

# **2025** RASP HEALTH & SAFETY CONFERENCE

AI & SAFETY | LOCKOUT TAGOUT | STRESS & TIME | REPETITIVE MOTION | JHA VS. JSA | LEADERSHIP | MENTAL HEALTH | ND EMPHASIS PROGRAMS | VENDOR SHOWCASE



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Join Our Mission to Build a Culture of Safety for All North Dakotans.





### CONFERENCE PARTNERS

Thanks to the help of NRASP's partner organizations. These organizations provide planning support, input on topics, and volunteers to help the conference run smoothly. Check out their booths during the conference to learn more about each organization.



North Dakota Workforce Safety & Insurance (WSI) is an exclusive, employer financed, no-fault insurance state fund covering workplace injuries and deaths. As the sole provider and administrator of the workers' compensation system in North Dakota, WSI's vision is a safe, secure, and healthy North Dakota workforce.

WSI believes that by encouraging safety programs we can prevent injuries from happening. We believe this is possible through safety consultations, education and training, safety incentive programs, safety grants and continual focus on workplace safety by employers and employees.



Associated Builders & Contractors is a national association representing nearly 22,000 merit shop construction-related firms in 69 chapters across the United States. ABC helps its members develop people, win work and deliver that work safely, ethically and profitably.

www.ndabc.com | www.abc.org

Learn more on page 15



The Lake Region Builders Association, located in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota, was founded in 1984 and serves Becker, OtterTail, Wilkin, Norman, and Mahnomen counties. Our primary purpose is to promote professionalism and to educate, improve and support the building industry in Western Minnesota.

www.lakeregionbuilders.com



The Building Industry Association of the Red River Valley nurtures a thriving, innovative and diverse housing and building industries in our communities. Founded in 1956, the BIA of RRV is a nonprofit trade organization and the largest local builders association affiliated with the National Association of Home Builders in North Dakota and Minnesota. The BIA's efforts focus on advocating for a strong building and remodeling industry.

www.biarrv.com Learn more on page 13



Fargo-Moorhead, ND

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- The drawing will be held during the social

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VENDOR SHOWCASE 7:00 AM to 5:00 PM

PASSPORT DRAWING

During Social ~ 4:30 PM

TEARDOWN
After Social ~ 5:00 PM

### PROGRAM SCHEDULE

### **TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9**

### **Great Hall**

7:00AM-8:00AM REGISTRATION

**VENDOR SHOWCASE &** 

NETWORKING BREAKFAST

8:00AM WELCOME

**8:15AM-9:15AM** KEYNOTE:

CHATGPT, AI & BEYOND.

**GAME-CHANGING** 

TECHNOLOGIES THAT WILL IMPACT YOUR INDUSTRY

Gene Marks

9:15AM-9:45AM VENDOR SHOWCASE &

**NETWORKING** 

10:45AM-11:00AM VENDOR SHOWCASE &

**NETWORKING** 

12:00PM-1:00PM LUNCH

2:00PM-2:30PM VENDOR SHOWCASE &

**NETWORKING** 

3:30PM-5:00PM SOCIAL

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### **Harvest Hall**

**9:45AM-10:45 AM** REPETITIVE MOTION

AT WORK: IDENTIFYING RISKS AND APPLYING ERGONOMIC SOLUTIONS

Crystal Nelson -Fargo Ergonomics

**11:00AM-12:00PM** SAFETY COMMITTEES &

**CULTURE** 

Andrea Jensen, CSP, ASP, CIT, CSM - North Dakota Safety

Council

1:00PM-2:00PM MENTAL HEALTH IN THE

WORKPLACE

Brian Lauwers, CHST - OECS

2:30PM-3:30PM JHA VS JSA

Andrea Jensen, CSP, ASP, CIT, CSM - North Dakota Safety

Council

### **Dakota Hall**

**9:45AM-10:45AM** STRESS, TIME &

PROCRASTINATION MANAGEMENT

Kit Welchlin

**11:00AM-12:00PM** CREATE AN EFFECTIVE

**LOCKOUT TAGOUT** 

**PROGRAM** 

Gary Leshovsky - OECS

1:00PM-2:00PM LEADING WITHOUT

**AUTHORITY** 

Ronn Lehmann

2:30PM-3:30PM UNDERSTANDING OSHA

LOCAL EMPHASIS

PROGRAMS:

