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The Gold Coast Safety Times is published periodically to members of the ASSE Gold Coast Chapter. This newsletter is compiled by the Chapter Secretary based upon contributions from members. To make a contribution to the newsletter or for questions, comments or additional information, contact Kathleen Clair at: katieclair@yahoo.com

Join us on Facebook for updates and other safety related news

ASSE Gold Coast Chapter

Check us out on the web at:
www.goldcoast.asse.org
President’s Message

Dear Gold Coast Members –

Happy New Year to you all! The board and I are looking forward to another productive year in the Gold Coast Chapter. We encourage you to attend as many meetings as possible and share the news of upcoming meetings with your colleagues. We are always looking for new members as well as volunteers within the chapter. Please contact me if you would like to volunteer!

This year we have a great lineup of meetings with featured topics including; Agricultural Safety, Fire Safety, Industrial Hygiene and others. Our members can attend these trainings free of charge while the non-member attendance charge remains at a very reasonable $10. We hope this will encourage non-members to join and members to continue to attend.

Our first meeting of the year will be on January 22nd at 9:00 am. The topic will be Safety Issues in the agricultural Industry. This informative talk will be presented by Andy Esposito, Safety and Environmental Manager, US Sugar Corp. I hope to see you there for another great Gold Coast Chapter experience.

Have a Safe, Happy and Healthy New Year –

Scott Marting CSP, ARM
President, Gold Coast Chapter
561-233-5432
smarting@pbcgov.org

Looking for a job?
You can now create custom job alerts at ASSE!

www.asse.org

February 6-12, 2015 - RIO Hotel · Las Vegas

ASSE’s SeminarFest is the best source for continuing education and training for the OSH professional. Instructors lead concentrated seminars and exam preparation workshops over this seven day event.
ASSE LIVE WEBINARS

  January 14, 2015 - 11:00am - 12:30pm Central

- **Lockout/Tagout for Construction and Demolition Operations - Updates, Changes and How to Apply the ANSI A10.44 Standard**
  January 21, 2015 - 1:00pm - 2:30pm Central

- **Raising Safety Mindfulness**
  January 28, 2015 - 11:00am - 12:30pm Central

For more information on these webinars please go to:
http://www.asse.org/education/virtualclassroom.php

NEWSLETTER SAFETY TOPIC

**Updates to OSHA’s Reporting and Recordkeeping Rule: An Overview**

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s updated recordkeeping rule includes two key changes. First, the rule updates the list of industries that are exempt from the requirement to routinely keep OSHA injury and illness records due to relatively low occupational injury and illness rates. The previous list of industries was based on the old Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) system and injury and illness data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from 1996-1998.

The new list of industries that are exempt from routinely keeping OSHA injury and illness records is based on the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and injury and illness data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) from 2007-2009. Note: The new rule retains the exemption for any establishment with ten or fewer employees, regardless of their industry classification, from the requirement to routinely keep records.

Second, the rule expands the list of severe work-related injuries and illnesses that all covered employers must report to OSHA. The revised rule retains the current requirement to report all fatalities within 8 hours and adds the requirement to report all inpatient hospitalizations, amputations and loss of an eye within 24 hours to OSHA. The new requirements will take effect on January 1, 2015. Establishments located in states under Federal OSHA jurisdiction must begin to comply with the new requirements on January 1, 2015. Establishments located in states that operate their
own safety and health programs should check with their state plan for the implementation date of the new requirements.

The final rule will allow OSHA to focus its efforts more effectively to prevent fatalities and severe work-related injuries and illnesses. The final rule will also improve access by employers, employees, researchers and the public to information about workplace safety and health and increase their ability to identify and abate serious hazards.

Changes to reporting requirements: What needs to be reported to OSHA?

OSHA’s updated recordkeeping rule expands the list of severe injuries and illnesses that employers must report to OSHA.

As of January 1, 2015, all employers must report:

- All work-related fatalities within 8 hours.
- All work-related inpatient hospitalizations, all amputations and all losses of an eye within 24 hours.
- You can report to OSHA by:
  - Calling OSHA’s free and confidential number at 1-800-321-OSHA (6742)
  - Calling your closest OSHA Area Office during normal business hours
  - Using the new online form that will soon be available.

Only fatalities occurring within 30 days of the work-related incident must be reported to OSHA. Further, for an inpatient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye, these incidents must be reported to OSHA only if they occur within 24 hours of the work-related incident.

Changes to recording requirements: Who is required to keep records?

OSHA regulations require certain employers to routinely keep records of serious employee injuries and illnesses. However, there are two classes of employers that are partially industries that are exempt from routinely keeping OSHA injury and illness records. The new list of exempt industries is now classified by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS), which is the standard used by federal statistical agencies in classifying business establishments for the purpose of collecting, analyzing and publishing statistical data related to the U.S. business economy. The injury and illness rate threshold for an exemption is based on more recent BLS data.

Where can I find more information?

