Updated CM Credit Calculation Method

In early 2012, all Diplomates and many Event Providers were notified of changes to the ABIH CM point review service. This updated method is identical to the previous method except that the Diplomate, not ABIH, will determine their CM credit.

For any new event not previously approved by ABIH, the Diplomate:

- Calculates CM credit based on their attendance
- Maintains the credit calculation records
- Tracks CM hours (not points)
- Does not need CM approval numbers
- Should not send a CM point request to ABIH

New guidance documents were created to help with calculating CM credit. The Overview document is a short, graphical explanation of the method while the Detailed Guidance document provides much more information and background for each step in the method. Both documents are available on the updated web page for Determining CM Credit ([http://www.abih.org/members/cat4.html#PtCalc](http://www.abih.org/members/cat4.html#PtCalc)).

The Diplomate-Calculated method was designed to be simple, easy and self-explanatory. Please try the method soon, don’t wait until the end of your CM cycle. If you have questions or need additional support, please contact ABIH.
Board of Directors Announced

The ABIH Board of Directors has elected a new Chair and four new Directors who will be officially installed at the conclusion of the March 2012 Board meeting.

Lydia Renton, CIH, ROH of WESA Inc., has been elected Chair. She is a Senior Partner of WESA, Inc., an occupational hygiene and safety, hydrogeological, and engineering consulting firm in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, and holds a B.Sc. in Chemistry from the University of Ottawa.

Renton will lead a slate of ABIH Directors that includes a new Public Member, three new CIH Directors, and six returning CIH Directors. Each CIH Director serves a four-year term. The Public Member Director serves a two-year term.

The new Public Member is Michael Shanklin, CEO of Kidspace Children’s Museum, Pasadena CA, a non-profit corporation that hosts more 220,000 visitors each year.

The three new CIH Directors are:

- Bret Clausen, CIH, CSP, CHMM, ARM, CH2M Hill
- Michael D. Larrañaga, CIH, CSP, PE, PhD, Oklahoma State University
- Susan Ripple, CIH, The Dow Chemical Company

The six continuing CIH Directors are:

- Patricia Beach, CIH, Harris & Lee Environmental Sciences, LLC
- Kimberly Castillon, CIH, OSHA
- Mark Finn, PhD, CIH, ENVIRON International Corporation
- Nicole Greeson, CIH, Duke University
- Janet L. Keyes, CIH, CHESS, Inc.
- Shamini Samuel, CIH, CSP, ROH, Suncor Energy Services Inc.

Four Directors have completed their service and will leave the Board in March 2012. They are:

- Eric Bauer, CIH, Rockwell Collins
- Charles Laszewski, Public Member, Parks & Trails Council of Minnesota
- J. Torey Nalbone, PhD, CIH, University of Texas at Tyler
- Jeff V. Throckmorton, CIH, University of Utah in SaltLake
Self-Nominate to be an ABIH Director

Have you ever wanted to help govern ABIH? We have an opportunity for you! Each year, ABIH accepts self-nominations to serve on the ABIH Board of Directors. These can be submitted at any time up until the mid-year deadline. New Directors are then elected by the current Board at the fall Board meeting.

Directors serve a four year term. The Board meets face-to-face, for one to two days, three times per year - winter, spring (AIHce) and fall. The meetings are held on a weekend to avoid conflicting with work. Monthly conference calls are scheduled to also conduct business and monitor progress. Expenses related to Board travel are covered by ABIH.

We invite you to serve with this group of committed industrial hygiene professionals by submitting a nomination form:
http://www.abih.org/members/directornomprocess.html

Applications for Fall 2012 Exam
Now Being Accepted

Do you know any occupational hygiene professionals who aren’t certified? Sometimes, all it takes is a word of encouragement to motivate the person towards pursuing and achieving the CIH. We have found that Diplomates often make the best ambassadors and mentors for non-certified professionals.

Applications for the fall 2012 exam are now being accepted. The deadline for submission is August 1st and the exam window is October-November.

Applicants are reminded that exam slots at the testing centers fill up fast, especially at the end of the testing window. So it is prudent to apply early and pay the exam fee as soon as the application has been approved. This increases the chance that your preferred exam location and date will be available.

Special Note for International Degrees: Applicants with international degrees will be required to submit their transcript(s) to a member of the National Association of Credential Evaluation Services, Inc. (www.naces.org). This process takes additional time and the Applicant should plan accordingly.
Fall 2011 Exam Results

Results of the fall 2011 exam are posted on the ABIH web site at:
http://www.abih.org/certified/examinees/examresultsbyyear.html

AIHce 2012

There will be several opportunities to interact with ABIH or learn about its certification program at the June 2012 AIHce in Indianapolis.

- The ABIH Booth will be open during the Exhibit hall hours. Learn what’s new; get your questions answered. Bee Snow, a 24 year ABIH employee who many of you know, will be retiring this year and this AIHce will be her last one. Please stop by to say hello, good-bye and good luck to Bee.

- ABIH Forum, Wednesday, June 20th 10:00 – 12:00 am. ABIH Directors and Staff will discuss certification topics, answer questions, and seek audience input on ABIH’s direction and programs.

- Perspectives of Preparation for the CIH Exam v6.0/RT 210 Monday, June 18th, 2-5 pm. The roundtable will cover requirements to sit for the exam and information on preparation strategies. Sponsored by Students and Early Career Professionals Committee (SECPC).

