

Expertise

- Environmental Health & Safety
- Loss Control
- Indoor Air Quality
- Mold
- Asbestos
- Construction Health & Safety
- Industrial Hygiene
- Silica Dust

Philip Platcow, MS, CIH | Senior Vice President - Health & Safety

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BIOGRAPHY

Mr. Platcow, CIH, MS has 34 years of professional experience as a leader in industrial hygiene, safety, and occupational and environmental health. He is a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) and has worked across a range of industries including manufacturing, energy, oil and gas, insurance, construction, and food and beverage. He has served as the Global Director of Health and Safety for several environmental, health and safety consulting, construction management, and architectural/engineering firms. In these roles, he has assessed risk and exposures, and established safety culture and policies based on best practices for the work environments of his firms and clients. He has created a specialty in the area of people-based safety culture. The corporate programs for which he has served as architect have been judged world-class by clients. He has also spoken on health and safety considerations in mergers and acquisitions.

As a CIH and safety practitioner, he has led countless facility, construction, and process audits. Audits have included examining processes and equipment, work procedures, program documentation and often also conducting exposure assessments, both qualitative and quantitative, covering a diverse array of chemical compounds, such as heavy metals, organics, and asbestos; physical agents, such as noise, heat and cold stress; and ergonomics; as well as mold. His work has taken place in manufacturing and industrial settings, as well as on construction sites or environmental remediation projects.

Mr. Platcow has more than 30 years of staff mentoring, and financial expertise based on the concepts of sustainability, profitability, engaging communications, and quality programming. He is adept at interacting with contractors and clients at all levels. He considers travel a welcome part of relationship building.

Since coming to VERTEX in 2016, Mr. Platcow has collaborated with senior leadership and colleagues to enhance our People-based Safety Culture evolving tools that contribute to hazard recognition, assessment and control; leadership engagement with junior staff; and growing awareness of safety in all aspects of our business. His work externally has covered a range of challenging client projects from traditional safety topics on construction sites to assessing potential exposure to air pollutants when building near interstate highways; indoor air quality concerns in financial services institutions to industrial hygiene exposures in distribution center truck garages; health and safety exposures in excavations to evaluating medical surveillance programs for specialized manufacturing.

EDUCATION/TRAINING

M.S., Work Environment, University of Massachusetts, Lowell, MA
 B.S., Environmental Health Technology, Quinnipiac University, Hamden, CT
 Summer Semester, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

LICENSES/CERTIFICATIONS

Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH)

SPECIAL TRAINING

OSHA 40-Hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training and 8-Hour Refreshers
 OSHA 30-Hour Construction Safety Training

ASSOCIATIONS

American Board of Industrial Hygiene – Certified Industrial Hygienist in Comprehensive Practice
American Industrial Hygiene Association

- National Legal Issues Committee
- National Respiratory Protection Committee, National Practices, Standards & Guidelines Committee, Past Chair.
- Worked to establish guidelines and standards that guide the practice of industrial hygiene internationally.

PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS**Environmental Health and Safety Program Management**

Plating and Surface Finishing, Published by the American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society, "Making Health and Safety Work For Your Business", August 2001.

The Synergist, an American Industrial Hygiene Association publication, "Challenges in Environmental Health and Safety Program Integration", December 1997.

Exposure Limits for Extended Work Shifts

Dimensions in Risk Management, Sedgwick magazine. "Measuring and Controlling Chemical Exposures Under Extended Work Shifts", Summer 1996.

Personal Protective Equipment

Industrial Waste Water. "Addressing Noise Issues". April 1998.

Plating and Surface Finishing, journal of the American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society, "Regulatory Changes in Respiratory Protection" October 1997.

Dimensions in Risk Management. "Hearing Conservation Requirements". Fall 1997.

International Labour Office Encyclopedia of Occupational Health and Safety, 4th Edition. Published in Geneva, Switzerland. "Surface Treatment of Metals" and "Welding Health and Safety". December 1997.

Industrial Hygiene and Safety

ECON Magazine. "Increasing Challenges for Safety Professionals". March 1994.

Environmental Health & Safety Program Management

Presented a platform talk on "Health & Safety Considerations of Mergers and Acquisitions" at the All-Day Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exhibition of the New England and Connecticut Valley Chapters of the American Industrial Hygiene Conference in October, 2016 in Sturbridge, MA.

Presented roundtable discussion of the "Health & Safety Considerations of Mergers and Acquisitions" at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference in May, 2016 in Baltimore, MD.

Presented "Designing Health, Safety and Environmental Protection into Systems" at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference in May, 1998 in Atlanta, GA.

Led a discussion on "Environmental Health and Safety Program Integration" at the National Safety Congress in Chicago, October 1997.

Presented a professional development course on "Environmental Health and Safety Program Integration" at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference in Dallas, May 1997.

Presented seminars on Industrial Hygiene Program Development, and Anatomy and Physiology for the Massachusetts Safety Council in Braintree, February and March, 1997.

Presented "Health and Safety Integration" at the American Electroplaters and Surface Finishers Society annual convention, SURFIN, in Cleveland Ohio, June 1996.

Industrial Hygiene and Safety

Played the role of an expert witness in the "Mock Trial - Use of Expert IH Testimony in a Wrongful Termination Case" at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition in Philadelphia, PA, 2018.

Participated as Plant Manager at a wastewater treatment facility in a "Mock Trial - Death in the Desert — OSHA Review Board Case" at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition in Seattle, WA, 2017.

Played a lead role in the "Mock Trial: Industrial Hygiene Expert Witness Testimony in Deposition and Trial" at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exposition in Salt Lake City, UT, 2015. Presented courses on "Hazard Communication", "Personal Protective Equipment", "Exposure Assessment", and "OSHA Training Requirements" at the conference co-sponsored by the US EPA and the American Electroplating and Surface Finishers Society in Orlando FL, January 1998.

Conference chair for the 1996 US EPA and the American Electroplating and Surface Finishers Society conference OSHA Issues session on "EHS Issues at Disney World", including a tour of the "backstage" manufacturing areas. Orlando FL, January 1996.

Presented "Qualitative Worker Exposure Assessment, Another Industrial Hygiene Approach" at the annual American Electroplating and Surface Finishers Society convention in Indianapolis, Indiana, June 1994.

Exposure Limits for Extended Work Shifts

Presented "Establishing Chemical Exposure Limits for Extended Work Shifts" for the Connecticut River Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association in Hartford, January 1998

Presented "Establishing Chemical Exposure Limits for Extended Work Shifts" at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference in Dallas, May 1997. Judged Best Technical and Visual Presentation of the technical session.

Personal Protective Equipment

Presented "OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard" at the Georgia Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, May 1998.

Presented "Update on Regulatory Changes in Respiratory Protection" and "Noise and Hearing Conservation Review" at the conference co-sponsored by the US EPA and the American Electroplating and Surface Finishers Society in Orlando FL, January 1997.

Roundtable on "Personal Protective Equipment" at the American Electroplating and Surface Finishers Society conference in Orlando, FL, February 1995.