

## Contact:

Amanda Crater  
(510) 684-0954  
[cratercom@gmail.com](mailto:cratercom@gmail.com)

Phyllis Folb  
(310) 702-0644  
[pfolb@phylmar.com](mailto:pfolb@phylmar.com)

For Immediate Release

## **Severe Lack of Trained Environmental Professionals in China Prompts GE to Sponsor New AIHA Course Managed by The Phylmar Group**

*Course Just Completed in Shanghai as Part of New International Program Designed to  
Rapidly Train EHS Professionals*

**Los Angeles, CA (July 26, 2010)** Due to a severe lack of environmental health and safety (EHS) talent throughout the developing world, the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) has partnered with General Electric and The Phylmar Group, a Los Angeles-based environmental health and safety consultancy, to present a course that was successfully completed in Shanghai this month. Twenty five employees from major multinational corporations including Converse, Nike, ITT and GE completed the course, which was directed by Mark Katchen, Managing Principal of The Phylmar Group and a former Chair of the AIHA's International Affairs Committee.

The course is part of a new international initiative designed to rapidly train EHS technologists in developing regions where there is currently little EHS expertise. Demonstrating the importance of such a course in China, Yu Jie, Vice Secretary General of the China Occupational Safety and Health Association, flew from Beijing to attend the inaugural course.

“With only 13 certified industrial hygienists in all of China, it is practically an international emergency that we train and recruit more professionals in the field of environmental health and safety,” said Mark Katchen, who directed “The Measurement of Hazardous Substances” in Shanghai June 28-July 2, 2010. The course is the first of seven training modules that are part of an international program to quickly train EHS personnel in industrial hygiene.

"The need to build global professional capacity through education and training is vitally important to the EHS field at a time when corporations worldwide are recognizing the need to adhere to higher corporate social responsibility and safety standards," said Carol Tobin of the AIHA. "We are pleased with the overwhelmingly positive response to this first course and are proud to partner with The Phylmar Group and GE in this effort."

These courses will enable the rapid training of individuals with scientific backgrounds to the level of an occupational hygiene technologist and may be accepted at some universities as credit towards a masters degree. For more information, please click [here](#).

**About The Phylmar Group, Inc.**

The Phylmar Group® is an organization that partners with best-in-class companies on their most challenging environmental, health and safety, and social responsibility issues by working in a vertically integrated way from anticipating clients' needs from strategy to implementation. This is achieved through trusted expert client advisors who deliver innovative, responsible, efficient solutions addressing client needs and creating added value. For more information, visit [www.phylmar.com](http://www.phylmar.com) or call 310.474.3937.

**About the American Industrial Hygiene Association**

Founded in 1939, the **American Industrial Hygiene Association® (AIHA®)** is the premier association of occupational and environmental health and safety professionals. AIHA's 10,240 members play a crucial role on the front line of worker health and safety every day. Members represent a cross-section of industry, private business, labor, government, and academia. For more information, go to [www.aiha.org](http://www.aiha.org).

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