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ASH HEALTH & SAFETY LLC

PROTECTING YOU AND YOUR WORKFORCE

BY PAMELA HAMMONDS PHOTOGRAPHY BY MICHELLE CECIL

The most important thing to you is the wellbeing and safety of your loved ones. If you are a business owner or manager, that sentiment also carries over into the workplace. Whether you're concerned about keeping oil and gas workers safe or ensuring your office employees breathe clean air, Atiya Syverson and her team can help.

Ash Health and Safety began 10 years ago, when Atiya Syverson channeled her wealth of experience and expertise into a consulting firm. She felt her experience in industry and with large consulting firms gave her an understanding of what her clients need.

Atiya came to the United States as a college student and obtained her bachelor's degree in biology and her master's in environmental health at the University of Iowa. "My dad always wanted us to come to America for higher education," she said. "My parents inspired us to work hard." Atiya went on to become a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH), Certified Safety Professional (CSP) and Certified Professional Ergonomist (CPE) with more than 25 years in health and safety.

Today she leads a team of hardworking professionals who share her passion for helping others and her dedication

to details—essential in an industry with so much at stake. "We have seasoned professionals with as much as 30 years' experience," Atiya said. "Our senior staff includes CIHs and CSPs with master's degrees in our discipline. We believe our credentials and experience are very valuable to our clients."

Ash Health and Safety's clients range from major oil and gas companies, oil services, emergency response, and engineering firms to smaller businesses concerned for their employees' well-being. "We consider ourselves part of our clients' health and safety team. Their goals are our goals," Atiya said. "Almost all of our business is from client referrals, which we hope means we are doing a good job."

KEEPING YOU SAFE, SAVING YOU MONEY

In a market where costs for injured employees soar, you should ensure you are not only in compliance with OSHA regulations, but prevent future health issues such as repetitive motion injuries. Ash Health and Safety has developed an iPad app to streamline the ergonomic assessment and report development process. "Now we're able to perform an ergonomic assessment, take photos and email our recommendations to the client on-site,"

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THEIR SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Industrial Hygiene Assessments— noise monitoring and air sampling to assess employee exposures to chemicals
- Ergonomic Assessments—for computer users to facility operators
- Indoor Air Quality Investigations
- Audits/Inspections—to identify hazards and regulatory non-compliance as well as non-conformance to management systems
- Emergency Response—in planning for and responding to chemical emergencies
- Development of Safety Procedures
- Training
- And more

Atiya said. “It’s a huge benefit to our clients. Not only does it reduce costs, but it helps them implement improvements quickly.”

They also use iPads for interactive training. “Instead of endless PowerPoint presentations, our training techniques engage employees with hands-on activities, including emergency response scenarios,” Atiya said. “We plan to continue developing such training due to the enthusiastic response from employees.” Additionally, their technical input during the Detailed Engineering Design phase of construction projects allows companies to proactively ‘engineer-out’ hazards before the construction of a facility, instead of retroactively trying to manage hazards and chemicals already in use.

In an effort to support and encourage clients to recognize the long-term benefits of happy, healthy employees, Ash Health and Safety integrates employee wellness into the safety process. “Employees benefit from fitness and good nutrition, which

makes it easier for employers to provide a safe work environment,” Atiya said. “For example, helicopter emergency egress, climbing ladders and wearing a respirator all get challenging for employees with health issues. We’re especially good at helping clients prioritize their budget and corrective actions. We love working with our clients to prevent illness and injuries. It feels good to know we are instrumental in preventing an employee’s future hearing loss or in reducing his/her risk of developing cancer.”

As a small firm, “We don’t get bogged down in administrative procedures, so we are quick and nimble in our response time,” Atiya said. “They call; we respond.” They keep their overhead low, passing a cost-efficient yet high quality service along to their clients.

If you’d like to improve your work environment—making it a safer, more ergonomically-friendly and healthy place for you and your employees, call Ash Health and Safety today. ///

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