



**Safety & Health Excellence Conference and Exhibition  
Schedule of Events ~ May 20-21, 2026**

Region 1 New England

Voluntary Protection Program Participants Association (VPPPA)

Regency Hotel & Spa

20 Milk St, Portland, ME 04101



Tentative AGENDA (5/15/2026 subject to change)

Day 1 - May 20, 2026					
Start Time	End Time	Event			Location
8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Attendee Registration		Foyer	Main Building - Second Floor
8:00 AM	12:30 PM	Exhibitor Registration and set-up		Foyer	Main Building - Second Floor
1:00 PM	2:00 PM	<b>Session A: KEYNOTE SPEAKER</b>		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
		<b>Topic: Transformational Safety Leadership: Building Workplace Occupational Safety and Health from the Inside/Out</b>			
		<i>Presenter: Scott Lesnick</i>			
2:00 PM	2:30 PM	Break & Exhibitor Hall		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
2:30 PM	3:30 PM	<b>Session B</b>		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
		<b>Topic: OSHA's VPP Readiness</b>			
		<i>Presenter: Andy Palhof (OSHA Region 1 VPP Manager)</i>			
3:30 PM	4:00 PM	Break & Exhibitor Hall		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
3:30 PM	5:00 PM	<b>ASSP Maine Chapter Meeting (Invitation Only - Contact Carl Delong)</b>		Regency Room	Main Building - First Floor
4:00 PM	5:00 PM	<b>Session C</b>		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
		<b>Topic: Region 1 VPPPA Annual Safety Business Meeting</b>			
		<i>Presenter: Board Members (All attendees welcome)</i>			
5:00 PM	6:00 PM	Social Reception & Exhibit Hall Opening		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
6:00 PM	8:00 PM	<b>Exhibitor Hall &amp; Networking Dinner &amp; SAFETY TRIVIA NIGHT</b>		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road

Day 2 - May 21, 2026					
Start Time	End Time	Event			Location
7:00 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast & Exhibit Hall		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
8:00 AM	3:00 PM	Attendee Registration		Foyer	Main Building - First Floor
7:00 AM	3:00 PM	Exhibit Hall Open		Foyer	Main Building - First Floor
8:00 AM	8:15 AM	Opening		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
		Welcome & Board Introductions			
		National VPPPA Updates/OSHA Boston Region Updates			
8:15 AM	8:30 AM	Transition to Main Building for Sessions		Ballroom	Main Building - First Floor
8:30 AM	9:30 AM	<b>Session D: Breakouts</b>			
		<b>Topic: Journey Toward Safety Excellence</b>		Regency Room	Main Building - First Floor
		<i>Presenter: Myron Harper, Cintas, National VPPPA Board</i>			
		<b>Topic: How Does Maintenance Excellence = Safety Excellence?</b>		Armory Room	Main Building - First Floor
		<i>Presenter: John Perrotti III, Fuss &amp; O'Neill Manufacturing Solutions, LLC</i>			
		<b>Topic: Ensuring Machine Safeguarding Programs are VPP STAR</b>		Atlantic Room	Main Building - Second Floor
		<i>Presenter: Jack Popp, CSP</i>			
9:30 AM	10:00 AM	Exhibitor Booth Visits & Break & Raffles		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
10:00 AM	11:00 AM	<b>Session E: Breakouts</b>			
		<b>Topic: Organizational Decision-making: Maintaining Benefit &amp; Risk Balance</b>		Regency Room	Main Building - First Floor
		<i>Presenter: Peter Susca, OpX Safety</i>			
		<b>Topic: Procedures of the Living Dead: The Science of Usability</b>		Armory Room	Main Building - First Floor
		<i>Presenter: Mike Hanna, Usability Mapping Inc.</i>			
		<b>Topic: Prevention Through Design - Moving from Hazard Management to Hazard Elimination</b>		Atlantic Room	Main Building - Second Floor
		<i>Presenters: Steve Gauthier</i>			
11:00 AM	11:30 AM	Exhibitor Booth Visits & Break & Raffles		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
11:30 AM	12:30 PM	<b>Session F: Breakouts</b>			
		<b>Topic: Leadership in Safety</b>		Regency Room	Main Building - First Floor
		<i>Presenter: Miriam Owens, Vermont OSHA</i>			
		<b>Topic: Radiation and Radiation Protection</b>		Armory Room	Main Building - First Floor
		<i>Presenter: Jay Peters, Haley &amp; Aldrich, Inc.</i>			
		<b>Topic: Technology is a Game Changer</b>		Atlantic Room	Main Building - Second Floor
		<i>Presenter: Jason McCree, Everguard AI</i>			
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	VPPPA and OSHA Region 1 Awards Luncheon & Exhibit Hall		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
1:30 PM	2:30 PM	<b>Session G</b>			
		<b>Topic: Panel Discussions: Living a Culture of Collaboration</b>		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road
		<i>Presenters: Jay Culbert, Jeff Houle, John Mullin, Matt Twerdy</i>			
2:30 PM	3:00 PM	Wrap Up & Agenda Overview & Raffles		Ballroom	Mariners Ballroom - Across the road