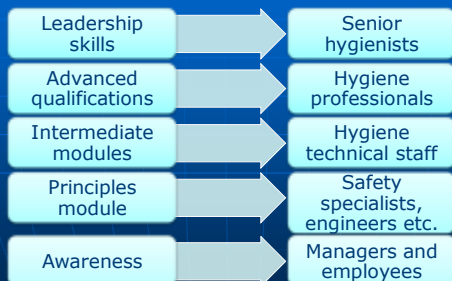


Supporters:



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OHTA Training Levels



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Principles Module W201

A 5-day **introduction** to occupational hygiene taught in an interactive workshop style
Includes a simple student assessment

Leads to a Certificate of **Successful** Completion

One of the most popular courses



Topics covered

- ✓ Chemicals
- ✓ Biological agents
- ✓ Asbestos
- ✓ Noise
- ✓ Vibration
- ✓ Thermal environment
- ✓ Lighting
- ✓ Radiation
- ✓ Ergonomics
- ✓ Stress

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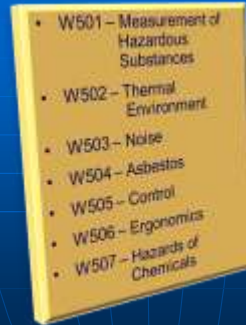
Intermediate modules



- 5-day taught modules designed to meet needs of industry
- Interactive teaching methods with questions and workshops
- Practical "hands-on" exercises
- International syllabus based on good hygiene practice
- Innovative student assessment part of the learning process "open book" test of understanding

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Intermediate Modules



- W501 – Measurement of Hazardous Substances
- W502 – Thermal Environment
- W503 – Noise
- W504 – Asbestos
- W505 – Control
- W506 – Ergonomics
- W507 – Hazards of Chemicals

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Teaching Materials

- Each course has full teaching materials, including:
- Student manual
- Slide packs and tutor briefing materials
- Practical work exercises
- Case study material
- 'Overnight' study exercises
- Student assessment – written and practical



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International Certificate

- Students who obtain 6 intermediate modules can progress to obtain the International Certificate
- This qualification is recognised by all the participating exam boards and is supported by IOHA
- Students must submit a Personal Learning Portfolio to show they have gained sufficient practical experience, and pass an oral examination

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Qualifications Group

Membership

Country	Examining Board
UK	BOHS Faculty
USA	ABIH
Canada	CRBOH
Australia	AIOH
South Africa	SAIOH
Norway	NYF
Italy	ICFP
Holland	NVvA

Role

- Advises on study areas and approves syllabi
- Sets accreditation standards
- Oversees the student assessment process
- Evaluates alternative qualifications and routes to entry
- Approves training providers

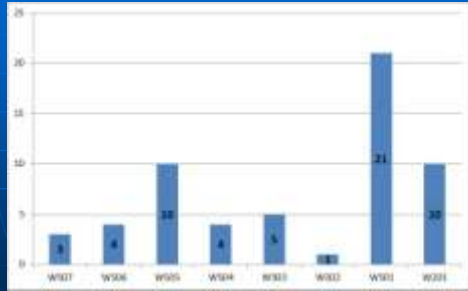
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Achievements so far (Nov 2011)

- Over 60 courses run in 19 countries
- Over 650 International Occupational Hygiene Module examinations taken of which:
 - 164 of W201 Basic Principles of Occupational Hygiene (only launched in Oct. 2010)
 - 223 of W501 Measurement of Hazardous Substances
 - 130 of W505 Control of Hazardous Substances
- Over 20,000 website visitors from 164 countries

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OHTA Courses Run



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Course Locations



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Access and Assurance

- All training materials are open access and free-of-charge online
- Anyone can run a course based on the materials
- Providers must be *approved* before they can offer *assessed* courses which earn recognised awards
- Approvals may be granted by OHTA or National Associations using agreed rules
- Approval requires that *the Course Director is a professional hygienist registered in an IOHA NAR approved scheme*
- All types of organisations are eligible to become providers – academic, not-for-profit and commercial

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Advanced Courses

- Masters programmes
 - Based on the Intermediate Modules with additional material
 - University of Wollongong in Australia
 - University of Antofagasta in Chile
 - University of Illinois in Chicago [UIC] (online course)
- Specialist modules in development
 - University of Wollongong: Mining; Oil and Gas
 - University of Manchester, UK: Pharmaceuticals Control Banding
 - AIHA

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Making the Training Accessible

The OHTA website

- has information on careers, training and qualifications
- allows students to find training providers, course dates and locations
- provides free access to the training materials
- lists the award holders
- links to the global OH community
- has Community pages for your own projects
- www.OHlearning.com



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What is different?

- OHTA operates using social media – Wikipedia style
- Accessible worldwide
- All course material is free and available on the internet
- Current and updated regularly
- Universally consistent
- Readily adapted to other languages

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Where Next?

Bring hygiene to a wider audience

OHTA Goals

Grow professional capabilities



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Course Development

- Awareness courses
 - Silica
 - Asbestos
- Foundation course – silica
- Advanced courses
 - Control banding
 - Oil and gas
- Volunteers
 - Planned review of modules
 - Course authors
 - Translators
 - Exam markers
 - Training

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Grow professional capabilities

- Develop website
 - ELearning platform
 - OHlearning collaboration centre
- Obtain charitable status in UK
- Develop sponsorship and donations

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Bring Occupational Hygiene to a wider audience

- Developing countries
- WHO engagement
- Engage with
 - Government
 - Companies
 - Local professional institutes
- Translations

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Summary

- A global effort over 6 years
- A collaborative approach with industry, the professions and training providers
- New international training and qualifications programmes in place
- All now on www.OHlearning.com

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