

Chrysoula J. Komis, PhD, MS, CIH, CSP, CHMM, RBP
Senior Scientist

Summary of Qualifications

- 30+ years delivering IH and Safety services, working with more than 300+ clients in refineries, chemical plants, pharmaceuticals, foundries, food industry, and light manufacturing
- 30+ years service with OSHA, specializing in OSHA Enforcement Programs, OSHA Compliance and Litigation Support services with the Department of Labor, Office of the Regional Solicitor
- Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Manager and VPP Team Leader for Region III, specializing in the implementation of exemplary safety and health programs and injury reduction
- Adept at hazard and exposure assessment techniques, chemical hazard information, training, ergonomics evaluation, and health and safety audits
- Visiting and Adjunct professor at Temple University in Departments of Public Health and Civil and Environmental Engineering

Professional Certifications/Associations

- Certified Industrial Hygienist - Comprehensive Practice - American Board of Industrial Hygiene (1989)
- Certified Safety Professional – Comprehensive Practice - Board of Certified Safety Professionals (1990)
- Registered Biosafety Professional – American Biological Safety Association (1998)
- Certified Hazardous Materials Manager - Institute of Hazardous Materials Managers (1990)
- Certified Hazard Control Manager - Hazard Control Management Certification Board (1989)
- Member, American Academy of Industrial Hygiene
- Member, American Industrial Hygiene Association, National & Philadelphia Chapter
- Member, American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH)
- Member, Mid-Atlantic Biological Safety Association



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Professional Highlights

COLDEN CORPORATION

A senior scientist and project manager, Dr. Komis serves as a member of the Litigation Support Practice Group. Her role also includes hazard assessment and health and safety auditing. In that realm, she is familiar with and has used the following standards and guidelines as auditing criteria: OSHA General Industry, OSHA Construction, Executive Order 12196 29 CFR1960 Basic Program Elements for Federal Employees, ANSI, ASME, CGA, NFPA, ASHRAE and others.

Hazard Assessment and Health and Safety Auditing – Performed safety and industrial hygiene assessments and audits in refineries, chemicals, foundries, foods manufacturing, steel production, furniture manufacturing, glass/ceramics, construction, and biological and chemical laboratories.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Komis served as the Region III Voluntary Protection Programs Manager responsible for the implementation of the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). She also served as a VPP Team Leader responsible for conducting VPP evaluations at industrial facilities performing both pre-approval and recertification evaluations. As part of her VPP activities, she conducted onsite evaluations, reviewed annual program evaluations from VPP participants, and taught numerous VPP training courses for Special Government Employees (SGEs) and VPP Application Workshops for the VPPPA.

As the Regional Industrial Hygiene Coordinator in Region III in Federal and State Operations, Dr. Komis was responsible for providing technical advice on adverse health effects of chemical and physical agents. She supported area offices in conducting technically complex field inspections and assisted in exposure assessments and risk characterization at a variety of work sites. She conducted internal OSHA Agency Audits to determine if OSHA National and Regional Office policies and procedures were followed.

Dr. Komis participated in special projects, prepared briefing papers, presented speeches and provided advice to the Assistant Regional Administrator on significant program, policy and technically complex health issues. She participated in settlement negotiations with the Regional Solicitor's Office in the settlement of technically difficult health cases to assure favorable settlements. As the Superfund/RCRA/Hazardous Waste Coordinator, Dr. Komis conducted specialized training for compliance personnel who perform hazardous waste inspections and emergency response.

Prior to her work as the Regional Industrial hygienist, Dr. Komis was the Philadelphia Area Office Health Supervisor/Assistant Area Director and served the Agency as a Compliance Safety and Health Officer.

- Audited many industry sectors including refineries, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, electronics, steel, battery plants, foundries, heavy and light manufacturing
- Conducted informal and formal settlement conferences and testified in administrative hearings regarding cited occupational hazards

USDA-AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICES

Dr. Komis was the Occupational Health and Safety Manager for the Agricultural Research Service Laboratories-North Atlantic Region. She was responsible for planning, organizing, directing, implementing and evaluating a comprehensive safety and health program for 13 laboratories in the North Atlantic Area including the nation's premier biosafety laboratory at Plum Island in Greenport, New York. The USDA sites, she provided safety and health services to included full-service analytical and research laboratories and extension stations.

