



IHMM

Press Release

For immediate release

DR. JOHN FRICK, CHMM, RETIRES AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

IHMM Welcomes James Gaidry as New Executive Director and Names Betty Fishman as Certification Director

Rockville, MD, January 15, 2009 - Dr. John Frick, CHMM, one of the four original founders of the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM) and of the Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) credential in 1984, retired from his position as Executive Director of IHMM effective January 2, 2009. During his tenure in the Executive Office from 2003-2009, Dr. Frick oversaw the development of the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner (CHMP) credential, the conversion from paper-and-pencil testing to computerized exam delivery, and the institutionalization of office practices and procedures, which has put IHMM on a path toward accreditation under ANSI/ISO Standard 17024 on Personnel Certification. Before assuming the role of Executive Director, Dr. Frick served on the IHMM Board of Directors from its inception in 1984 through December 2002, and as its chairman from 1994 through 2002.

"Dr. Frick's influence and guidance on IHMM cannot be understated," remarked Peter Spinney, Chairman of the IHMM Board of Directors. "Beginning with his efforts to found the Institute and the CHMM credential twenty-five years ago, his many contributions have led to the success of the IHMM organization as the premier certification organization in the world for recognizing professionals in the field of hazardous materials management."

James Gaidry was selected as Dr. Frick's successor by the IHMM Board of Directors after a national search for a leader who could effectively promote the recognition and acceptance of IHMM's credentials; identify potential growth opportunities and develop growth strategies to expand the organization and its offerings; represent IHMM to outside agencies, organizations, professionals in the field, the general public, and the media; foster relationships with other organizations; and develop mutually beneficial working relationships, alliances, and corporate sponsorships. Mr. Gaidry worked most recently as vice president of marketing and sales for the National Concrete and Masonry Association in Herndon, Virginia. Previously, he served as vice president for the Association for Services Management International in Fort Myers, Florida, after a successful career in sales and marketing with technology companies such as Dell Computer and Texas Instruments. Mr. Gaidry received his Masters in Business Administration with an emphasis in marketing, as well as a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas.

As it changed the focus of the Executive Director's position, the Board also created a position of Certification Director, to oversee the core certification functions of IHMM. This position has been filled by Betty Fishman, who has served since 1997 as the Assistant Executive Director of IHMM, where her primary focus has been to enhance the validity, reliability, and security of IHMM's certification examinations. Among her work experiences before coming to IHMM, Ms. Fishman developed, administered, and did validation research on employment tests with the Civil Service Commission of the City of New York, and managed the D.C. branch of an international non-profit women's association. Ms. Fishman holds both a Master of Arts in Organizational Management from the University of Phoenix, and a Bachelor of Arts with distinction from the University of Rochester.

About the Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM)

IHMM is a nonprofit organization that protects the public's health and safety through the administration of credentials recognizing professionals in the government, private, and corporate sectors who have demonstrated a high level of knowledge, expertise, and excellence in the management of hazardous materials. Nearly 15,000 homeland security, environmental protection, engineering, health sciences, transportation, and public safety professionals have earned IHMM's accredited Certified Hazardous Materials Manager (CHMM) credential. IHMM also administers the Certified Hazardous Materials Practitioner (CHMP) credential and the Hazardous Materials Manager-in-Training (HMMT) program. Please visit www.ihmm.org or contact us at 301-984-8969 for more information.

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