



Newsletter Mission Statement: To provide a monthly update on OSHA activity that affects the jurisdiction of Region Ten - Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington. Additionally, provide committees and safety and health groups with pertinent topics for their membership. Material is collected from the OSHA website, or information that has been presented to the public in various forums or media. OSHA is the acronym for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration of the U.S. Department of Labor.

September 2007



New University of Washington Silica in Construction Website

Featured This Issue

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The University of Washington Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences has done research on characterizing silica exposure on construction sites and testing the effectiveness of controls for silica dust producing tools for several years. A website was developed to provide the construction industry with information from these studies. You can find information on silica exposure ranges by common construction tool, controls available, and guidance on respirator use in the initial stage of a project (before air monitoring can be done). The web address is:

<http://depts.washington.edu/silica/>

Highlighted inside this month's newsletter is information discussed in the Bureau of Labor Statistics Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries for 2006

New OSHA Guidance on Traffic Safety in Marine Terminals

As seen on OSHA Quick Takes, dated August 1, 2007
Volume 6, Issue 15 - Available at - www.osha.gov

OSHA recently posted the online document **Traffic Safety in Marine Terminals**, with the goal of preventing traffic-related safety and health hazards in the maritime industry. The guide focuses on the factors that contribute to traffic hazards at marine terminals and outlines measures that can be taken to prevent such accidents, such as safety checks, vehicle selection and maintenance, traffic controls, safe operation of vehicles, and safe driving techniques.

OSHA Seeks Applicants for Training Institute Education Centers

As seen on OSHA Quick Takes, dated August 1, 2007
Volume 6, Issue 15 - Available at - www.osha.gov

OSHA announced in the July 20 Federal Register that it is accepting applications from interested nonprofit organizations to become **OSHA Training Institute (OTI) education centers**. OTI centers augment the training capacity of OSHA's primary training Institute near Chicago, by conducting courses and seminars for individuals responsible for enforcing or directly supporting the Occupational Safety and Health Act. The deadline for applications is 4:30 p.m. CDT on Aug. 24, 2007. For further information on the OSHA Training Institute or the application process, see the announcement on the OSHA Web page - www.osha.gov.

Statement by Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Edwin G. Foulke Jr. on new workplace fatality data

As seen on OSHA Press Release, dated August 9, 2007
Available at - www.osha.gov

WASHINGTON -- Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, Edwin G. Foulke Jr. issued the statement below about the Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2006 -

<http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/cfoi.pdf>,

which was released today [August 9, 2007]. The fatality rate declined to its lowest level since BLS began collecting data in 1992. The rate last year was 3.9 fatalities per 100,000 employees, down from 4.0 in 2005.

The number of fatal work injuries among employees younger than 25 years of age decreased nine percent, from 568 in 2005 to 516 in 2006. In addition, the fatality rate among Hispanic employees declined slightly, from 4.9 fatalities per 100,000 employees in 2005 to 4.7 fatalities per 100,000 in 2006.

"We are pleased to see both the rate and number of fatal work injuries continue to decline. More working men and women are returning to their loved ones at the end of the work day," said Foulke. "While these figures demonstrate progress, we still have a long way to go.

"We believe our initiatives are working. However, even one fatality is one too many. To end fatalities, injuries and illnesses on the job, nothing is more effective than prevention. We remain committed to helping all employers protect their most valuable resource -- their employees."

"QuickTips" from QuickTakes

As seen on OSHA Quick Takes, dated August 1, 2007
Volume 6, Issue 15 - Available at - www.osha.gov

Summer tends to be the loudest season for many people due to the increased amount of outdoor activity. During this time of year, hearing protection is important, especially for construction employees and approximately 30 million Americans who are occupationally exposed to hazardous noise. To reduce the risk of hearing damage and other health issues caused by overexposure to noise, here are a few suggestions from OSHA:

- If it is too loud to hear another voice from three feet away, do not work without hearing protection.
- When choosing hearing protectors, such as earplugs or earmuffs, select one that fits comfortably.
- Always turn off loud machinery before removing hearing protection.
- Have an annual hearing test if you are regularly exposed to loud noise.

