

# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION DETAILS

## CONFERENCE FEES:

OHSI Members €70

Non –Members €100

Full Time Students / Retired Members €10

Please register to attend  
the virtual event  
via the OHSI website

<http://www.ohireland.org/>

For conference enquiries please email:  
[anne.moore@gasnetworks.ie](mailto:anne.moore@gasnetworks.ie)

## OCCUPATIONAL HYGIENE SOCIETY OF IRELAND

The Occupational Hygiene Society of Ireland (OHSI) was formed in 1986. Its membership comprises broad interest groups including occupational hygienists, occupational physicians, scientists and occupational health and safety practitioners. The Society provides a consultative forum for the exchange of information and ideas for the control of occupational ill health. The Society is a member of the International Occupational Hygiene Association (IOHA) whose function is to promote and develop occupational hygiene throughout the world, promote the exchange of occupational hygiene information and ensure a high ethical standard. The IOHA has members in 23 countries worldwide.

### The aims and objectives of the Society are:

- To raise awareness of the health effects associated with a working environment.
- Promote the science of occupational hygiene as an entity within the broad area of occupational safety and health in Ireland.
- Provide a forum for the exchange of information and updating of current developments in occupational hygiene.
- Organise scientific meetings on specific subject areas.

**This conference contributes CPD points towards BOHS, IOSH and AIHA OHSI contact details:**

[info@ohireland.org](mailto:info@ohireland.org) and [www.ohireland.org](http://www.ohireland.org)



[www.linkedin.com/in/occupational-hygiene-society-of-ireland-62855839](https://www.linkedin.com/in/occupational-hygiene-society-of-ireland-62855839)



[OHIreland](https://twitter.com/OHIreland)



OCCUPATIONAL  
HYGIENE SOCIETY  
OF IRELAND

## 29th ANNUAL CONFERENCE

# Occupational Hygiene and Pandemic Management

Wednesday 24th and  
Thursday 25th March 2021

VIRTUAL EVENT

## DAY 1 24<sup>th</sup> March 2021

9.00	<b>Day 1 Conference Opening</b> <b>Anne Moore OHSI Hon. President</b>
9.10	<b>Annual Tom O' Connor Lecture</b> <b>"Indoor Air Quality in Energy-Efficient Irish Residential Dwellings: Novel Approaches to Longer-Term Measurements" – Dr. James McGrath:</b> The presentation will focus on the challenges and opportunities for indoor environmental quality arising from the drive to make the Irish buildings stock more energy efficient. The talk will provide an overview of recent developments in low-cost sensor technology, comparing and contrasting with research-grade equipment. The talk will conclude with applications in collecting long-term data, including the ongoing data collection that has captured pre and post indoor air quality data on COVID19 restrictions in Ireland.
9.55	<b>Hand Arm Vibration - Andrei Feraru</b> This presentation will introduce the Enhancement in Hand Arm Vibration Monitoring Technology and Technique by diving into some of the technical details of the relevant parameters of vibration exposure. The session will cover: the impact of grip strength, hand orientation, acceleration, time of exposure and the relevant human anthropometric data. The speaker will demonstrate the latest available technology and the software application built around it to help HSE professionals adopt a proactive approach to tool operators' wellbeing.
10:40	<b>Break</b>
11.00	<b>OHSI AGM</b>
11:15	<b>"EN689 and statistics for Occupational Hygienists workshop"</b> <b>Peter Knott</b> This session will cover the basics of occupational hygiene statistics, what some of the parameters mean and how to interpret them. We will then step through the application of EN689:2018 as an alternative exposure assessment strategy to the NIOSH/AIHA approach. The session will then cover some persistent issues including: What (not) to do with censored data - making up results that don't belong and their effects on your inferences Within- and Between- worker variance; what this means for compliance in SEGS and individual health risk and outliers The session will finish with an introduction of the Expostats web application and other suggested applications for analysing OH data.
12:55	<b>Close of Day 1 of conference</b> <b>by Nuala Flavin OHSI Hon President</b>

## DAY 2 25<sup>th</sup> March 2021

9:00	<b>Day 2 Conference Opening</b> <b>Nuala Flavin OHSI Hon. President</b>
9:10	<b>"COVID-19: Transmission and environment. PROTECT – Partnership for Research in Occupational, Transport, Environmental COVID Transmission (PROTECT)" - Dr. Martie Van Tongeren:</b> Since the appearance of SARS-CoV-2, researchers have been attempting to identify the most important routes of transmission for the virus. The talk will discuss the development of effective strategies to block these routes, specifically in the public transport sector, both in terms of workers and passengers.
9:55	<b>"Mobile Working" Colin Roche:</b> Mobile working is on the increase due to developments in technology and this brings forth new challenges for workers and their employers. Colin will address the issues involved, how technology and people interact, the legal requirements of mobile working and how best to address the unique issues and hazards to ensure we are taking care of our health and safety.
10:40	<b>Break</b>
11:00	<b>"The use and efficacy of respiratory protective equipment in the COVID-19 pandemic. " - Paul T.J. Scheepers:</b> The importance of the use of respiratory protective equipment, as well as the efficacy of these masks, has been a topical issue during the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. This talk will address the development of a fast and sensitive test method for comparative performance testing of total inward leakage (filter penetration and face seal leakage) using a jet spray of water droplets of 1-100 µm with a fluorescent marker to reflect virus load. This model was then used to test FFP2 respirators and surgical masks, with and without face shields, to evaluate their ability to reduce exposures.
11:45	<b>Covid 19 and Pandemic Planning Panel Discussion</b> <b>Panel :</b> <b>Michael Gillen, IBEC</b> <b>Owen Wilson, Head of Safety, Gas Networks Ireland</b> <b>Paul O'Sullivan - EHS Manager JNJ</b> <b>Dr. Martie Van Tongeren</b> <b>Paul T.J. Scheepers</b> <b>Facilitator: Michael Gillen, IBEC</b>
1pm	<b>Close of conference</b> <b>by Nuala Flavin OHSI Hon President</b>

