RESEARCH

The Field Group conducts research on occupational health and safety exposures and controls in a variety of processes and industries. Research may focus on new or unusual processes where exposures are not well understood; on industries unique to the Pacific Northwest; or on topics of current public, worker, or industry concern.

Our research is done in collaboration with labor and management and with faculty, staff, and graduate students at the University of Washington. We seek projects concerning emerging health and safety questions, industry-wide issues, exposure control strategies, or implications for Washington State health and safety policy.

Research may lead to a technical report for clients summarizing findings and recommending measures for controlling workplace exposures or to published reports or articles in professional journals.

We invite companies and labor groups to propose projects for consideration. Past research projects include studies of pesticide exposure among agricultural workers, the ergonomics of fruit packing and office work, cobalt exposures in toolmaking industries, and silica exposures in masonry. Ongoing research includes hexavalent chromium exposures in welding operations.

Photos: Field Group

EDUCATION

The Field Group supports the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences’ academic mission by contributing to graduate, undergraduate, and continuing education courses. Members of the Field Group teach the graduate course “Applied Occupational Health and Safety,” which offers students an opportunity to apply health and safety knowledge at a company site. The students conduct a health and safety evaluation and present a technical report to the company.

The Field Group also coordinates internships for graduate industrial hygiene and safety students. Interns may be placed with local businesses, governmental agencies, and nonprofit organizations.

If you are an employer and would like to receive a workplace evaluation, participate in a research project, or employ an intern, please contact the Field Group.

HOW TO CONTACT US

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SERVICE

❑ Industrial hygiene evaluation
❑ Ergonomics and safety evaluation
❑ Safety and hygiene program evaluation

RESEARCH

❑ Participating in current research
❑ Investigating my own research question

EDUCATION

❑ Participating in the course “Applied Occupational Health and Safety”
❑ Participating in internships
❑ Continuing education courses
❑ Information on

NAME (Dr., Ms., Mr.)

Organization

Address

City State Zip

Daytime Phone

E-mail

UNION BUG

March 2009

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The Field Group performs workplace assessments of Washington State companies. Small or underserved businesses and problems not readily addressed by the private sector receive our highest priority.

A team of industrial hygienists, safety professionals, and research and administrative staff are available to help companies evaluate their occupational health and safety problems.

A field investigation may include a visit to the work site, observation of work practices, exposure assessment, laboratory analysis, and evaluation of control measures. The Field Group provides a final report summarizing its findings and recommendations.

Businesses recently receiving Field Group consultations include machine shops, sawmills, manufacturing facilities, construction sites, art studios, woodworking shops, foundries, and welding shops.