


Event:
Date:
Place:

ENERGY in BUILDINGS 2024
November 22-23, 2024
Athens, Hellas



#	Alexander Sofianopoulos Mechanical Engineer Msc	
Title:	Chief Operating Officer , GEP, Athens - Greece	
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Presentation title:	Workplace Safety for Energy-Efficient Retrofitting Projects	
<p>As the global demand for sustainable energy solutions intensifies, retrofitting buildings for energy efficiency has emerged as a significant approach to reduce carbon footprints and optimize energy use. However, the unique environments of retrofitting projects, where construction activities intersect with existing infrastructure, present critical safety challenges. This presentation will explore comprehensive strategies to safeguard workers involved in energy-efficient retrofitting projects, focusing on the hazards and best practices specific to these dynamic worksites.</p> <p>Through the lens of both regulatory compliance and practical application, we will delve into the primary risks—such as structural instability, work at heights, exposure to hazardous materials, and electrical safety—that can arise during retrofitting activities. Emphasizing risk assessments and preventive planning, this session will highlight key processes including the safe handling of insulation materials, ventilation solutions, and electrical safeguards crucial for worker protection.</p> <p>We will also feature traditional methodologies along with emerging solutions and their potential to mitigate risks, such as contractors' evaluation, risk assessments, platforms to monitor safe execution of works etc. With real-world case studies, the discussion will underscore the importance of continuous training, collaboration between stakeholders, and adherence to updated safety standards to create safer and more productive work environments.</p> <p>Attendees will leave with actionable insights into how energy-efficient retrofitting can be both sustainable and safe, ensuring a responsible approach to building modernization that prioritizes the well-being and the productivity of all workers involved, setting new benchmarks of HS standards in the workplaces.</p>		
Short CV:	<p>Alexandros Sofianopoulos is the Chief Operating Officer of GEP Group, responsible for the seamless development and delivery of Health and Safety consultancy services, envisioning a robust Health and Safety culture in the workplace. Alexandros holds a Master Degree in Mechanical Engineering and, over the past 20 years, has served as Health and Safety Director for a variety of organizations spanning a wide range of sectors, including construction, manufacturing industry, renewable energy, and oil and gas in Greece and abroad.</p> <p>Alexandros actively participates in various conferences as a considerable member and a distinguished keynote speaker.</p>	

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CV:

Alexandros Sofianopoulos is the Chief Operating Officer of GEP Group, responsible for the seamless development and delivery of Health and Safety consultancy services. He holds a Master Degree in Mechanical Engineering and, over the past 20 years, has served as Health and Safety Director for a variety of organizations spanning a wide range of sectors, including construction, manufacturing industry, renewable energy, and oil and gas in Greece and abroad.

Some of the projects that he has been involved include construction of fuel trucks bottom loading station at Greek Oil and Petroleum company, DESFA's CHP station in Revythoussa, and numerous Vestas projects in Greece, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, and Pakistan from 2010 to 2013. Additionally, he led EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) projects in Jordan and Saudi Arabia from 2014 to 2017.

Alexandros is an IPMA certified Level D Project Manager and a certified Lead Auditor under CQI/IRCA and IEMA, for the ISO 45001 and ISO 14001 systems, respectively. He has conducted internal audits on major technical projects abroad. His expertise extends to accident investigation using the TapRoot methodology, conducting Occupational Risk Assessments, implementing Industrial Hygiene programs, conducting ATEX studies, implementing Safe Behavior programs, conducting Fire Safety studies, applying Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) programs, and acting as an instructor in Health and Safety training sessions. During his extensive experience he has assisted several organizations to establish strategic HSE plans in their efforts to achieve operational safety excellence whereas he assisted business leaders in developing safety skills.

Alexandros actively participates in various conferences as a considerable member and a distinguished keynote speaker.