- Program activities included accident and fire prevention, biosafety, radiation safety, chemical hygiene, ergonomics, hazard and risk assessment, industrial hygiene surveys, asbestos abatement, indoor air quality, medical surveillance, hearing conservation and environmental compliance activities including emergency planning, community right to know, air pollution, and hazardous waste disposal. Examples of tasks Dr. Komis completed at these site included
 - Auditing of chemical exposures in analytical laboratory personnel performing key analyses
 - Served on the site's safety review committee, including biosafety, which considered the safety and health impacts of all proposed research and analytical projects
 - Review of reproductive hazards to specific employees as requested by the site physician
 - Investigation of occupational illnesses and injuries as requested
 - As the Safety Committee Chair and Radiation Protection Officer, she was responsible for providing advice and guidance on radiation safety and conducted radiological safety monitoring and training
 - Participated in special projects, prepared briefing papers, provided expert advice, presented speeches and presented technical training in areas of safety and health
 - Other evaluations involving chemical synthesis and traditional food safety pilot operations, biosafety and noise exposures

TEMPLE UNIVERSITY, PHILADELPHIA, PA

Dr. Komis has developed and continues to teach courses in the Environmental Health/Public Health Masters and Doctoral Program. Graduate courses that she has taught in the last 14

years include: Environmental and Occupational Toxicology, Industrial Hygiene Seminar, Medical Aspects of Industrial Hygiene, Industrial Hygiene Sampling Methods/Analytical Instrumentation Laboratory, and Industrial Safety. She also teaches undergraduate courses in the Civil and Environmental Engineering Department which include: Environmental & Construction Safety and Introduction to the Environment. She serves as advisor to students on course selection, career development and on curriculum matters. Dr. Komis has served as the academic doctoral and masters thesis advisor to many students.

Additional Experience

Hazard Assessment – Dr. Komis has performed many hazard-specific assessments. She performed safety and industrial hygiene assessments in refineries, foundries, foods manufacturing, steel production, furniture manufacturing, chemical, glass/ceramics, construction, and biological and chemical laboratories among others.

Safety and Health Auditing – Dr. Komis has performed regulatory, OSHA Voluntary Protection Program and good practice audits at many types of facilities including NASA, US Postal Service and US Army sites, foundries, paper and wood product manufacturing, food manufacturing, truck manufacturing, steel bridge and concrete plants. Other types of industries audited include chemical, refineries, plastics, and waste management, furniture, apparel and assembly facilities.

Chemical Hazard Information – Dr. Komis has provided outreach and current information on the toxic and physical hazards associated with workplace chemicals.

Occupational Safety and Health Program Evaluation– Dr. Komis has evaluated occupational safety and health programs. He has assisted companies interested in the VPP to create facility-specific safety and health management programs which also included hazard communication, specific toxic substances, respiratory protection, OSHA laboratory standard compliance, personal protective equipment, lock out/tag out of energy sources, confined space entry, emergency response, bloodborne pathogens, fall protection, ergonomics, industrial noise and others.

Ergonomics Evaluations – Dr. Komis has performed ergonomic risk assessments and helped facilities reduce risk factors associated with ergonomic hazards. She has provided guidance to companies with developing and implementing ergonomic programs that have lead to significant reduction in ergonomic related injury and illness.

Safety and Industrial Hygiene Training – Dr. Komis prepares and presents program implementation training for employees and management. Training has been provided on many aspects of safety and health. Dr. Komis has provided VPP Application Workshop training, training to Special Government Employees on becoming VPP Team members. She has also provided training to OSHA personnel on VPP safety and health program procedures. Lastly, as a college professor of occupational health and safety at Temple University, she has taught courses and many aspects of industrial hygiene and safety.

Education

- Drexel University
Doctor of Philosophy, Industrial Hygiene and Toxicology (1993)
- Drexel University
Master of Industrial Hygiene (1978)
- Marist College
Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science and Biology (1976)

Presentations and Publications

- Exposure Assessment of Workers at Hazardous Waste Sites Based on Concurrent Environmental Monitoring and Breath Sampling. Chrysoula J. Komis, Ph.D. Dissertation, Drexel University, Philadelphia, PA, (1993)
- The Regulatory Framework: Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Chrysoula J. Komis and Barry F. Scott in Asbestos: The Hazardous Fiber, (Ed): Melvin A. Benarde, CRC Press, Boca Raton, Florida, (1990)
- Exposure Assessment of Workers at Hazardous Waste Sites Based on Concurrent Environmental Monitoring and Breath Sampling. Presented at the AIHA Conference in New Orleans, LA 1993
- VPP Overview Presented to AIHA Philadelphia and Delaware Local Chapters, 2000 and 2006
- VPP Overview Presented to ASSE Philadelphia Local Chapter 2006
- Invited speaker to teach and to present seminars on industrial hygiene and occupational health at the University of Pennsylvania, Drexel University, Millersville University and Stockton College
- Presenter at the Region III VPPPA Conferences between 2000 and 2007, including as an instructor for the VPP Application Workshop, Special Government Employee 3-day training class, and presentations on VPP Annual Self-Assessments, VPP Recertification evaluations, OSHA 101 for the VPP, Contractor Participation in the VPP, Employee Involvement in safety and health programs, among other presentations at the VPPPA Conferences