

Sources of Help

The safety professional frequently needs highly specialized or up-to-the-minute, yet-unpublished information as well as knowledge of the work and publications of trade associations, public agencies, and private service organizations. These sources are numerous and their charters of responsibility are varied. As an aid in the safety professional's search for information, this chapter classifies these sources and defines their functions. A chart showing how the various sources of information can be tapped in order to find a solution to a safety problem is exhibited in Fig 14-1, shown on the next page.

On a particularly difficult problem, such as the guarding of a special machine for example, it may be necessary to write to a number of sources before the best solution can be obtained. State authorities can furnish the minimum requirements under the law. Standards from a number of sources must be consulted to see whether or not the problem has already been answered.

After a review of the law and the standards, it may be found that requirements for safety set up in the plant are still not met and further advice is necessary. Insurance companies or their associations may shed light through their knowledge of a similar problem solved in another plant. The trade association in the industry that is the prime user of the equipment may have a safety committee that can be contacted for specific information.

If no solution is found, it may be necessary to consult a service organization, such as the National Safety Council, and present the problem to the unified thinking of one of its sectional committees, its industrial staff, or both.

Service Organizations

National Safety Council

425 North Michigan Ave., Chicago, Ill 60611

The National Safety Council is the largest organization in the world devoting its entire effort to the prevention of injury. It is non-profit and nonpolitical. Its staff members work as a team with more than 2000 volunteer officers, directors, and members of various conferences and committees to develop and maintain accident prevention material and programs in specific areas of safety. These

areas include industrial, traffic, home, recreational, and public. There are also volunteer-staff teams in such areas as public information, publications, membership extension, and field organization. Council headquarters facilities include the largest safety library in the world.

The bulk of this work is done at Chicago headquarters by a staff of over 450, about half of whom are engineers, editors, statisticians, writers, educators, librarians, and other specialists. In addition to the main office at 425 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago, the council has regional offices at 703 Market St., San Francisco, Calif. 94103, and at 856 Lincoln Bldg., 60 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10017.

Recognizing that industry's safety problems often require specialized treatment, the Council has divided its industrial effort into sections, each administered by its own executive committee, nominated and elected from the membership within that industry. Each executive committee consists of a general chairman, a vice-chairman, secretary, a newsletter editor, and such other officers as may be needed to head the functional committees of the section.

The industrial membership of the Council is organized according to the following industries. Some sections are subdivided into specialized operations or interests.

AEROSPACE SECTION

AIR TRANSPORT SECTION

- Air Force
- Navy
- Maintenance and Servicing
- Overhaul Base
- Ground Service Operations

AUTOMOTIVE AND MACHINE SHOP SECTION

CEMENT, QUARRY, AND MINERAL AGGREGATES SECTION

CHEMICAL SECTION

COAL MINING SECTION

- Labor
- Mine Operators
- Bureau of Mines
- Mine Inspectors Institute
- State Mine Inspectors
- Roof Control Committee

This chapter was revised by Roy G. Benson, based upon reviews by selected members of the National Safety Council.