WHAT EMPLOYERS NEED TO

**KNOW** 

Scott Overson - OSHA



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### CONFERENCE LAYOUT **Holiday Inn of Fargo** E Pool Area Patio ClubII Clubi Gallery Dakota Joes Restaurant Sterling (Upstairs) 16 #6 Crowne Gallery Catering Restaurant (Downstains) GREAT Kitchen Š WIII es ClubIII Sal Conference Royale Registration Spirit's Lounge (Main Area) Spirit's Press **Vendor Hall** Lounge (Casino Area) Room M Lobby Prairie Room DAKOTA HARVEST HALL HAL Conference Room Director's Room Board Room Executive Room Main Entrance Frontier Room Entrance Convention Center Entrance Canopy Holiday Inn 3803 13th Avenue South Fargo, ND 58103 Holiday Inn

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KEYNOTE SPEAKER

8:15 - 9:15 AM





ChatGPT, AI and Beyond.

Game-Changing Technologies

That Will Impact Your Industry

Gene Marks, CPA

How will Al impact your business this year?

What's reality and what's hype? You've read about ChatGPT, Microsoft Copilot, Claude, Google Gemini, and other Al tools that will be changing the way we work, both in the short and longer term. As a business leader you want to leverage this technology to increase both productivity and profits. So what should you know now?

This keynote can provide safety professionals with invaluable insights into how AI is revolutionizing workplace safety. Al-powered tools can predict and prevent accidents through real-time data analysis, wearable safety technology, and predictive analytics, reducing workplace hazards before they escalate. Al-driven training solutions, including chatbots and virtual reality simulations, can enhance safety education while ensuring compliance with OSHA regulations.

In this session you will learn:

- Describe how Al can enhance compliance through training and monitoring.
- Design a basic implementation plan for integrating AI into your organization's safety strategy
- Discuss how Al tools can be integrated into safety programs.

**Gene Marks** is a best-selling author, business keynote speaker and columnist. His keynote presentations are funny, energetic, and packed with valuable content.

Gene helps business leaders understand the political, economic, operational and technological issues and trends that will impact their companies. But most importantly, Gene provides actions they need to take to continue to grow and build a valuable company.

As an author, business owner, business keynote speaker and columnist, Gene has spent two decades both running a successful business and interacting with influential leaders across industries.

Whether its navigating a slow economy, managing through inflation or finding and retaining the best talent, Gene Marks shares what his best clients, readers and business leaders in his community are doing to build value and grow their companies each year.





# CONTINUING EDUCATION INFORMATION







### A U.S. COMPLIANCE COMPANY

### **REQUIREMENTS TO EARN CEUS**

- Approved sessions will be symbolized with a starburst by the session title. CEU credits are determined by the length of the session.
- Attend and participate in sessions approved for CEUS.
- Complete the specific assessment and evaluation for each session in which you are requesting a CEU. Assessments and evaluation forms are available by scanning the QR code by the session title.

#### **CEU PRIVACY STATEMENT**

OECS is accredited by the International Accreditors for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) and offers IACET CEUs for its learning events that comply with the ANSI/IACET Continuing Education and Training Standard. IACET is recognized internationally as a standard development organization and accrediting body that promotes quality of continuing education and training.

#### **PROPRIETARY INTEREST:**

None of this session's instructors have a proprietary interest in any products, instruments or devices of materials connected with the presentation.

