



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Permian Basin Chapter

October Newsletter

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PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Greetings Everyone!

As we move into October, we are reminded of the importance of one of the most fundamental aspects of workplace and personal safety: fire prevention. October is recognized across the United States as National Fire Prevention Month, and this year's Fire Prevention Week (October 4-10, 2026) focuses on an increasingly important topic: Lithium-Ion Battery Safety.

Lithium-ion batteries power many of the devices we rely on every day, including cell phones, laptops, tablets, power tools, e-bikes, and numerous workplace technologies. While these batteries are generally safe when used properly, damaged, defective,

improperly charged, or poorly stored batteries can present serious fire hazards.

As safety professionals, we have an opportunity to lead by example and increase awareness both at work and at home. Consider discussing battery safety during team meetings, reviewing charging and storage practices in your facilities, and sharing prevention tips with family members. Simple actions such as using approved chargers, avoiding damaged batteries, keeping batteries away from extreme temperatures, and never charging devices on combustible surfaces can significantly reduce fire risks.

Fire prevention extends beyond compliance. It is about recognizing hazards before an incident occurs and taking proactive steps to protect people, property, and the environment. Whether we are managing risks in the field, supporting operations, or educating our communities, prevention remains one of the most effective tools in our safety toolkit.

As we observe National Fire Prevention Month, I encourage each of you to take a moment to assess potential fire hazards in your workplace and home. Small actions today can prevent serious incidents tomorrow.

Thank you for your continued commitment to advancing safety excellence throughout the Permian Basin. Your dedication, leadership, and willingness to share knowledge help strengthen our profession and create safer workplaces for everyone.

Stay safe and stay engaged.

Respectfully,

Heather Ferrell, CSP

President, Permian Basin Chapter
American Society of Safety Engineers

MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

New Members

- Heath Wright
- Zenaida Hermosillo
- Karis Farland
- Ethan Eckermann

UPCOMING EVENTS

October Chapter Meeting

Date & Time: Thursday, October 15 from 11:30 PM - 1:00 PM

Location: Jack E. Brown Building, [3600 N. Garfield St., Midland, TX 79705](#)

Speaker: Chris Stark, QSSP

Topic: The Basics of Gas Detection

November Chapter Meeting

Date & Time: Thursday, November 19 from 11:30 PM - 1:00 PM

Location: Jack E. Brown Building, [3600 N. Garfield St., Midland, TX 79705](#)

Speaker: Megan Brown

Topic: Energy-Based Safety

December Chapter Holiday Party

Date and Time: Friday, December 11 from 6:30 PM – 9:00 PM

Location: TBA

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

We are always looking to network and find out if there are job openings. The jobs must be in an Environment, Health and Safety function. For example: Fleet Safety Manager, Director of Environmental, Health and Safety, Risk Manager, etc.

We will post the jobs to our website at permiansbasin.assp.org. This is done currently at no charge, but the chapter is always accepting donations to help establish our scholarship fund. Your contribution is appreciated.

Please e-mail the job information to
president@permianbasin.assp.org.

[Visit the ASSP Permian Basin Chapter Jobs Website Page](#)

Working together for a safer, stronger future

