







# ABIH Newsletter

## June 2010

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**ABIH | The American Board of Industrial Hygiene |**

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## News

### ABIH Celebrates 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

This year marks a milestone for ABIH as we celebrate the fiftieth year of operation. In 1960, AIHA and ACGIH directed resources into creating ABIH – a move to self regulate through certification, a recognized hallmark of any true profession. ABIH established the common professional-level qualifications and in doing so, helped solidify industrial hygiene as a profession. Today, the ABIH CIH program is recognized as the world's premiere occupational hygiene certification. In recognition of this occasion, ABIH sent all Diplomates a special-edition 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary folder. CIH's also received a lapel pin inside the folder.



### 2006-2010 CM Worksheets - Submit After Sept. 1, 2010

Those Diplomates due to recertify for the 2006-2010 CM cycle can submit their CM Worksheets starting on September 1, 2010.



#### New This Year:

- 1) **You must have accumulated at least 0.33 "IH Ethics" CM points (2 hours)** during the 5 year CM cycle. It's not too late to complete the training or you may have already completed it via your company's ethics training. Contact ABIH to learn how to best fulfill this requirement or review the FAQ. <http://www.abih.org/members/cmfaq.html#Q27>.
- 2) **The CM Worksheet has been updated (June 2010).** It's now available in Microsoft Excel to automate the point calculations as well as a PDF version for handwritten entries. We will still accept an older CMW but be aware that new rules (as listed on the 2010 CMW) are in effect.

*Special Note* – if you downloaded the Feb 2010 Excel version, there was a calculation error for Category 4 IH CM points (10 pts minimum per 5 year CM cycle). The calculation should have included all "IH Ethics" points. This can be easily corrected by adjusting the formula (contact ABIH for help doing this) or simply download the June 2010 version.

- 3) **Incomplete CM Worksheets will be returned.** As specified in the CM Handbook, an incomplete CMW is not acceptable to ABIH since it significantly slows down the process, costing extra time and money for ABIH. In particular, we have seen an increase in the number of CM Worksheets with missing CM Approval Numbers. These CMWs will now be returned and the Diplomate will be asked to submit the CM Point Request Forms. Remember that CM point request processing can take 6-8 weeks in December and January. Don't get caught - it's not too early to submit your CM Point Request Forms.

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## New Certificate Now Available



In response to numerous requests, ABIH has modified the Diplomate certificate to once again include a gold foil seal. You will receive the new certificate format when you recertify.

If you would like a new certificate before your next CM cycle, a replacement certificate can be ordered for \$10. At the ABIH web site, log in to the Diplomate section to request the replacement and pay (Online Payment Forms > General Payment Form).

Note that the replacement certificate will likely not have the signatures as found on your current certificate since the Board members may have changed.

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## Examination Applicants Wanted!

Encouraging others to pursue the CIH is a great way to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ABIH. From the recent Diplomate Pulse Survey (see below), it appears that a majority of Diplomates continue to promote the benefits of being a CIH. If you know of someone who meets the education and experience qualifications, now is the time for them to consider the examination portion. For the Fall 2010 examination, a completed application and support documentation must be submitted (e.g., references, transcripts, and IH coursework documentation) by August 1.

For approved Candidates, remember that the exam slots at the testing centers fill up fast, especially at the end of the testing window. It is prudent to pay the exam fee as soon as the application has been approved and then the exam can be scheduled with Prometric.

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## Diplomate U

### Surviving a CM Audit - Tips, Tricks & Traps

Audits are a fact of life. We all are subject to them on our jobs, from governments and yes, even from ABIH. Each CM cycle, ABIH randomly selects some Diplomates for a CM audit but this does not have to be an unnerving event. The fact is that most Diplomates (>95%) pass the audit.