#### **PRIVACY & INFORMATION SECURITY:**

- · Training Records are secure and confidential.
- Records will be retained for a minimum of 7 years.
- To release requested records, the learner's identity must be verified by electronic signature, government or employee-issued ID.
- To release records, you can contact the LMS & CEU Lead at jennifer@oecscomply.com.

### **ANTI-DISCRIMINATION & HARASSMENT POLICY:**

It is our intent to maintain an environment that is free of harassment, discrimination, or retaliation because of age, race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation (including transgender status, gender identity or expression), pregnancy (including childbirth, lactation, and related medical conditions), physical or mental disability, genetic information (including testing and characteristics), veteran status, uniformed servicemember status, or any other status protected by federal, state, or local laws.

OECS has a strict policy against all types of workplace harassment, including sexual harassment and other forms of workplace harassment based upon an individual's age, race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, creed, sex, sexual orientation (including transgender status, gender identity or expression), pregnancy (including childbirth, lactation, and related medical conditions), physical or mental disability, genetic information (including testing and characteristics), veteran status, uniformed servicemember status, or any other status protected by federal, state, or local laws. All forms of harassment of, or by, employees, vendors, visitors, customers, and clients are strictly prohibited and will not be tolerated.

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9:45 - 10:45 AM

### HARVEST HALL



**Ergonomics** 

## Repetitive Motion At Work: Identifying Risks and Applying Ergonomic Solutions

**Crystal Nelson, Fargo Ergonomics** 

Repetitive tasks may seem harmless, but over time they can lead to serious discomfort, fatigue, and injury. This course explores how repetitive motion affects the body and what can be done to reduce the risks. Through practical examples and simple ergonomic adjustments, participants will gain tools to make their work safer and more comfortable. Whether you work in an office, on a factory floor, or in a healthcare setting, this session offers valuable insights to help prevent injuries before they start.

In this session you will learn:

- Define repetitive motion and explain how it contributes to musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) in the workplace.
- Identify common job tasks and environments where repetitive motion risks are present.
- Recognize early signs and symptoms of repetitive strain injuries among workers.

 Apply ergonomic principles to reduce repetitive motion hazards through task design, equipment selection, and workflow adjustments.

 Develop practical strategies for educating employees and encouraging early reporting to support injury prevention

Crystal Nelson is a distinguished Board Certified Professional Ergonomist, a Certified Ergonomics Assessment Specialist - Level II, a Remote Ergonomics Assessment Specialist and an occupational therapist. As the founder and owner of Fargo Ergonomics, she has established herself as North Dakota's leading expert in workplace ergonomics and injury prevention.

Crystal holds a Master of Science in Occupational Therapy from the University of Mary and boasts additional credentials in Lean training, functional capacity evaluations, functional job assessments, and pre-work screens/post-offer employment testing. She is the only Board Certified Professional Ergonomist in the state, offering specialized services tailored to industrial, manufacturing, healthcare, dental, office environments and many more.

With a strong background in occupational therapy and a proven track record in the treatment of upper extremity injuries, Crystal is passionate about helping organizations and individuals minimize the risk of musculoskeletal disorders. Her comprehensive approach combines clinical expertise with a deep understanding of workplace dynamics, making her a trusted partner in creating healthier, more productive workspaces.









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Liz Hinz: 701-232-5846, liz@buildrrv.org

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9:45 - 10:45 AM

### DAKOTA HALL



### **Stress, Time, and Procrastination Management**Kit Welchlin

Starting to feel tired? Tired of your customers? Tired of your coworkers? Tired of your family? Are you managing the overload? When faced with change, shrinking budgets, and economic fluctuations, it is understandable why presentations on stress management are in high demand. Learn stress management strategies that can provide relief.

There are three questions that need to be asked and answered. How well are you avoiding unnecessary stress? How well are you responding to unavoidable stress? How well are you practicing good health? Kit Welchlin answers these questions and provides proven strategies for successfully managing stress and shares physical and psychological stress relieving strategies that create a positive communication climate.



