

AIHA Hosts Fundamentals of IH Course in China

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Forty-nine 49 environmental health and safety practitioners from six Asia-Pacific countries, India and Qatar participated in the American Industrial Hygiene Association's (AIHA) first Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene training course in Shanghai, China.

The 4-day course featured an extensive curriculum with classes on hazard recognition and evaluation, quantitative evaluation, physical agents, the human environment at work, controlling occupational environments, implementing a comprehensive industrial hygiene program and a general overview of occupational hygiene. With the assistance of six vendors and two corporate sponsors, costly field monitoring equipment and sampling tools were shipped to Shanghai and used in laboratory and workshop sessions, resulting in a hands-on experience for every participant.

Course director Frank Renshaw, Ph.D., and fellow AIHA members Brian Daly, Haruo Hashimoto, Wen Chen V. Liu, Ph.D., Patra Sriwattanatamma, Ph.D., and Nick Yin led 16 lectures and 11 lab/workshop sessions based on the AIHA U.S. syllabus. The students represented 12 companies including Rohm and Haas, ExxonMobil, Hitachi, and Intel and the government agencies Beijing Municipal Institute of Labor Protection, China Occupational Safety and Health Association (COSHA) and China CDC.

Ninety-three percent of attendees gave the Fundamentals of Industrial Hygiene course excellent ratings in the course evaluation.

"We can say as an association that we've delivered basic IH training in China," said Renshaw. "We've imparted our science and art to 49 Asia-Pacific EHS practitioners, and we've demonstrated that our method of delivering continuing education on an international basis (member volunteerism—staff expertise—local partner assistance—vendor sponsorship) is a recipe for success."

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