

General Information and Guidance for Spring Posters

What are technical poster sessions and abstracts?

The technical poster session is an informal forum for the exchange of ideas. Ideas are presented as posters in a reception atmosphere where authors and attendees can mingle and exchange ideas. Abstracts are a short summary (approximately 250 words) of the ideas being presented in the posters. Abstracts are published and distributed at the meeting. We've started displaying the posters on the SCHC web site, when their creators don't object.

What topics are appropriate for the SCHC Technical Poster Session?

Any topic related to chemical hazard communication, in its broadest sense, may be presented at the poster session. It could be a problem that you resolved, or a project done where you work, or a proposed improvement. A poster can focus on labels, MSDS's, signage, training, regulations, or policies. It can be informative, teach, or entertain. It can be on a new topic that people need to know about. It can relate to a presentation that will be on the agenda, or was on an agenda, or will never make an agenda because it's just not big enough. It can be an update of an earlier poster. It can focus on an issue discussed in one of the Professional Development courses, or it could focus on one of the countries discussed in a course. It can even be about SCHC, or one of its parts.

Some of the posters that have been done previously: 1) The Anatomy of a HazCom Document Audit; 2) Smart RTK - A Comprehensive Labeling System; 3) MSDS's and their Role in the Proper Selection of Hand Protection; 4) Global Review of Article Definitions; 5) The Internet: An Exciting New Dimension to EHS Information Management; and 6) The Role of Endocrine Disruption in a "Scientifically Defensible" Hazard Determination.

People are sometimes reluctant to do a poster because they're afraid they don't have the graphics capability or artistic skills to do a glitzy, professional poster. Don't let that be a concern. While it's nice if a poster looks professionally done, it doesn't have to be. We've had plenty of posters that were done on someone's PC, were collections of papers or photos, were text on 11 x 14 inch sheets blown up to 2 x 3 feet at Kinko's, etc.

Any SCHC member may submit an abstract and do a poster. The abstract should clearly communicate how the topic is related to chemical hazard communication. The poster can be done individually or jointly with co-authors. Abstracts from non-members will be accepted, but an SCHC member must sponsor these abstracts.

Posters intended to market a specific product or service are not considered appropriate for the Spring poster session but are appropriate to the Fall Vendor Exhibit.

How to participate?

1. Formulate an idea for a poster.
2. Summarize the idea in an abstract of approximately 250 words.
3. Email the abstract to Raleigh Schmidt for review (by March 15).
4. Once the abstract is accepted (a small panel of members reviews the abstracts for applicability, and appropriateness), prepare a poster for presentation at the spring meeting (Tuesday evening).

If you have questions, or need additional information, contact:

Raleigh Schmidt at 651-737-4588 or rschmidt3@mmm.com