Kit Welchlin is one of the most requested stress management speakers in the United States and shares positive, yet practical remedies to relief stress. Welchlin keynote presentations highlight strategies to balance the quickness, quantity, and quality of your life.

In this session you will learn:

- The benefits and consequences of stress
- The three stages of burnout
- The thirty proven techniques to relieve stress
- The top twenty time management techniques
- The five steps to stop procrastination

Kit Welchlin grew up on a hog and dairy farm in southern Minnesota and began public speaking at the age of 9 in a 4-H public speaking contest.

At age 21 he purchased his first manufacturing company and by age 26 served as C.E.O. and Chairman of the Board of 3 manufacturing companies in 3 states.

In 1991, Kit started Welchlin Communication Strategies and Seminars On Stress, providing speeches and seminars, to private and public organizations.

Kit taught part-time for 26 years for the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, where he received the Teaching Excellence Award and had been repeatedly nominated as Outstanding Faculty.

He is a Professional Member of the National Speakers Association and has earned the Certified Speaking Professional designation.

In 2014, Kit was inducted into the Minnesota Speakers Association Hall of Fame. He has delivered more than 3,500 speeches and seminars to more than 500,000 people.



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### **Health and Safety Alliance**

In partnership with industry experts, educators, and safety leaders like OECS, we're creating a connected safety community—sharing knowledge, resources, and best practices across Minnesota and North Dakota.



### **MNOSHA** Partnership (Minnesota)

Through our voluntary partnership with MNOSHA, participating contractors demonstrate true leadership in safety innovation, transparency, and continuous improvement.

### **OUR IMPACT**

#### **Education**

From Tailgate Tuesdays to Safety Forums, we keep safety front and center through ongoing training and collaboration.

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Safety is built into everything we do—from apprenticeships to executive leadership—because every jobsite should send everyone home safe.

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11:00 AM - NOON

HARVEST HALL



### **Safety Committees & Culture**

Andrea Jensen, NDSC

You put together a safety committee and have had a few meetings, now what? In this session we will identify what could be holding your committee back from reaching its full potential. How to engage committee members so that they become safety champions and problem solvers.

This session will also help you develop a strategic plan for your committee so they can develop goals and projects. After this session you will know how to take your committee to the next level, from discussing safety issues to solving those issues.

In this session you will learn:

- · Develop strategic plans for your committee,
- Identify types of safety committees that work best for your culture, and
- Create a framework to take back with you to your company to get your committee to the next level.

Andrea Jensen is a trainer and consultant for NDSC. Before joining NDSC, Andrea spent 16 years as an Environmental, Health, and Safety coordinator, supervisor, and manager in the construction, transportation, and manufacturing industries.

Andrea has a Master of Science in Occupational Health and Safety from Columbia Southern University and an MBA from American Military University.

Andrea holds the CSP, ASP and CIT professional certifications from BCSP, CSM certification from NASP, an Advanced Safety Certification (ASC) from NSC, and a Certified Ergonomics Assessment Specialist (CEAS) from The Back School.





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1:00 AM NOON

### DAKOTA HALL

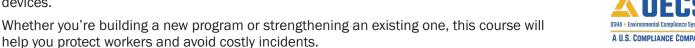


### **Creating an Effective Lockout Tagout Program**

Gary Leshovsky, OECS

Creating a strong Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) program is critical to preventing injuries caused by the unexpected release of hazardous energy during equipment maintenance. This course is designed for safety leaders, supervisors, and maintenance personnel who play a key role in implementing or supporting LOTO procedures.

Participants will learn how to develop and sustain a compliant, effective program by understanding the requirements of OSHA Standard 1910.147, defining roles for affected and authorized employees, and applying proper lockout/tagout techniques. The course also addresses how to manage outside contractors and ensure the correct use of tags and devices.