The Audit purpose is to corroborate the activities listed on a CM Worksheet. We ask for records which provide *impartial documentation of proof*. Here's a few tips to ensure you're ready:

- **Respond Promptly** – When you're contacted initially, you'll have 4 weeks to produce the records. We do give some leeway for extenuating circumstances but responding promptly demonstrates to ABIH that you treat your certification seriously.
- **Keep Records In One Location** – Some Diplomates cannot locate documentation because it's been misplaced or dispersed over multiple locations. It's best to have one spot. If you should change employers, remember to keep a copy of your documentation.
- **Start Early/Stay On Top** - Collect your records periodically throughout your cycle. It's easy to lose track of certificates and receipts over a five year period. Since we need impartial documentation, we simply can't "take your word for it" that you were at an event.
- **Category 2 Technical/Professional Committee Service** - Usually, meeting agendas or minutes will suffice for written proof but you may need additional documentation if your name and Committee position are not easily identifiable.
- **Category 4 Education Attendance Records** – If the Sponsor doesn't provide proof of attendance (e.g. certificate of completion), then you'll need a record showing that you were in the city on the day of the event. For example, this can be an ABIH *Attendance Verification Form*; receipts from a hotel, meal or parking lot; boarding passes; or, a signed company expense report). *Special Note* – a pre-activity registration receipt, hotel confirmation, or airline ticket are **not** acceptable proof of participation.
- **Category 5 Teaching/Presentations** – Ideally, you should have a program, agenda or meeting notice which shows your name (as Speaker), the topic, and the time aspects. If you don't have that level of detail, ask for written acknowledgement from the Sponsor.
- **Category 7 Other** – Unless you have received a personal authorization from ABIH, you should claim CM pts only for items listed on the approved Category 7 list. Keep written records showing your activities and time. This can be especially difficult for pro-bono work where hours are often not well documented. Ask for a letter from your Sponsor.
- **Vouching For The Diplomates** – No, it's not a TV game show. For one activity during a CM cycle, a Diplomate can have another Diplomate vouch that they were at an event. Vouching is allowed solely at the discretion of ABIH.

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## Get CM Points for Other Certifications

Many AIBH Diplomates hold other professional certifications and several have been awarded Category 7 CM points *if you obtained the certification during the 5 year CM cycle*.

Certification	CM Pts
Certified Hazardous Materials Manager	2.5
Certified Safety and Health Manager	2.5
Council-Certified Indoor Environmental Consultant	2.5
Council-Certified Microbial Consultant	2.5
Certified Environmental, Safety & Health Trainer	2.5
Certified Professional Ergonomist	5
Certified Professional Environmental Auditor	5
Certified Safety Professional	5
Qualified Environmental Professional	5
American Board of Preventive Medicine/Occupational Medicine	5

ABIH has determined that these professional certifications **cannot** be awarded CM points:

- Chemical Hygiene Officer
- Registered Sanitarian
- Diplomat of the American Board of Toxicology
- Council-Certified Indoor Air Quality Manager
- Certified Business Continuity Professional

If your certification is not listed, please read the eligibility rules before contacting ABIH.

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## Sustainability and the IH Profession

Are Sustainability-related activities eligible for CM points in Category 1 (Active IH Practice) and in Category 4 (Educational Programs)? In general, the answer is YES! Over the last decade, Diplomates have become more involved in Sustainability, especially as it applies to human health and the environment, and we recognize these efforts as part of the IH profession.

From the very beginning, IH has been an amalgam of various disciplines, integrated and focused through the lens of protecting human health. Sustainability is just one more area of practice where the Diplomate can make a contribution. Diplomates are often able to bring unique perspectives to many aspects of Sustainability discussions: exposure pathway analysis, control strategies, regulatory compliance, product life-cycle management, risk communications, health and environment impact analysis, and community outreach, to mention a few. The fact is that Diplomates have a great deal to offer to the topic of Sustainability!

Accordingly, ABIH has continued to adapt its rules and processes to accommodate the changing needs of the profession. This does not mean that everything called “Sustainability” is acceptable but if there is a connection with human health and the environment, in general, we will recognize the activity for both Category 1 and Category 4 efforts.

