

# ASSE's 2014 Triangle Award for Heroic Dedication Goes to Stefan Bright

**DES PLAINES, III.** (April 22, 2014) – The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is proud to announce Stefan Bright as the winner of the 2014 Triangle Award for Heroic Dedication for his role in establishing a field manual, training and standards that reduced fatalities among professional window cleaners by 30 percent over the last two decades.



Stefan Bright (center) receives the Triangle Award from American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) President Kathy Seabrook. Also present is (L to R): AISOHMEM President Victoriano Anguis, OSHA Deputy Assistant Secretary Jordan Barab and Canadian Society of Safety Engineers (CSSE) President Peter Strum.

Given in honor of the 146 victims of the 1911 Triangle Shirtwaist Factory Fire in New York City, ASSE's Triangle Award honors a safety, health and occupational professional who, in the course of going beyond his or her normally assigned duties, either prevents or minimizes physical injury, loss of life or substantial property damage in a workplace. In its second year, the Triangle Award was given to Bright on May 7 during North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week in Washington D.C.

"I've been at this a long time," said Bright, 53, of Howell, N.J. "I was one of the guys hanging off the side of a building. We were forced to figure it out. Every time I give a training session, someone says how much it's helped. It does make me feel good."

Bright, who received a record five Triangle Award nominations, is the safety director for Ohio-based International Window Cleaning Association (IWCA). Faced with increasing injuries and fatalities among window washers, Bright developed a field manual in 1992 outlining best practices.

In 1994, based largely on Bright's efforts with the IWCA, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recognized professional window washers as a highly skilled occupation. In 1996, Bright developed IWCA's Window Cleaner Safety Certification Program and in 2001 worked with the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) to create a new industry standard named IWCA I-14 Window Cleaning Safety. There are approximately 20,000 professional window washers in the U.S.

It's estimated that more than 5,000 copies of the standard have been sold and more than 6,700 window cleaning professionals have attended Bright's training seminars.

Founded in 1911, the Des Plaines-based ASSE is the oldest professional safety organization and is committed to protecting people, property and the environment. Its more than 36,000 occupational safety, health and environmental professional members lead, manage, supervise, research and consult on safety, health, transportation and environmental issues in all industries, government, labor, health care and education.