Understanding Small Enterprises Conference 2017
Call for Abstracts
Submission Deadline: January 15, 2017

On October 25–27, 2017 the Center for Health, Work & Environment and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health will host the fourth international Understanding Small Enterprises (USE) Conference at the Curtis Hotel in Denver, Colorado.

USE 2017 is an international forum convening experts from around the world to share innovative ideas and best practices in occupational health and safety in small enterprises. This conference will bring together researchers, small business owners, government regulators, insurers, occupational health and safety professionals, and more. We also invite those interested in Total Worker Health®, including experts in occupational health psychology, organizational change management, and corporate social responsibility to join us for this event.

Abstracts

Researchers, practitioners, professionals, and students in the field of occupational health and safety are encouraged to submit abstracts on the conference theme “Worker Well-being and Sustainable Business Health: From Ideas to Achievable Reality.” Please see the “Conference Topics” section below for more information on conference topics.

Your abstract must:

• Include a descriptive title and a list of authors and institutions;
• Identify a main presenter. Please note: while multiple authors may be listed on your abstract, only one author may present at USE 2017;
• List three learning objectives for attendees;
• Indicate whether the abstract is being submitted for an oral or poster presentation (please note: if presenters choose oral or symposium format for submission and they are not selected, they may be assigned to present a poster instead);
• Not exceed 350 words;
• Abstracts must explain current research or practice and how it relates to a) the topic selected (please see the table below), b) the overall conference theme, “Worker Well-
being and Sustainable Business Health: From Ideas to Achievable Reality,” and c) occupational health and safety in small enterprises.

• Abstracts will be reviewed and graded based on overall quality of the topic, thematic relevance and the relevance to small enterprises.

All abstracts must be submitted electronically through the online portal no later than January 15, 2017. Presenters will be notified of their acceptance by March 1, 2017.

Key Deadlines

• January 15, 2017 – Deadline to submit an abstract
• March 1, 2017 – Notification of abstract acceptance
• March 31, 2017 – Last day to confirm presentation
• August 25, 2017 – Last day to withdraw abstract

Conference Topics

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<tr>
<th>OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Occupational Hazards and Exposures – Examining workplace hazards and exposures and how small enterprises can better protect workers.</td>
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<td>• Total Worker Health (TWH) Management – From leaders to human resource departments, understanding how TWH fits into management strategies.</td>
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<td>• Worker Well-Being – Interventions that target and evaluate impact on well-being.</td>
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<td>• Emerging Issues in the Workplace: Stress, Sleep, Mental Health – Interventions that focus on the intersection of personal health risk factors and injury, illness, and exposure.</td>
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<td>• Workers’ Rights – Examining how we protect and preserve workers’ rights.</td>
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<td>• Health and Safety Leadership and Culture – The role of leaders in establishing a culture of health and safety.</td>
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<td>• The Built Environment in Small Enterprises – Research and innovations that improve how the built environment impacts health promotion, health protection, and well-being.</td>
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<td>• Organization of Work – New approaches to running a business to optimize wellness, safety, and productivity through employee benefits, flex time, and more.</td>
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DIVERSITY & INCLUSION IN OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, SAFETY & WELL-BEING

• **Small Business and the Informal Economy** – Focusing on small businesses in developing nations.
• **Diversity and Inclusion** – Approaches to the health, safety, and well-being of a diverse workforce, including ethnic, minority, and LGBTQ communities.
• **Workers with Disability in Small Business** – Approaches to the health, safety, and well-being of workers with disabilities.
• **Aging Workers in Small Business** – Studies on how to optimize occupational safety and health and productivity for an aging workforce.
• **Women in Small Business** – Addressing the health, safety, and well-being of women in small enterprises, and their role in promoting and protecting worker health and safety.
• **Workers and Their Families** – Examining the role of working parents and opportunities for improving family health and safety through small enterprises.
• **Millennials in the Workplace** – The role of a health and safety culture in attracting and retaining millennial workers.
• **Vulnerable Workers** – Research examining the health risks, safety risks, and strategies for risk reduction for precarious and vulnerable workforces.

THE BUSINESS CASE

• **Return on Investment (ROI) and Value of investment (VOI)** – Research examining ROI or VOI in occupational safety and health systems and programs, specifically in small enterprises.
• **Recruitment, Retention and Engagement** – How do occupational health, safety, and wellness best practices in small enterprises improve recruitment and retention of employees? Studies examining the role of health promotion and safety programs in worker engagement.
• **Support Networks** – How small enterprises can access help with implementing safety and health programs.
• **Marketing and Communication of Health and Safety** – What influences employee
behavior? How do healthier companies market themselves for recruiting both employees and customers? Why is communication important for workplace health and safety?

- **The Role of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** – Approaches to including and improving worker safety and health as a component of CSR and the “triple bottom line.”

**PUBLIC–PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS**

- **Policy Issues** – Examining current policy issues in small enterprises including health information, return to work, and productive aging.
- **The Role of Government** – Exploring the role of government as it relates to occupational health and safety in small enterprises.
- **The Role of Public Health in Small Enterprises** – Examining the relationship between public health and small enterprises to improve worker health and safety.
- **Engaging Businesses to Improve Community Health** – Utilizing trade associations, small businesses, and economic development groups to bring health and safety to communities.

**Presentation Platform**

- **Oral Presentation** – Oral presentations will consist of 20 minute presentations with 10 minutes for questions per presenter. Oral presentations will be grouped together by conference organizers based on common topics and themes.
- **Poster Presentation** – poster presentations will allow for interactive discussions between presenters and attendees. Presenters should be available to discuss their work during the time as indicated on the event agenda.
- **Panel Discussion** – Panel discussions will consist of 3-4 speakers who will provide an interconnected discussion on related topics. Speakers who are interested in submitting a proposal for panel discussions will be asked to
upload a document that contains information that highlights their topic and credentials and background information for all speakers involved.

- **Industry Round Table Discussion** – Round table discussions where industry and business professionals have the opportunity to interactively discuss current practices, innovations, or research. Each presenter will facilitate three 30 minute discussions on the same topic to different groups during the session.

**Instructions for Submission**

During the submission process for your abstract you will be asked to do the following:

1. Select **one** topic within the conference theme
2. Select **one** presentation platform. Be prepared to upload the additional documents for submissions for panel discussions.
3. Be prepared to include a biography and credentials to support your abstract submission
4. All presenters must upload submissions on the online [Submittable](#) platform
5. Click [here](#) to get started.

**Contact**

Please contact [contact@useconference.com](mailto:contact@useconference.com) or 303.724.7814 with questions.