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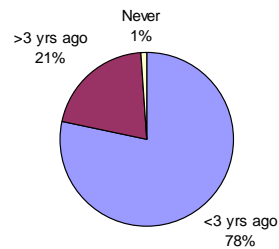
## The Diplomat Pulse! - Take the 30 Second Survey

In February, ABIH asked 2 questions about how Diplomates support the CIH certification.

We are encouraged to see that the majority of Diplomates believe that CIH is worth the effort in terms of professional achievement and professional credibility with employers and clients. If you find yourself in the category of not promoting the CIH, we'd like to hear why. Please feel free to contact us at [abih@abih.org](mailto:abih@abih.org).

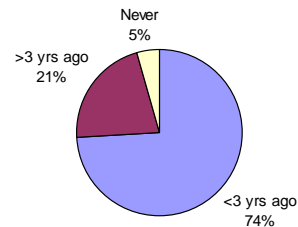
### Have you encouraged others to pursue a CIH?

(n=157)



### Have you promoted the value of being a CIH to your employer or clients?

(n=157)



**Got 30 more seconds? Please answer two questions on Sustainability**

Or paste this link into your browser

<http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dFptMDRkcEg5V1hyT3VfX0JQMzBhanc6MQ>

Submissions are anonymous. Final results will be published in the next ABIH Newsletter.

If you're unable to view the web page, it most likely is due to a block or filter from your company's IT organization. Try navigating to the survey web site using a personal computer.

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## Stay Connected



### Are You Out of the Loop?

You easily could be if ABIH does not have your current contact information. Have you moved recently? Switched ISP and email accounts? Changed phone numbers? It's easy to forget to update your contact information with ABIH. Please take a minute to login to the Diplomat section of the ABIH web site and ensure that your contact information is up-to-date. You'll need your ABIH ID number (which is **not** your CIH number). If you can't recall your ID#, please contact Pam Trim at 517-321-2638 x or [ptrim@abih.org](mailto:ptrim@abih.org).

<http://www.abih.org/members/roster/login.cfm>

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### Director Meets with AIHA Local Section

ABIH Directors are available to meet with AIHA Local Sections. These are great opportunities for understanding what's happening at ABIH and to gather useful input directly from the Diplomates, which is very helpful to ensure that the Directors reflect your needs at the Board.

ABIH Director Janet Keyes, CIH, met with the **AIHA-Upper Midwest Local Section** on 29 April 2010. This was a general ABIH update, covering a variety of topics.

For information on the Director assigned to your Local Section, refer to the ABIH web site at:

<http://www.abih.org/general/lassignments.cfm>

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### PCIH

Fort Worth, TX

October 9-12, 2010



Don't forget to register for the Professional Conference on Industrial Hygiene (PCIH). Registration opens in July and you can achieve substantial cost savings by registering before September 10<sup>th</sup>. Sponsored by AIHA's Academy of Industrial Hygiene, the PCIH provides a forum to discuss current trends, to learn from experts, and to develop practical applications to tackle the issues you face daily. <http://63.146.183.217/pcih2010/default.htm>

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## Meet Your Directors - Mark Finn & Kim Castillon

The ABIH Board is comprised of 11 Directors each serving 4 year terms. Each year, the Board elects 3-4 new Directors. Beginning with this issue of the Newsletter, we'll profile each of the four new Directors, elected for the 2010-14 term. First up – Mark Finn and Kim Castillon. In October, we'll profile Shamini Samuel and Chuck Laszewski.



markfinn53@gmail.com

Mark Finn, PhD, CIH, is the Global Head of Safety of BP. Mark's PhD is in Environmental and Occupational Health from the University of Illinois Medical Center, School of Public Health. He became a CIH in 1982. Over his 30+ year career, he's held a variety of Health, Safety, Environmental and Product Stewardship roles at both the manufacturing and corporate levels of BP.

When asked how his CIH has benefited his career, Mark responded: "When first exploring employment opportunities (many years ago!), certification identified me as a preferred candidate for an interview. Early in my corporate career, a CIH was required to be promoted into mid-level professional roles. Over the years, the most important benefit of being a CIH is confidence. It provides me with personal confidence in my capabilities, and, at least a minimum level of confidence in the competencies of other CIHs."