- Student Luncheon Discussions/ Monday. Informal discussions and Q&A on a variety of subjects including CIH eligibility and preparation.

Key Dates – 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Dates</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 1 – August 1</td>
<td>CM worksheets accepted for the CM cycle ending on June 30, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 1 – May 31st</td>
<td>Test window for the spring 2012 exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 1</td>
<td>Last day to submit a worksheet for the CM cycle ending on Dec 31, 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 30</td>
<td>Last day to earn CM points for the CM cycle ending on June 30, 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August 1</td>
<td>Last day to submit an application for the fall 2012 exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 1 - November 30</td>
<td>Test window for the fall 2012 exam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Diplomate Pulse! —  
ABIH’s 3rd Party Accreditations

In the October 2011 Newsletter, ABIH asked Diplomates about the value of ABIH’s 3rd party accreditations. Results from that survey are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maybe or Not Sure</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N = 37</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The results are not too surprising. ABIH has not dedicated a lot of time to explaining the 3rd party accreditations or their value to the Diplomates. Nevertheless, many of the respondents were clear on two points: 1) 3rd party accreditation is necessary if the CIH is to remain the gold standard for occupational hygiene certification, and 2) There was a growing sentiment that the ANSI accreditation is the more highly valued of the two.

Rather than try and sell you on the value, here are some anonymous quotes from fellow Diplomates who responded to the question. These are the full quotes, not partial extracts.

Pulse answers are always anonymous (even to ABIH) unless the Diplomate chooses to leave contact information embedded in the answers.

“The ANSI is an important standards organization, and having the CIH recognized by ANSI is important. Also, since my work is global, the IOHA is important in recognizing the CIH as a person competent under international standards. I am not familiar with the CESB, but again there are things I don’t know about which add value to the CIH.”

“Due to the ever increasing “certifications” available, and the questionable value or quality of some of these, 3rd party accreditation maintains a clear standard for ABIH certifications.”

“3rd party accreditations by internationally recognized organization lends visibility to the CIH credentials”
Proof Or Not – AIHA’s Educational Transcripts

Recently, there’s been some confusion about acceptable proof-of-participation for CIHs attending educational events. Specifically, there is a need to clarify the use of AIHA’s online Educational Transcript as acceptable proof.

The transcript provides a record of registration/participation in AIHA and AIHce educational events. The AIHA/AIHce events are populated on the transcript by AIHA. Additionally, individuals may self-populate educational events from sponsors other than AIHA. While the transcript is an ideal tool for tracking all professional development activities, it does have limitations for ABIH recertification purposes.

To clarify, the transcript is **acceptable** to ABIH as proof for any AIHA course, provided it is entered by AIHA and reflects a status of “Passed.” No additional certificate of completion or documentation is required by ABIH because the transcript documents a completed educational event.

However, the transcript is **not acceptable** as proof-of-participation for:

- Any conference
- Any event self-populated on the transcript by the Diplomate

For these events, Diplomates must retain other types of documentation (e.g., approved expense report). Examples of acceptable and unacceptable records are listed at: [http://www.abih.org/members/cat4.html#records](http://www.abih.org/members/cat4.html#records)

In the event you have any questions regarding retrieving or using your Educational Transcript, please contact AIHA’s Stacey Talbot, Manager of Knowledge Programs and Product Development (Stalbot@aiha.org).
A Little Known Fact – CM Worksheet Reviews

Each CM cycle, we see many CM worksheets where the Diplomate has documented CM points well beyond the minimum requirements. There are many reasons why a Diplomate would do this but in almost every situation, it is unnecessary effort on the part of the Diplomate.

ABIH reviews a worksheet until the minimum requirements are achieved. We then stop the review and issue the recertification package. CM points earned in excess of the minimum requirements do not earn any extra credit nor do they carry over to future CM cycles.

If a Diplomate ever falls below the minimum requirements during a worksheet review, ABIH will always contact the individual to look for additional items to add to the worksheet. Our objective is to help every Diplomate stay certified.

One other point is worth mentioning. Being re-certified does not mean that everything listed on the worksheet was acceptable for CM credit. Remember, ABIH stops the review once the minimums are achieved. If a Diplomate has questions about what was or was not acceptable, please contact ABIH.

So while all the Diplomate effort to document as many CM points as possible is laudable, it often adds up to a great deal of time that does not add value to ABIH or affect the recertification.

Actions & Reports

Not Certified
ABIH publishes the names of individuals who have claimed to be certified by ABIH but are not. At this time, there are no new names to report.

Code of Ethics
ABIH publishes the names of individuals who have been sanctioned for ethics violations. At this time, there are no new names to report.

Lost Diplomates
At this time, ABIH has been unable to locate the following Diplomates. If you know how to contact these individuals, please notify them or contact ABIH.
- Emmanuel Amayo, Benton City, WA
- Michael Johnson, Carolina Beach, NC
- Wenxin Li, Singapore
- L. Lamont Moore, Trafford, PA
- Joseph Ngao, Decatur, GA
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 on our web site at http://www.abih.org/general/staff.html

ABIH hours of operation are 8:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:30 (EST), Monday-Friday with the exception of the following U.S. holidays when the office is closed: New Year’s Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Eve.

If you have any comments about this Newsletter or its content, please contact Tracy Parsons at tparsons@abih.org.

The ABIH Newsletter is published three times per year. Current and back copies are available at http://www.abih.org/general/newsletter.html