



April 9, 2019

For Immediate Release

Contact: Bruce Donato, AHMP, <u>bdonato@kafirstaid.com</u> Richie Spangler, IHMM, <u>lspangl@sandia.gov</u> Gene Guilford, IHMM, <u>gguilford@ihmm.org</u> Chip Deale, AHMP, <u>cdeale@msp-amc.com</u>

AHMP and IHMM Announce Joint Ventures For Hazardous Materials Professionals

[Rockville, MD] Bruce Donato, Chair of the Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals [AHMP], and Richie Spangler, Chair of the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management [IHMM], announced today a series of joint ventures shared by the two groups whose purpose is to strengthen the certificants and members of both groups and bring greater collaboration and value to what both groups do for their communities of practice across the nation and around the world. We are stronger together.

- ✓ Government Affairs. With more than 9,000 professionals across the nation, the two groups will form a unified government affairs effort among AHMP members and IHMM certificants with staff support from Gene Guilford, Executive Director of IHMM. The unified group, initially of 12 professionals, will determine its scope of government affairs activities, form a national network of professionals to be watchful of activities in the various states, engage in state and federal legislative and regulatory activities that includes, but is not limited to, engaging all of our member participants focused on the most serious government relations challenges faced by our communities of practice.
- ✓ Affinity Programs. With more than 9,000 professionals across the nation, the two groups will form a unified affinity program designed specifically to leverage the numbers and strength of a unified effort to drive down the cost of the most commonly used commodities and services. Creating greater savings for members and certificants creates greater value for everyone being a part of the two groups and we are stronger together. We have already identified several areas where working together we can lower member costs and will create a robust, active program to add as many programs as our members and certificants demand.
- ✓ Education and Training. With more than 9,000 professionals across the nation, the two groups will form a unified *Hazardous Materials Society* for the purpose of organizing,

presenting and delivering an annual curriculum of education and training programs. The two groups are forming this unified effort to ensure that potential and current members and certificants can take advantage of the excellence in delivering the EHMM program as well as other programs for professional development as well as earning CEUs to maintain certifications around the country. For the first time, the two largest professional hazardous materials groups will work together to ensure that our communities of practice are served by programs that the Hazmat Society has reviewed, approved and delivered through one electronic marketplace.

Design and delivery of these three program areas begins immediately and launch of each will be jointly announced by IHMM and AHMP.

In April the two groups will announce additional unified programs encompassing tremendous enhancements to networking opportunities for our professionals, information services, and meetings and conferences. We have a number of initiatives underway to ensure that agencies of government recognize our activities, initiatives that will bring even greater value to members and certificants across America and around the world.

AHMP and IHMM believe that we are stronger together, and have already started working in areas where we can make that a reality and to benefit of all of our professionals in communities of practice in America and around the world.

XXX

AHMP: <u>https://www.ahmpnet.org/</u> IHMM: <u>https://www.ihmm.org/</u>