

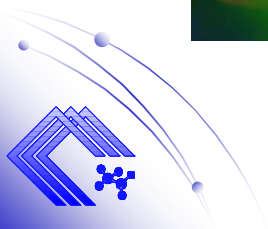
After NAFTA – Industrial Hygiene From the Other Side of the Border



Jorge A. Rodriguez, CIH
México



Laboratorio Microanalítico de Control



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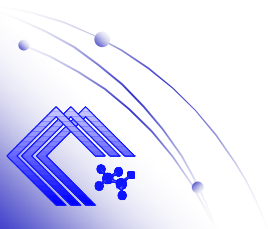
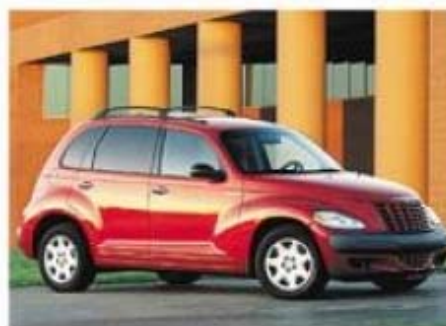
Who's afraid of NAFTA?



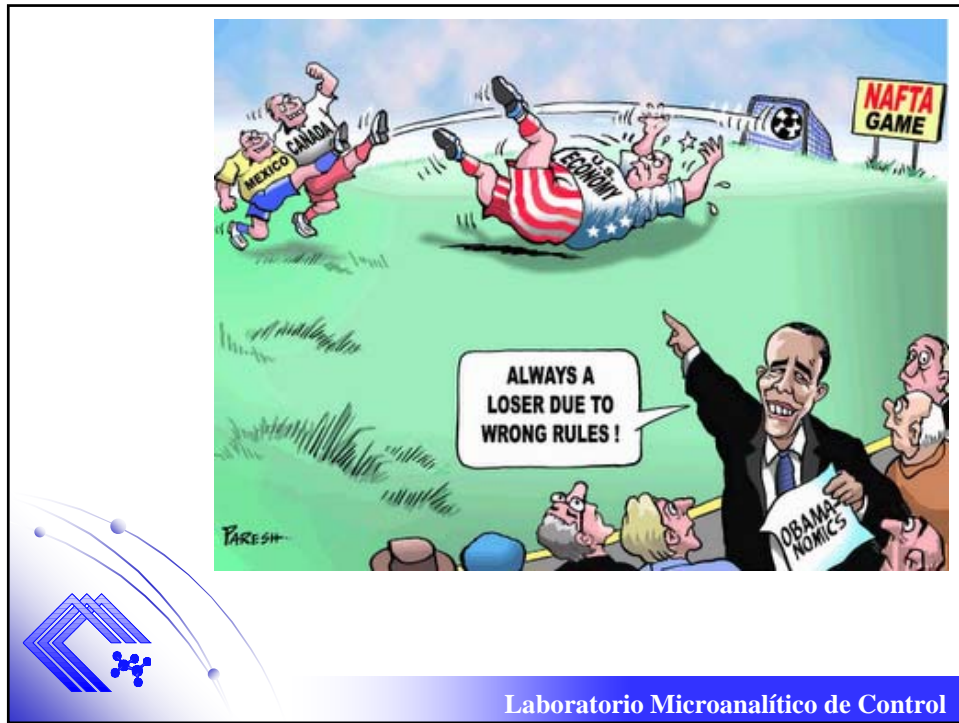
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VI-400™ Pro



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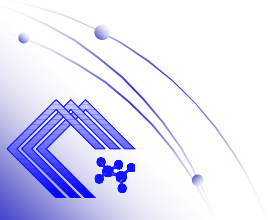




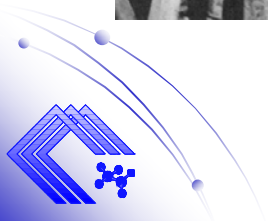
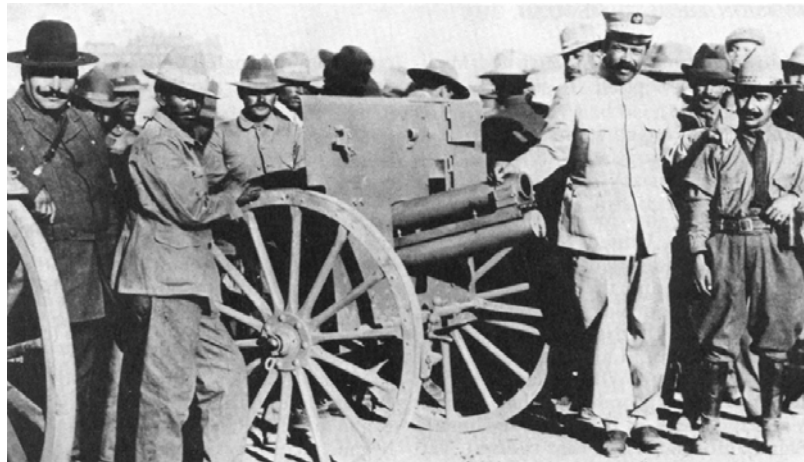
Industrial Hygiene practice has been improved in Mexico after NAFTA?

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Safety and Health in the workplace has been improved in Mexico after NAFTA?

