

# Marginalized workers in the global economy: protecting child workers, slaves, migrants and workers in the informal sector

Nearly 21 million people in the world are victims of forced labor and 152 million children perform child labor. Globally, there are over 214 million migrant workers, and the informal sector accounts for 60% of the world's work force. These groups generally do not receive the same level of hazard protection afforded to workers in standard employment. This symposium will explore conditions faced by these marginalized workers and what occupational hygienists can do to address them. The topic is important as a basis for policies and approaches to addressing health and safety problems of these groups. Expected outcomes are greater participant understanding of occupational hygienists' responsibilities for marginalized workers, including the relevance of professional ethics and codes of practice. After hearing from two speakers, participants will have an opportunity to ask questions and comment on the issues. The first speaker will cover *Occupational health challenges of informal work and child labour*, citing examples from Workplace Health Without Borders' international work. The second speaker will address *Global Marginalized Workers and the Role of Occupational Hygienists in Identification and Protection*, covering migrant and slave labour, and relevant standards and codes of practice.

## Child Labour and Workers in the Informal Economy

Marianne Levitsky (Workplace Health Without Borders/ECOH, Canada)

## Occupational Hazards to Migrant Workers

Thomas Fuller (Illinois State University, USA)

### MODERATOR



Marianne Levitsky

Marianne Levitsky was the founding President of Workplace Health Without Borders, a non-profit organization that engages volunteers in promoting occupational health for workers everywhere. A senior associate with ECOH, an Ontario consulting firm, she was previously Director, Prevention Best Practices in the Ontario Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, an occupational hygienist with the Ontario Ministry of Labour, and a co-founder of the Toronto Workers' Health and Safety Legal Clinic. She is adjunct faculty at the University of Toronto and was a member of the Toronto Board of Health. Marianne has received the Hugh Nelson award for excellence in occupational hygiene from the Occupational Hygiene Association of Ontario and the Yant Award from the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA). She has served as chair of the AIHA International Affairs Committee and is an AIHA Fellow and Distinguished Lecturer.

### SPEAKER



Thomas Fuller

Dr. Thomas P. Fuller is a Certified Industrial Hygienist and Certified Safety Professional with over 38 years of experience in occupational hygiene and education. He is currently Professor of Occupational Safety and Health at Illinois State University in the USA. Dr. Fuller is the President of the International Occupational Hygiene Association (IOHA) and Chair of the Education Committee. He is a past chair of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) International Affairs Committee (IAC) and is the AIHA Ambassador to France, and Chair of the IAC Microgrant Subcommittee. Dr. Fuller is a member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the National Safety Council, and the journal of Occupational Hygiene Southern Africa. He is also a past President of the Board of Directors of the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health. As a member of the International Commission on Occupational Health he serves on the Industrial Hygiene Committee. He is also on the board of the Occupational Hygiene Training