Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
Between
Southern African Institute for Occupational Hygiene (SAIOH)
And
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

The Southern African Institute for Occupational Hygiene (SAIOH), which is responsible for continuing education, registration and certification of industrial hygienists in South Africa, and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), housed in the United States Department of Health and Human Services, (Participants) appreciate the importance of research and new knowledge in developing and applying preventive measures in occupational safety and health, and share a common mission to contribute to the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases. This understanding is based on the common belief that heightened cooperation between the Participants should contribute to improved individual and mutual needs, subject to the strategic priorities and budgetary resources of each Participant. SAIOH and NIOSH plan to cooperate to use their collaborative efforts and expertise to advance the protection of workers and to promote best practices to improve worker safety and health.

This cooperation may consist of the following:

i. Development and dissemination of information on worker safety and health at appropriate conferences and through multiple media, including NIOSH and SAIOH publications, newsletters, and websites;

ii. Participation at conferences, meetings and other key events where occupational safety and health issues, especially those related to industrial hygiene, are addressed;

iii. Promotion and facilitation of the transfer and implementation of research results;

iv. Discussion of opportunities for enhancing industrial hygiene capacity;

v. Exploration of scientific activities of shared common interest, including practical industrial hygiene/occupational safety and health approaches in construction, nanotechnology;

vi. Exchange of information related to technical approaches addressing worker exposure to crystalline silica and chemicals during hydraulic fracturing (“fracking”), as this process of accessing oil and gas from shale formations has increased substantially in the U.S. in the past 10 years, and is in the initial stages in South Africa;

vii. Identification of opportunities for transferring and promoting occupational safety and health knowledge/findings;

viii. Promotion of the dissemination of information in the area of occupational safety and health via all types of media;

ix. Sharing and exchanging occupational safety and health related information resources; and

x. Identification of other areas for future collaboration and the establishing of the appropriate mechanisms for facilitating those efforts.
SAIOH and NIOSH plan to work together to develop a plan of action and discuss targets for the activities and initiatives covered in this MOU.

This arrangement is to continue for a period of 5 years, and may be discontinued by SAIOH or by NIOSH by giving 90 days written notice to the other participant. In the event of termination of this MOU, the validity and duration of ongoing projects are not to be affected, unless the Participants mutually agree otherwise. This MOU may be modified in writing and signed by both SAIOH and NIOSH.

This MOU is not intended to create obligations under the laws of South Africa, the laws of the United States or international law. The anticipated activities are subject to the availability of funds and other resources.

To facilitate the fulfilment of the intentions in this MOU, the liaison for NIOSH is Leslie Nickels, Associate Director, Research Translation Office and Co-Coordinator, Office of Global Collaborations, 395 E Street SW, Patriots Plaza 1, Suite 9200, Washington, DC 20201, Phone: (202) 245-0654. The liaison for SAIOH is Claudina Nogueira, Southern African Institute for Occupational Hygiene, 36 Gazelle Close, Corporate Park South, Old Pretoria Road, Midrand, 0157, Phone: +27(0)71 672 4916.

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