## SPEAKERS

**Colin Roche:** An engineer in the Air Corps in charge of technical training. He has a diploma and masters from UCD in Health and Safety and is involved in safety training. He has an interest in keeping safety professionals as well as himself up to date in developments in safety.

**Paul Scheepers:** Paul obtained his MSc (cum laude) in environmental sciences at Wageningen University and Research. In 1994 he obtained his PhD with a study on diesel exhaust exposure monitoring. In 1994 he was appointed assistant professor in toxicology at the Radboud University. In 2002 he started the research group Risk Assessment and Molecular Epidemiology and in 2005 he founded the Research Lab Molecular Epidemiology at the Radboud university medical center (Radboudumc). In 2007 he was appointed associate professor in risk assessment and molecular epidemiology. He is registered toxicologist (ERT) and occupational hygienist (RAH).

**Peter Knott MClinEpid COH<sup>®</sup> MAIOH:** Peter is a Certified Occupational Hygienist (COH)<sup>®</sup> and a member of the Australian Institute of Occupational Hygienists for over 30 years. He is currently a consulting occupational hygienist with GCG Health Safety Hygiene. Peter has represented industry bodies on Australian Standards committees for workplace atmospheres, respiratory protection and hearing protection.

**Andrei Feraru:** Managing Director of Feraru Dynamics Ltd. A young & passionate Mechanical Engineer that set out to improve the ISO standards by bringing the latest technology into monitoring hazardous exposures. Andrei is the named inventor on the patent application that details the Enhancement in Hand Arm Vibration Monitoring Technology and Technique.

**Dr. Martie Van Tongeren:** Martie van Tongeren is Professor of Occupational and Environmental Health. He leads The Health and Occupation Research network (THOR), which is a national occupational health surveillance scheme in the UK and collects medically certified data on occupational disease. His main expertise is in occupational and environmental exposure assessment and he has collaborated in a wide range of international collaborations, including epidemiological projects (occupational exposures and brain tumours), health impact assessment (SHECAN – health and economic impact assessment of changes to the EC carcinogen directive) and risk assessment of nanomaterials.

**Dr James A. McGrath (BSc, PGDip, PhD, MinstP, CPhys:** James is currently working as a research fellow at the National University of Ireland Galway, where he has accumulated over 12 years' experience working in the field. His current research activities comprise of a number of different research areas: i) the knowledge gap between energy performance, risk of overheating and indoor environmental quality; ii) the trade-offs between natural, hybrid and mechanical ventilation systems; iii) the application of recent developments in indoor air quality sensor technology (low-cost remote sensors) to obtain large scale data collection; iv) new methodologies to reduce radon measurement durations that are still representative of the annual radon concentration.

**Owen Wilson:** Owen Wilson is the Networks Safety Manager with Gas Networks Ireland, the natural gas network operator in the Republic of Ireland. Owen completed his degree in Civil and Structural Engineering, before working for 8 years as a pipeline and subsea engineering consultant in the North Sea oil and gas industry. In 2004, Owen moved to Ireland to work for Gas Networks Ireland (formerly Bord Gáis Networks), where he now manages a team of occupational and process safety specialists providing advice, support and assurance functions to the organisation, as well as managing Gas Networks Ireland's public safety promotion and awareness campaigns.

**Paul O'Sullivan:** Paul is EHS Manager at the Janssen Pharmaceuticals site in Cork and has over 25 years' experience working in varied roles within the pharmaceutical, medical device manufacturing sectors. Paul currently manages a team of EHSS professionals supporting all aspects of Environment, Health, Safety compliance partnering closely with all key internal and external stakeholders.

**Michael Gillen:** Michael is a Senior Executive with BioPharmaChem Ireland (BPCI) where he has responsibility for environment, health & safety. He is also the head of occupational health & safety (OHS) policy in IBEC. He is an employer representative on the European Commissions' Advisory Committee on Safety & Health (ACSH) and was recently elected to be Deputy Chairperson and employers' spokesperson on the EU Agency for Safety and Health (OSHA) Management Board. He is chair of the REACH taskforce of the European Fine Chemicals Group and a former Deputy Chairperson of the Board of the Health and Safety Authority in Ireland. He has a BA (Mod.) and Ph.D. in Chemistry from Trinity College Dublin, a Diploma in SHWW from UCD and a Diploma in Employment Law from NCI.