THE UPDATE

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The goal of our monthly update is to provide information on timely matters that may impact your practice and professional interests.

A NEW FALL STANDARD FROM ANSI

Newly approved American National Standard ANSI/ASSE A10.32.2004 " Fall Protection Systems for Construction and Demolition " has been published and is now available. It replaces ANSI A10.14-1991 the previous fall standard which although still cited by OSHA was administratively withdrawn by ANSI in June, 2002. The new A10.32 fall standard is stronger and is designed to move fall arrest/ protection forward on construction and demolition sites.

FINALISTS FOR GLOBAL ENERGY AWARDS ANNOUNCED

Platts ,a division of McGraw- Hill providing global energy information through its many publications e.g. BusinessWeek recently announced the finalists to its Global Energy Awards 2004. Platts Global Energy Awards ,recognized as the energy industry 's most prestigious awards program, will be presented in an evening ceremony being held on December 10, 2004 at the Plaza Hotel in New York City. Milton Meckler, Principal, Meckler Forensic Group is one of four finalists selected to receive Platts Lifetime Achievement Award. For additional details on judging criteria and the international panel of judges see www.globalenergyawards.com.

MICROJET ENGINES MAY POWER CELL PHONES

By spinning a tiny magnet above a mesh of interleaved coils etched into a wafer, engineers at Georgia Institute of Technology have constructed the first silicon-compatible device capable of converting mechanical energy, produced by a rotating micoturbine, into usable amounts of electrical energy. These microturbines according Georgia Tech engineers can pack at least 10 times more energy per unit volume of fuel than conventional lithium batteries and takes up less space.

SURETY SUES U.S. FOR OVERPAYMENT AND LOSES

American Insurance Company, acting as a surety on an Air Force construction contract, sought compensation from the United States for payments to the defaulted contractor that exceeded the percentage of work completed. The overpayment was within the contracting officer 's discretion

ruled a federal court. For details refer to: "www.constructionclaims.com/pub/2_41/court_opinions/341-1.html ".

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