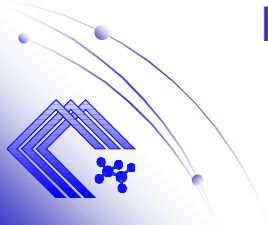


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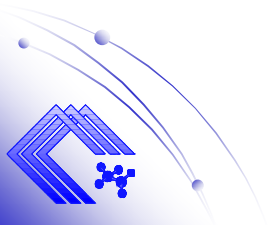
“employers shall comply with the regulations of safety and health matters in the workplace and implement the necessary controls to prevent accidents in the use of machinery, instruments and hazardous materials and shall organize the working environment in a way that assure as far as possible the safe and health of the workers”



Legal system based on common law



Legal system based on Romano-canonical procedure



Mexico's legal structure



- ⌘ Constitution (1917)
- ⌘ Federal Labor Law (1970)
- ⌘ General Regulation of the Federal Law for Health and Safety in the Workplace (1997)
- ⌘ Official Mexican Standards (Norma Oficial Mexicana – NOM)

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Official Mexican Standards



- ⌘ Firefighting equipment and materials
- ⌘ Machine Guarding
- ⌘ Personal Protective Equipment
- ⌘ Hazardous Materials Management
- ⌘ Hazard communications
- ⌘ Facilities
- ⌘ Etc.

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IH's Official Mexican Standards



- ⌘ Since 1984, Mexico has adopted permissible exposure limits for chemical substances based on the 1983-1984 ACGIH TLVs.
- ⌘ The permissible exposure limits has been updated in 1989 and 1999
- ⌘ Currently PELs are based on the 1998 ACGIH TLVs

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IH's Official Mexican Standards



- ⌘ Noise (90 dB(A), exchange rate 3 dB(A))
- ⌘ Ionizing radiation
- ⌘ Non-ionizing radiation (Values based on 1982 TLVs)
 - Radiofrequency and microwave radiation
 - Lasers
 - Ultraviolet radiation
 - Light and infrared radiation

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IH's Official Mexican Standards



- ⌘ Heat Stress
- ⌘ Cold Stress
- ⌘ Whole Body Vibration
- ⌘ Hand-arm Vibration
- ⌘ Lighting Levels

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Other Mexican Governmental Regulati



- ⌘ Social Security Law
- ⌘ General Health Law

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Enforcement

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The image features a golden scale of justice and a wooden gavel resting on a stack of books, symbolizing law and enforcement. The word "Enforcement" is written in white text on a dark blue background. The logo of the Laboratorio Microanalítico de Control is visible in the bottom left corner.



SECRETARÍA DEL TRABAJO Y PREVISIÓN SOCIAL STPS

IMSS

SALUD SECRETARÍA DE SALUD

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The image displays the logos of the Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social (STPS), the Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social (IMSS), and the Secretaría de Salud. The STPS logo features a stylized eagle and the text "SECRETARÍA DEL TRABAJO Y PREVISIÓN SOCIAL STPS". The IMSS logo shows a stylized human head profile with the text "IMSS". The Secretaría de Salud logo includes the word "SALUD" in a blue box, the Mexican coat of arms, and the text "SECRETARÍA DE SALUD". The logo of the Laboratorio Microanalítico de Control is visible in the bottom left corner.



The image displays two certification logos. The top logo is the ISO International Organization for Standardization logo, featuring a globe icon and the text "ISO International Organization for Standardization". Below it is a circular seal for "REGISTERED COMPANY ISO 9001:2000" with a checkmark. The bottom logo is a starburst seal for "ISO 14000" with a globe icon. A blue decorative graphic with lines and dots is on the left. A blue banner at the bottom contains the text "Laboratorio Microanalítico de Control".



The image shows a close-up of a hand tipping the first domino in a row of black dominoes. The background is a plain, light-colored surface. A blue decorative graphic with lines and dots is on the left. A blue banner at the bottom contains the text "Laboratorio Microanalítico de Control".

Voluntary programs



- ⌘ Occupational health and safety management systems
- ⌘ Corporate Social Responsibility
- ⌘ Good Corporate Citizenship
- ⌘ Sustainability



IH Laboratory Accreditation Program



- ⌘ ISO/IEC 17025
- ⌘ Mutual recognition arrangement with International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC)
- ⌘ U.S.A. signatories of ILAC Mutual recognition arrangement:
 - American Association for Laboratory Accreditation (A2LA)
 - National Voluntary Laboratory Accreditation Program (NVLAP)
 - International Accreditation Service (IAS)
 - Assured Calibration and Laboratory Accreditation Select Services (ACLASS)



IH Laboratory Accreditation Program



- ⌘ Sampling of chemical agents must be accredited together with analysis
- ⌘ Physical agents
- ⌘ Proficiency tests (under development)

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Third-party audit program for IH



- ⌘ ISO/IEC 17020 (Inspection bodies)
- ⌘ Auditors (Verification units) must be accredited
- ⌘ Ministry of Labor can inspect at any time although the facilities have been verified and complied with the mexican standards

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IH Certification program



- ⌘ Implemented by the Mexican Association of Industrial Hygienists (AMHI)
- ⌘ The AMHI has 130 members
- ⌘ Currently there are 9 industrial hygienists certified by AMHI



What we need to do?



- ⌘ Improve enforcement
- ⌘ Evaluate economic and technical feasibility of standards
- ⌘ Guidelines (How to comply with law)



Wish list



- ⌘ Domestic research body
- ⌘ Formal dissemination of information
- ⌘ Document the criteria used to issued standards

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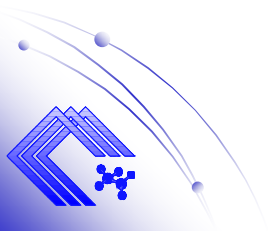


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Thank you



Jorge A. Rodriguez, CIH
Mexico



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