



**CONNECTICUT VALLEY CHAPTER
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF SAFETY ENGINEERS**

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Serving Connecticut and Western Massachusetts Since 1945

Safety Leadership in the 21st Century

www.ctvalley.asse.org/

2002 National Chapter of the Year

PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release

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David Gelpke Named 2009 "Safety Professional of the Year"



The Connecticut Valley Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is pleased to announce that Mr. David Gelpke, CSP, CPEA, employed by Canberra Industries in Meriden, CT as Safety and Facilities Manager, has been voted the ASSE Connecticut Valley Chapter "Safety Professional of the Year". Dave has been a member of ASSE for 20 years and has served the organization in numerous elected offices and voluntary roles over that time at the local and national levels. He was elected and served as the Chapter President from 1998 to 1999. Also in 1999, Dave helped found the ASSE New England Area Professional Development Conference (PDC) and has volunteered to help organize and make this event a reality every year since then. In fact, Dave is now informally known as the "Voice of the PDC", contributing his talents as a Master of Ceremonies to announce the many PDC technical sessions, auctions, and drawings that are held each year. Dave was previously honored with the Chapter Safety Professional of the Year Award in 2000, and that same year was awarded Safety Professional of the Year for both the New England Area as well as the entire Northeast Region, which covers the states from Pennsylvania to Maine.

Dave also helped develop the national Manufacturing Practice Specialty of ASSE to provide additional technical enrichment for the benefit of Professional Members who work in manufacturing industries. He served as Newsletter Editor and a member of the Executive Board of the Manufacturing Practice Specialty, and in 2008 Dave was voted the Manufacturing Practice Specialty's Safety Professional of the Year. Over the years, Dave has served the Connecticut Valley Chapter in almost every Committee Chairperson role the Chapter has, including Treasurer, Membership Chair, Awards & Honors Chair,

Jobline Chair, Public Relations Chair, and most recently as Communications Chair and Newsletter Editor. Dave is highly regarded in the Chapter and is thought of as a “model” Safety Professional and highly effective ambassador for ASSE. He also serves as a catalyst for the continuation of the Environmental, Health & Safety Profession by issuing frequent “email Alerts” regarding Environmental, Health & Safety job postings and technical events far and wide.

The Connecticut Valley Chapter of ASSE is comprised of ASSE members located in northern Connecticut and Western Massachusetts, and holds monthly meetings in and around the Hartford and Springfield areas. Additional information regarding the Chapter can be found at www.ctvalley.asse.org/.

Founded in 1911, the Des Plaines, IL-based ASSE is the largest and oldest professional safety organization and is committed to protecting people, property and the environment. Its more than 32,000 occupational safety, health and environmental professional members lead, manage, supervise, research and consult on safety, health, transportation and environmental issues in all industries, government, labor, health care and education. For more information please go to www.asse.org.