For more information about the new reporting requirements and updated industry lists, visit OSHA’s webpage on the updated recordkeeping rule at www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014.
OSHA Publishes RFI on Chemical Management and Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs)

OSHA has published an RFI stating that the Agency is reviewing its overall approach to managing chemical exposures in the workplace and seeks stakeholder input about more effective and efficient approaches that addresses challenges found with the current regulatory approach. This review involves considering issues related to updating permissible exposure limits (PELs), as well as examining other strategies that could be implemented to address workplace conditions where workers are exposed to chemicals. The notice details the role of past court decisions on the Agency's current approach to chemical management for the purpose of informing stakeholders of the legal framework in which the Agency must operate. It then describes possible modifications of existing processes, along with potential new sources of data and alternative approaches the Agency may consider. The Agency states that it is particularly interested in information about how it may take advantage of newer approaches, given its legal requirements. The RFI is concerned primarily with chemicals that cause adverse health effects from long-term occupational exposure and is not related to activities being conducted under Executive Order 13650, Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security. Comments are due April 8, 2015. [http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-10-10/html/2014-24009.htm](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-10-10/html/2014-24009.htm)

OSHA signs alliance with National STEPS Network and NIOSH to protect workers in oil and gas industry

Posted December 2 2014

WASHINGTON – The Occupational Safety and Health Administration today signed a two-year alliance with the National Service, Transmission, Exploration & Production Safety Network and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to prevent injuries, illnesses and fatalities among workers in the exploration and production sector of the oil and gas industry.
Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health Dr. David Michaels signed the agreement prior to his keynote address at the Oil & Gas Safety and Health Conference in Houston, Texas, where more than 2,100 industry representatives, safety and health organizations, and educators gathered to collaborate on ways to improve safety in the oil and gas industry.

"Too many oil and gas industry workers are being hurt or killed on the job," said Dr. Michaels. "These tragedies are preventable and we need to work together to address hazards, prevent injuries and save lives."

The rapid growth of employment in this industry has been coupled with an increase in worker fatalities. In 2013, 112 workers were killed in the oil and gas industry, according to Bureau of Labor Statistics. Most fatalities occurred among workers with less than one year on the job. Workers face a number of hazards such as motor vehicle crashes, fires and explosions, electrocution and exposure to respirable silica.

Through the alliance, the participants will develop fact sheets and videos on the leading causes of fatalities in oil and gas exploration and production, provide OSHA materials and training resources for employers and workers, and support oil and gas safety stand-downs.

Founded in 2003, the National STEPS Network is a volunteer organization that includes industry operators and contractors, industry associations, OSHA and NIOSH representatives, and educational institutions who promote safety, health and environmental improvement in oil and gas exploration and production in U.S. onshore operations. The Alliance participants will also work closely with the National Occupational Research Agenda Oil and Gas Extraction Council, coordinated by NIOSH. The Council seeks to identify and implement strategies to improve workplace practices within the industry.

Through its Alliance Program, OSHA works with unions, consulates, trade and professional organizations, faith- and community-based organizations, businesses and educational institutions to prevent workplace fatalities, injuries and illnesses. The purpose of each alliance is to develop compliance assistance tools and resources, and to educate workers and employers about their rights and responsibilities. Alliance Program participants do not receive exemptions from OSHA inspections or any other enforcement benefits.

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit www.osha.gov.
Florida - Two new Florida laws affecting your safety became active on January 1st. The first new law requires children ages 4 and 5 to sit in a child safety seat or a booster seat rather than only being buckled in a seatbelt. Booster seats ensure that seatbelts properly fit and restrain the smaller frames of 4 and 5 year olds. Don’t let age alone be a factor. Your child may need a booster seat beyond the age of 5, depending on their size and where the seatbelt crosses their body. The following recommendations can help determine if your child, after age 5, is ready to wear a seatbelt without a booster seat:

- The child is at least 4’9” tall;
- The child can sit all the way back in the seat and bend knees at the edge of the seat;
- The shoulder belt lays across the chest, not the neck;
- The lap belt lays across the upper thighs, not the stomach.

Children under the age of 13 should ride in the back seat of the vehicle whenever possible for additional safety. To locate the nearest child car seat inspection station, visit: http://www.safecar.gov/parents/Car-Seat-Safety.htm

Florida - The second law, which is being added to building codes also, directs the type of smoke alarm you have to put in your home whenever you replace your old smoke alarm. You will need to replace it with a new 10-year alarm that has tamperproof lithium-ion batteries. Say goodbye to changing your smoke alarm batteries every six months because new smoke alarms will be 9-volt battery free. The new alarms are better than the traditional 9-volt battery alarms because they take the human element out of disabling smoke alarms by disconnecting dying batteries (since they chirp as they die) then forgetting to replace the dead battery. According to the Division of State Fire Marshal, nearly half of smoke alarms in homes with fires last year didn’t work primarily due to dead or missing batteries. The new smoke alarms will be clearly marked “10 Year Smoke Alarm”.
CHAPTER NEWS

A WARM WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!

William Wilkerson

If you’d like to learn how you can become more involved as a volunteer with the Gold Coast Chapter please contact Scott Marting at smarting@pbcgov.org

Mark your calendars!

June 7-10

Dallas, Texas