

CHEMICAL DISTRIBUTOR



WHAT'S INSIDE:

- NACD's Mentoring Program
- How Mobile Technology is Empowering Professionals
- Excellence Award Winners Look Back
- CEF Elements for Summer 2010
- OPSEM 2010 Speaker Spotlight

Responsible
Distribution
The Smart Way Forward[™]

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2010-11 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 6-8	2010 Northeastern Region Meeting Seaview Resort, Galloway, NJ
NOV. 29-DEC. 3	NACD 2010 Annual Meeting La Quinta Resort & Club, La Quinta, CA
APRIL 12-16	2011 Western Region Meeting Marriott Wailea Beach Resort & Spa, Wailea, HI
MAY 3-4	2011 NACD Legislative Fly-In Westin, Washington DC City Center, Washington, DC

Letters to the Editor



GREEN BUILDING

Dear Editor,

Building green is a useful and important idea ("Green Building: A 21st Century Revolution" *Chemical Distributor* Jan.-Feb. 2010). But buildings certified by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), developer of the well-known LEED rating system, can be expensive to build, requiring a long wait for pay-offs, and they don't necessarily do a good job of saving energy and water. The New York Times reported last year on a systemic "gap between design and construction" of many of these green buildings.

Another problem specific to USGBC is the amount of staff and member energy spent on squabbles over issues that have little to do with building performance. For example, USGBC only authorizes one forest certification system for LEED buildings, which actually discourages domestic wood use, and ignores other valid certification systems for no apparent reason. It also spent years studying whether PVC should be avoided. A study group concluded that PVC's total impacts were similar to those of other materials, and could be less. But that didn't stop a LEED committee from proposing a credit to avoid use of PVC and other halogenated compounds.

Fortunately, USGBC's LEED rating system is not the only game in town. Green Globes is a commercial building green-rating system that recently won the coveted position as the first ANSI-certified national green building standard in the U.S. Green Globes is considered less expensive than LEED to use, covers a wider range of buildings, and serves as both a continuous improvement "tool" and a certification process. It is recognized in 20 states and by a number of federal agencies, which are using it for many of their own buildings. It is steadily making inroads in the marketplace.

We all want buildings that have less of an impact on the environment. By allowing competition among green building rating systems, we will ensure constant improvement that will help us meet this goal faster and more cost-effectively.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Bocchi
President & CEO, The Vinyl Institute

SECURITY AWARENESS

Dear Editor,

The Chemical Sector-Specific Agency (SSA) within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Office of Infrastructure Protection would like to follow-up on the May/June 2010 issue of *Chemical Distributor* that highlighted the importance of basic security awareness and the inclusion of security in a facility's emergency response plan. We are proud to be working with industry to ensure that this is happening, and we have developed free, voluntary programs in order to increase security awareness across the sector. This collaboration is necessary so that we know that the tools and processes we are creating are useful to our partners.

Basic security awareness is the foundation for any good facility security plan. Sector partners have created a Chemical Sector Security Awareness Guide that promotes basic security awareness and provides information on the threat from explosive devices and cyber vulnerabilities. The Web-based Chemical Security Awareness Training (<https://chemicalsecuritytraining.com>) is an interactive tool available free to chemical facilities nationwide and is designed for all facility employees. In addition, owners and operators may participate in a security briefing during the Sector's monthly unclassified suspicious activity teleconference to acquire situational awareness.

Facilities face a number of situations that would warrant integrating security measures into a site's emergency response plan, and the Sector has a number of activities designed to assist with such planning. The Security Seminar and Exercise Series, for example, was designed to foster communication between facilities and their local emergency responders by encouraging representatives to share their knowledge and experiences during a facilitated tabletop exercise. The Chemical SSA also partners with State chemical industry councils, State homeland security offices, and State emergency management agencies to develop useful exercise scenarios, such as scenarios addressing active shooter and hostage situations, and suspicious package incidents. In addition, the Chemical SSA and partners have developed adaptable exercise materials as part of the Infrastructure Protection Sector Specific Tabletop Exercise Program (IPSSSTEP) Chemical Sector. These materials highlight important issues for facilities or companies to consider prior to, during, and after a terrorist threat or attack, and the coordination required between the facility and both public and private sector entities.

These are just a few of the free, voluntary programs the Chemical SSA has developed in collaboration with public and private sector partners to mitigate risk in the sector. More information on these and other programs will be available at the DHS booth at the NACD Operations Seminar and Tradeshow (OPSEM) 2010 conference, and the information is always available online at <https://www.chemicalsecuritytraining.com/VoluntarySecurityPrograms.pdf> or by e-mailing from the Chemical SSA at ChemicalSector@dhs.gov.

Regards,

Amy Graydon
Department of Homeland Security
Office of Infrastructure Protection
Branch Chief, Chemical Sector-Specific Agency