Mark resides in Naperville, IL and serves as the Director liaison for the following AIHA Local Sections: Chicago, Carolinas, IN, MI, Western MI, Middle TN, TN Valley and WI.



castillon.kimberly@dol.gov

Kimberly Castillon, CIH, is the Assistant Area Director for the U.S. Occupational Safety & Health Administration, Syracuse Area office. She has a BS in Biology from Missouri Southern State University. She became a CIH in 2002. Kim has technology and regulatory experiences across multiple industries while serving in a variety of leadership roles with OSHA. Kim has received numerous awards over her career and in 2002, was named the U.S. Dept. of Labor "Leader of the Year".

Kim was asked why she decided to serve as an ABIH Director. "When I began my OSHA career as an IH compliance officer, I set a goal to achieve the CIH. To me it was a commitment to obtain a better understanding and knowledge of IH so I could perform my job with a recognized and reliable measure of credibility. Since obtaining my CIH I have benefited from opportunities that I would not otherwise have had. I have been involved in the promotion and recruitment of professional certification for government employees through the development of certification guidelines and mentorship program. I have also presented cases at the Glen Williamson Forum and participated on a panel or as a speaker at many of the AIHce's for the past 10 years. I served a three year term as a Councilor on the Academy of Industrial Hygiene so serving as an ABIH Director affords me the opportunity to continue giving something back to the IH profession".

Kim resides in Syracuse, NY and serves as the Director liaison for the following AIHA Local Sections: Central NY, Western NY, Central OH, Down East, Metro NY, New England, Western MA.

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## Milestones

### Spring Examination Results

During spring 2010, 75 (of 197) people passed the ABIH Comprehensive Certification Examination. Congratulations to all of the new 68 CIHs! Seven Diplomates completed their CM cycle by retaking the exam (for 40 CM pts).

See the ABIH web site. <http://www.abih.org/certified/examinees/examresultsbyyear.html>

Please take a moment to contact and congratulate those you might know. This is a great professional milestone, one that you know is difficult to achieve.

### Code of Ethics Disciplinary Issues

None at this time.

For past violations, see the ABIH web site: <http://www.abih.org/general/disactions.html>

### Expired Certifications

From the 2005-2009 CM cycle <http://www.abih.org/members/listing.html>

### Not Certified

In response to inquiries, ABIH reports that the following individual has never been certified by the Board and is not authorized to use the designations Certified Industrial Hygienist or CIH.

- **Neil Triplett**, Mt. Pleasant, North Carolina

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## Key Dates

**Aug 1** – Deadline for applications/re-applications to take the Fall 2010 Exam

**Sept 1** – CM Worksheets can be submitted for the 2006-2010 CM cycle

**Oct 1** – 2011 annual fees notice will be emailed to all Diplomates, payable by Jan 15, 2011.

**Dec 31** - Last day to earn CM pts for the 2006-2010 CM cycle.

**Feb 1, 2011** – All 2006-2010 CM worksheets due or Diplomate must pay a \$100 late fee

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## ABIH Staff & Office Hours

The ABIH Staff will be pleased to work with you on any questions you may have about this Newsletter or other topics related to ABIH and its certification programs. Feel free to contact any one of the Staff listed below or contact us at: <http://www.abih.org/general/staff.html>

ABIH office hours are Monday-Friday, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm, EST with exception of the following periods when the office is closed:

### **Office Closed**

May 31  
July 5  
Sept 6  
Nov 25 & 26  
Dec 24 – Jan 4

### **Holiday**

U.S. Memorial Day  
U.S. Independence Day  
U.S. Labor Day  
U.S. Thanksgiving  
Christmas and New Years

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If you have any comments or questions about this pabulum, please contact:  
Tracy Parsons, [tparsons@abih.org](mailto:tparsons@abih.org) ; 517-321-2638 x15.

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