Robert joined WisCon as a health focused consultant in the summer of 2017. Robert graduated from the University of Utah’s Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health with a Masters Degree in Industrial Hygiene. He is also certified as both a safety professional (CSP) and industrial hygienist (CIH). Prior to joining WisCon he worked in variety of roles in environmental health, emergency management, and the oil and gas industries. He is also a US Air Force veteran. Outside of work, Robert enjoys spending time with his wife and family and loves the outdoors. He and his wife are working on a goal to visit all of the Nation’s National Parks.

Did you know that when you request WisCon services, those services are tailored to your individual request? Depending on your expressed needs, our program staff will help you determine if you want a safety-focused visit, health-focused visit, or a visit in both disciplines. Our team has both safety-focused and health-focused professionals.

From there, we’ll help you determine the scope of the visit. The visit will either be comprehensive (a.k.a. full) or limited in scope.

A comprehensive visit will be, well, comprehensive. The consultant will request copies of your written safety and health programs, training documents, and your injury and illness records. These may be requested prior to the visit so that the consultant can review them prior to their work on-site. While on-site, they will perform a walk-through of all areas of the facility to identify any hazards that are in plain sight. Health-focused visits will likely include prearranged employee exposure monitoring.

A limited scope visit only covers the areas and/or programs that you, the client, request. The consultant can come to your facility and look at one particular area or process. They can perform requested exposure monitoring. You could also have the consultant review specific written safety and health programs. A facility walk-through must occur even on a limited scope visit, but as you are in control of the visit, it only needs to include those areas that you want the consultant to see. Where exposure monitoring is being performed, the consultant must be allowed to see the monitored employees’ work area. Limited scope visits can also be conducted as a virtual visit, when exposure monitoring is not requested.

**Spotlight Corner—Robert Vercellino**

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In Workplaces:

Trying to understand requirements around fire safety can be difficult. Information coming from organizations like the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) can differ from OSHA which can differ from your local building codes, and requirements from one organization may differ from the others. WisCon can help you understand OSHA fire safety requirements that may impact your business. Please note, some industries and processes will require additional protections.

Here we will focus on laws that must be followed when fire extinguishers are in place at a facility, regardless of whether OSHA requires them to be there.

All fire extinguishers must be:
- Mounted,
- Easy to locate and identify,
- Accessible,
- Fully charged,
- In operable condition, and
- In their designated places at all time (except during use).

All fire extinguishers at your work site must be visually inspected monthly in addition to the required annual maintenance check. We’d recommend that you keep the records for these visual inspections for 12 months, approximately the life of the maintenance tag. WisCon can help you understand how these and other fire safety regulations impact your worksite through phone assistance, a virtual visit, or an on-site visit.

At home:

What about fire extinguishers in the home? If you live in a single family dwelling, there may be very little requirements for fire safety in your home. While there may not be many requirements, some preparation ahead of time may help save lives and reduce property loss in the event of a fire. The NFPA recommends you install a 2-A: 10-B:C fire extinguisher on every level of your home and that fire extinguishers are placed no more than 40 feet apart. If you have a garage or workshop at home, you may want a larger (3-A:40B:C) fire extinguisher because of the larger volume of flammable liquids. You may also choose to supplement with additional fire extinguishers in places where fires are likely to start including near the fireplace, in the kitchen, and places where electrical fires are common such as around the TV or gaming stations.

Wisconsin Offers the Wisconsin Exposure Notification App

What is the WI Exposure Notification App?

It’s a tool that alerts users of the app that they are a close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

How does the app work?

It uses Bluetooth low energy technology which allows for anonymous exchange of Bluetooth keys with nearby smartphones that have the app enabled. It does not collect location or personal information.

How does the app help users?

The app allows someone who has tested positive to anonymously report a positive test result. Once, that result is uploaded, the app will notify other app users who were in close proximity (6 ft. or less for 15 minutes or longer).

How can I join?

If you have an iPhone, users must go to settings and look for exposure notifications. From there the iPhone user would select turn on exposure notifications.

If you have an android phone you would need to download the app on the Google Play store. The app in the google store will say WI Exposure Notification.

How much does it cost to use this app?

It is free.

Does Bluetooth need to be turned on for the app to work?

Yes. Bluetooth is required to be turned on for the app to work.

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