

2020 COS FORUM



& VIRTUAL

May 19, 2020

Dear 2020 COS Forum Attendee,

We understand that you look forward to our annual event and appreciate your continued support. As you are aware the situation with COVID-19 continues to change daily. The health, safety, and welfare of our attendees is our paramount concern.

We are currently planning to hold the annual COS Forum this November 10-11, 2020 at the new Marriott Marquis Houston. Still, there are preparations we are making now to prepare for any number of outcomes. One of these is simultaneously planning the COS Forum as an in-person and virtual event.

Background :

The Forum begun in 2013 as part of the COS commitment to “sharing industry knowledge”. The Safety Forum has become one of the premier safety-focused events for industry, auditing, and regulatory agency engagement.

The COS Forum brings together offshore industry operators, drilling contractors, service/supply companies, academia, and regulators to facilitate collaboration and drive continual improvement. It also provides the opportunity for networking and idea exchange, with our dedicated sponsors and exhibitors sharing their latest products and services..

Here is what we are doing:

- We are planning on presenting the November 2020 Forum in two formats; In-person, for those able to travel, and simultaneously as a virtual event.
- We have updated our registration fees, leaving the in-person event fees unchanged from 2018, and offering a lower registration fee for the virtual event. Online registration is now open, and both options are available.
- The virtual conference will have all the same content as the in-person version. Presentations will be a combination of prerecorded sessions and live sessions. All will feature a live Q&A with the presenter. Several features will encourage audience participation and engagement. In addition, access to all conference materials will be available online. This includes the presentations, session descriptions, speaker bios, and registered attendee lists.
- We will use a new networking feature included in our registration system, allowing our attendees, sponsors, and exhibitors to arrange meetings and exchange contact information, both in-person and virtually.
- We will use the same system to bring together those seeking job opportunities with those that have positions to fill.

- For attendees, we are offering a 50% registration discount for those directly affected by the pandemic or industry downturn through unemployment. Please contact registrar@api.org for additional information.
- COS is offering free registration to 25 junior, senior, and graduate students pursuing degrees in SEMS or related fields. Please contact registrar@api.org for additional information.
- For exhibitors, we are offering a 50% discount for third-party certified minority and women owned businesses that are certified by either the National Minority Supplier Diversity Council (NMSDC) or Women's Business Enterprise National council (WBENC). Please contact cunningham@api.org for additional information.

We understand that industry challenges are more pressing than ever, and our efforts must continue in the face of the pandemic and oil markets. The COS Forum is an important part of that vital work to bring new ideas and solutions to light, and to connect the people creating them.

We look forward to seeing you, in one way or another, in November.

For additional information, visit www.centerforoffshoresafety.org

Sincerely,



Russell Holmes

Director

Center for Offshore Safety