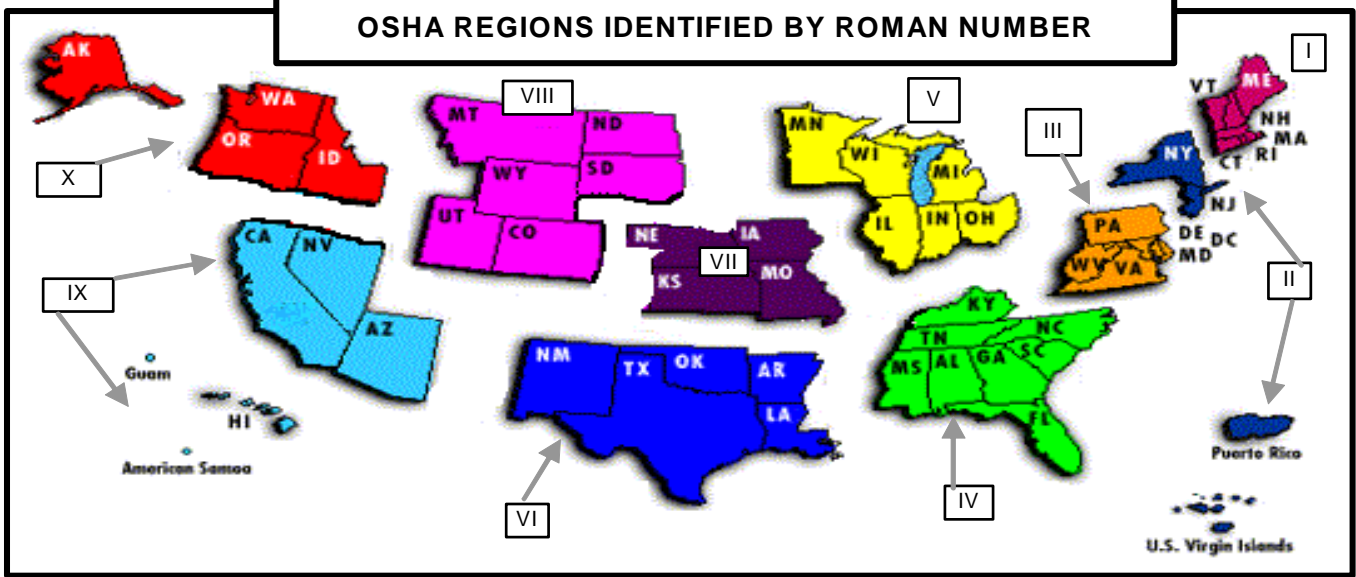
OSHA has two Safety and Health Topics pages for employers and employees to use as resources in protecting their hearing. Noise and Hearing Conservation is a general index containing links to information on how to prevent hearing hazards in the workplace. OSHA also has a separate page on hearing hazards specific to the construction industry: Noise and Hearing Conservation (Construction). Look for more safety and health "QuickTips" on a new occupational safety and health topic in your next issue of QuickTakes.

Alliance Activity Update

National Office: An alliance between OSHA and the Sealant Waterproofing and Restoration Institute was recently renewed in an ongoing effort to provide employees in the sealant, waterproofing, and restoration industries with information on workplace safety and health. Also renewed is OSHA's alliance with the American Council of Independent Laboratories which aims to unite the two organizations to help raise awareness about OSHA's Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory program.

Region I: Protecting the employees of plumbing, heating and cooling contractors is the goal of a new alliance between OSHA and the Plumbing-Heating-Cooling Contractors of Massachusetts (PHCC of MA). The alliance will focus on the development of safety and health training and education programs by PHCC of MA members.

OSHA REGIONS IDENTIFIED BY ROMAN NUMBER



Roman #	Region #	U.S. Department of Labor / OSHA Address	Phone	Fax
I	Region 1	JFK Federal Building, Room E340 Boston, Massachusetts 02203	(617) 565-9860	(617) 565-9827
II	Region 2	201 Varick Street, Room 670 New York, New York 10014	(212) 337-2378	(212) 337-2371
III	Region 3	The Curtis Center-Suite 740 West 170 S. Independence Mall West Philadelphia, PA 19106-3309	(215) 861-4900	(215) 861-4904
IV	Region 4	61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, Georgia 30303	(404) 562-2300	(404) 562-2295
V	Region 5	230 South Dearborn Street, Room 3244 Chicago, Illinois 60604	(312) 353-2220	(312) 353-7774
VI	Region 6	525 Griffin Street, Room 602 Dallas, Texas 75202	(972) 850-4145	(972) 850-4149
VII	Region 7	City Center Square 1100 Main Street, Suite 800 Kansas City, Missouri 64105	(816) 426-5861	(816) 426-2750
VIII	Region 8	1999 Broadway, Suite 1690 Denver, Colorado 80202	(720) 264-6550	(720) 264-6585
IX	Region 9 - Federal	90 7th Street, Suite 18-100 San Francisco, California 94103	(415) 625-2547 (Main Public - 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM Pacific) (800) 475-4019 (For Technical Assistance) (800) 475-4020 (For Complaints - Accidents/Fatalities) (800) 475-4022 (For Publication Requests)	(415) 625-2534
X	Region 10	1111 Third Avenue, Suite 715 Seattle, Washington 98101-3212	(206) 553-5930	(206) 553-6499