In this session you will learn:

- Explain the purpose and importance of Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) procedures in preventing injuries related to hazardous energy during equipment maintenance.
- Identify and interpret the key requirements of OSHA Standard 1910.147 as they apply to LOTO
- Develop or enhance a compliant LOTO program tailored to their organization's needs and operational context.
- Evaluate existing LOTO procedures and recommend improvements to strengthen program effectiveness and reduce risk.

Gary Leshovsky is a Regional Safety Lead for the Dakotas Region specializing in general industry and construction.

Gary started with OECS after retiring from the U.S. Army with 32 years of honorable service.

He is a certified instructor with 20 plus years of safety experience including program writing, job hazard analysis, hazardous materials handling and instruction of specialized safety and occupational health training.

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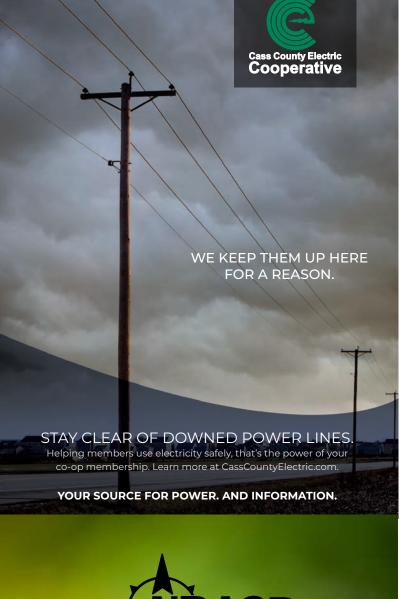
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**CONTENT?** 



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**GOLF OUTING** 

TUESDAY, JULY 28, 2026

Save the Date



1:00 - 2:00 PM

HARVEST HALL



### **Mental Health in the Workplace**

**Brian Lauwers, CHST OECS** 

This powerful breakout session is designed to help employees and managers navigate workplace mental health, manage stress effectively, and support colleagues through different levels of stress—from everyday pressures to crisis situations. Whether you're looking to improve your own resilience or support those around you, this session will equip you with actionable tools and insights to build a healthier workplace.

In this session you will learn:

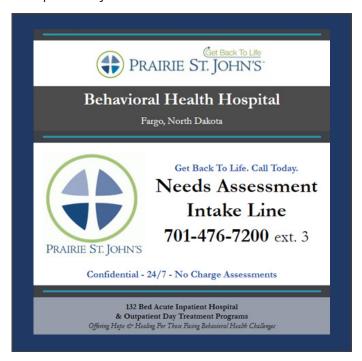
- Understand the importance of mental health in the workplace and its impact on well-being and productivity.
- Recognize warning signs of mental health challenges in themselves and colleagues.
- Learn effective strategies to get support or provide support to colleagues experiencing stress or crisis.
- Develop skills to foster a supportive and stigma-free work environment.







Brian Lauwers, CHST is the Regional Manager for the Dakotas Region, bringing over 20 years of experience in the construction industry, with a primary focus on commercial projects. He holds the Construction Health and Safety Technician (CHST) certification and is committed to advancing safety standards across the region. In his role, Brian leads construction safety services and drives association outreach, helping members strengthen their safety programs and stay compliant on job sites.





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SCAN TO GET RESOURCES







1:00 - 2:00 PM

### DAKOTA HALL



### **Leading Without Authority**

Ronn Lehmann

One of the biggest challenges for Safety Professionals is getting people to work safely when you don't have the authority or position to "order" them to.

Ronn Lehmann is a consultant on the Human Factors that affect Safety, and in this session, he'll discuss the roadblocks you face, and how you can use your experience, expertise and the power of Influence to lead people to a safer workplace.



If you've ever been frustrated by a lack of authority in your safety efforts, I know you'll find this breakout session valuable.

In this session you will learn:

- An understanding of the causes of common roadblocks to people accepting safe practices.
- · How to position yourself with employees and management.
- · How to influence safety mindsets and behaviors.
- The ability to apply these learnings back on the job.

