

Letter from the President:

Welcome back! We are all so excited for the upcoming year. This year we have great speakers on the agenda, a strong membership drive, and the vision to support the area hotels and industries to fight against tax increases and legislative issues. We want to be your voice, that is what we are here for. We are the Baton Rouge Hospitality Management Association and all of you who are members both hotel and allied, are represented by this association. We look forward to doing great things this year with our mission of "Creating a unified hospitality industry through business partnerships, collaboration, continuing education, and networking."

Janet Schwartz
2005 President BRHMA

An Illuminating Fact

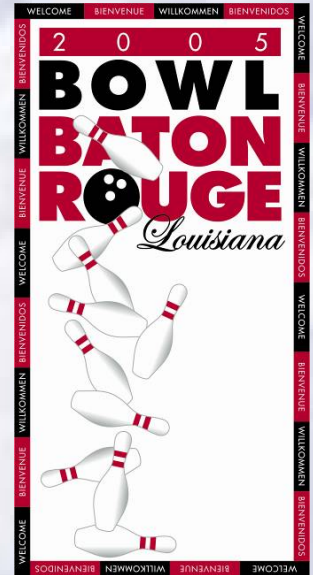
The City of Baton Rouge Planning and Zoning Commission appointed a Zoning Advisory Subcommittee who have been working on an Outdoor Lighting Ordinance for the past two (2) years and which, as it is written, would be detrimental to all existing hotels and businesses. This ordinance was originally intended to prevent unwanted glare and light trespass to adjacent properties. The guidelines which were subsequently proposed imply that only certain amounts of "foot candles" and "lumens" will be allowed, effectively curtailing the types, kinds and amount of lights for hotel parking lots, buildings, free standing lights, ground or façade mounted lights, etc. that will be allowed for hotel properties. There are very few exceptions to this ordinance such as: street lights, church steeples, flags, airports, police departments, etc. This whole issue came to "light" in late October and a coalition of many concerned entities, including the Baton Rouge Hospitality Management Association are aware of this issue. We have had a series of meetings to oppose this ordinance, which we find to be totally unacceptable to our industry. If passed, this ordinance will greatly increase the cost of doing business. Having to "retrofit" all non-compliant light fixtures will not be something that can be done very cheaply. BRHMA is actively representing Hotels and Allied Members in the coalition to prevent unfair lighting ordinance restrictions on the hospitality industry.

Submitted by:
Margrett Fels, G.M. Best Western Chateau Louisianne
Executive Vice President, BRHMA

Bowl Baton Rouge Keycard Fundraiser in full swing!

This year's BRHMA keycard fundraiser features the "Bowl Baton Rouge" logo in support of the bowling convention that will make a huge impact on the industry this year. Thank you to all the hotels that ordered keycards!

- Baton Rouge Marriott
- Courtyard by Marriott- Acadian
- Best Western Chateau Louisianne
- Homewood Suites
- Holiday Inn South



Upcoming Events and Speakers

General Meeting March 10: Bill Langkopp from the Louisiana Hotel and Lodging Association at De La Ronde Hall

General Meeting April 14: at Holiday Inn Select

Joint Meeting with Hospitality Sales Association May 12:
Dwight Brashear from Capital Area Transit Services (C.A.T.S.) at Sheraton Baton Rouge

HMA Summer Social: June 9, Location T.B.A.

OSHA Audits Hotels Too

An article provided and written by Dr. Adrian Estes, Director of Education and Safety, Sure Grip Floor Safety Solutions, Inc.

The hotel industry is not exempt for OSHA, as evident from the number of citations being issued. And, although the primary reason for OSHA showing up at a hotel to conduct a compliance audit is due to employee complaint- these complaints more often than not affect the facility engineer. So to better prepare you against an OSHA citation for non-compliance, let's review some of the common OSHA standards cited in the hotel industry for the past year. As you recall, the OSHA standards that affect the hotel industry are contained in Title 29 Code of Federal Regulations—Part 1910 (General Industry).

1910.22 Walking, Working Surface—General Requirements:

Housekeeping

*All places of employment, passageways, storerooms, and service rooms shall be kept clean and orderly and in a sanitary condition.

Aisles and Passages

*Where mechanical handling equipment is used, sufficient safe clearances shall be allowed for aisles, at loading docks, through doorways and wherever turns or passage must be made. Aisles and passageways shall be kept clear and in good repairs, with no obstruction across or in aisles that could create a hazard.

1910.37 Maintenance, Safeguards, and Operational Features for Exit Routes

The danger of employees must be minimized.

* Exit routes must be kept free of explosive or highly flammable furnishing or other decorations.

* Exit routes must be free and unobstructed. No materials or equipment may be placed, either permanently or temporarily, within the exit route.

1920.212 Machinery and Machine Guarding—General Requirements

Machine Guarding

* One or more methods of machine guarding shall be provided to protect the operator and other employees in the machine area from hazards such as those created by point of operation, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, flying chips and sparks.

* Abrasive wheel machinery shall be quipped with a work rest platform. Work rest platform shall be kept adjusted closely to the wheel with a maximum opening of one-eighth inch to prevent the work from being jammed between the wheel and the rest. Adjustment of the work rest platform shall not be made with the wheel in motion.

1910.242 Hand and Portable Powered Tools

General Requirements

* Each employer shall be responsible for the safe condition of tools and equipment used by employees, including tools and equipment which may be furnished by employees.

Compressed Air for Cleaning

* Compressed air shall not be used for cleaning purposes except where reduced to less than 30 p.s.i. and then only with effective chip guarding and personal protective equipment.

1910.303 Electrical

600 Volts, nominal, or less

* Minimum depth of clear working space in front of electric equipment shall not be used for storage.

1910.305 Electrical

Wiring methods, components, and equipment for general use (cabinets, boxes, and fittings)

* Conductors entering boxes, cabinets, or fittings shall also be protected from abrasion, and openings through which conductors enter shall be effectively closed. Unused openings in cabinets, boxes, and fittings shall be effectively closed.

These were the most common OSHA standards violated, which received citations-meaning these areas should be monitored frequently. OSHA's job is not to put companies out of business, their job is to ensure all working men and women have a safe place to work. To ensure this they have placed a responsibility of workplace safety on the employers. A responsibility the facility engineer must share.

A complete listing of the OSHA standards can be viewed on their website www.osha.gov.

Dr. Adrian Estes can be reached at safety1@flash.net

2005 BRHMA Executive Board:

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Baton Rouge Hospitality Management Association



INNspired

Baton Rouge Hospitality Management Association
Post Office Box 4092
Baton Rouge, LA 70821

Upcoming Events

General Meetings!

April 14th at Holiday Inn Select

May 12th at Sheraton Baton Rouge

RSVPs BRHMA 303-0164

Coming Soon!

Knowledge based message board to launch in March!

Login Soon to: www.brhma.org

BRAHMA Mission

Creating a unified hospitality industry through business partnerships, collaboration, continuing education, and networking.