As a Speaker, Consultant, Writer, and Facilitator, Ronn Lehmann has worked with organizations of all sizes. His focus is helping organizations and individuals acquire the mindsets, skill sets, and tool sets necessary for success.

Ronn has been a student of the Human Factors in success, and apply what he's learned to helping organizations and individuals to achieve their goals.

Ronn speaks to many organizations and associations on the topics of Safety, Quality, Organizational Culture, Leadership, Fear, and Dealing with Change, as well as consulting on those same topics.

Ronn has been a visiting instructor in Entrepreneurship at Century College, and has contributed to several books. Ronn is a proud graduate of the University of Minnesota.





2:30 - 3:30 PM

### HARVEST HALL



### JHA vs. JSA

Andrea Jensen, NDSC

JHA and JSA: The Same Thing? Is There a Difference? JHA (Job Hazard Analysis) and JSA (Job Safety Analysis) are often used interchangeably, but they have distinct focuses and approaches in workplace safety. In this session we will define JSAs and JHAs, explain how they can be used in the workplace, and identify which is best for your workplace.

In this session you will learn:

- · Define what a JHA and JSA is
- · Identify differences and similarities,
- Create a plan to implement either or both in the workplace.

Andrea Jensen is a trainer and consultant for NDSC. Before joining NDSC, Andrea spent 16 years as an Environmental, Health, and Safety coordinator, supervisor, and manager in the construction, transportation, and manufacturing industries.

Andrea has a Master of Science in Occupational Health and Safety from Columbia Southern University and an MBA from American Military University.

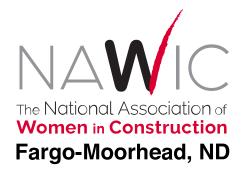
Andrea holds the CSP, ASP and CIT professional certifications from BCSP, CSM certification from NASP, an Advanced Safety Certification (ASC) from NSC, and a Certified Ergonomics Assessment Specialist (CEAS) from The Back School.





### **Thank you Partners**







"A Pain that Doesn't
Dull with Time"

"Each day is a gift, not a given right. If we all fully embrace this fact, we can make the right choices to help us WORK safely, DRIVE safely, and LIVE safely – every day."

– Jay Skarphol



2:30 - 3:30 PM





## Understanding OSHA Local Emphasis Programs: What Employers Need to Know

Scott Overson, OSHA

This session provides a focused update on OSHA's Local Emphasis Programs relevant to North Dakota workplaces. As part of Region 8, North Dakota is subject to targeted enforcement strategies designed to address high-risk hazards and industries. Participants will gain insight into the latest programs affecting sectors such as:

- Aircraft support and maintenance
- Automotive services and lifts
- Beverage manufacturing
- Scrap and recycling
- Oil and gas
- · Wood manufacturing and processing
- · Grain handling
- Roadway work zone activities
- Workplace violence hazards in residential care settings

In this session you will learn:

- The purpose and scope of Local Emphasis Programs
- How OSHA selects industries and hazards for emphasis
- What employers can expect during inspections
- Strategies for compliance and proactive hazard mitigation
- Whether you're preparing for an OSHA visit or strengthening your internal safety programs, this session will help you stay informed, compliant, and ready to protect your workforce.

Scott Overson is the Area Director of the Occupational Safety & Health Administration office in North Dakota. He oversees all OSHA Compliance Officers for Region VIII. He joined the Occupational Safety & Health Administration in February of 2003 as a compliance safety and health officer.

Prior to joining OSHA, he spent five years in the construction industry as an industrial sandblaster and painter. He also served as a Fire Captain with 17 years in the fire service.

He graduated from the University of North Dakota with a bachelor's degree in Occupational Safety Environmental Health.







SAFETY + HEALTH CONFERENCE

SAVE THE DATE



DECEMBER 8 2026





## AFTER EVENT SOCIAL

3:30PM-5PM

- NETWORKING
- APPETIZERS
- CASH BAR
- PRIZES

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