Employers must post OSHA’s 300A Injury/Illness Summary Form February through April

OSHA is reminding covered employers to post OSHA’s Form 300A which summarizes the total number of job-related injuries and illnesses logged during 2015. The summary must be posted between Feb. 1 and April 30, 2016, and should be displayed in a common area where notices to employees are usually posted.

Employers with 10 or fewer employees and employers in specific low-hazard industries are normally exempt from federal OSHA injury and illness recordkeeping and posting requirements. Due to changes in OSHA’s recordkeeping requirements that went into effect Jan. 1, 2015, certain previously exempt industries are now covered. Lists of both exempt and newly covered industries are available on OSHA’s website. Visit OSHA’s Recordkeeping Rule webpage for more information on recordkeeping requirements.

OSHA has released its preliminary Top 10 violations list for 2015 as follows: Fall protection are the year’s most frequently-cited type of violation, with 6,721 instances recorded:

1. Hazard communication issues, with 5,192 violations

February 11, 2016
Speaker: Gust Callas
Attorney at Law
Black McCuskey Sauers & Arbaugh, LPA

Topic: Social Media and Its Impact on the Workforce

Spotlight Company

Pure Water Technology offers a patented state-of-the-art water purifier for commercial businesses. Companies are becoming more aware and understand the importance of "Hydration" in the workplace. They realize there are safety factors to consider when providing water for their employees and we want companies to know we are here to answer their questions and offer affordable solutions for providing the Purest drinking water and the Cleanest system available in our industry.

Contact Jodi Taylor
330-284-0483
jtaylor@purewaterohio.com
Purewaterohio.com

Stark County Safety Council Mission Statement: To provide a forum for safety and health information, education and networking in Stark County, through leadership, innovation, facilitation, program, and support, in partnership with other public and private organizations.
2. Scaffolding violations (4,295)
3. Respiratory protection (3,305)
4. Lockout/tagout (3,002)
5. Powered industrial trucks (2,760)
6. Ladders (2,489)
7. Electrical—wiring methods (2,404)
8. Machine guarding (2,295)
9. Electrical—general requirements (1,973)

Upcoming Events

February 16: Crime Prevention Breakfast at Tozzi’s on 12th, 8:00 a.m.; Fee

February 17 - Seminar for Supervisors—"Fitness For Duty: A Fresh Perspective On Maintaining A Drug-Free Workforce" from 8-10 a.m.; Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce; Fee

March 23—CEO Breakfast—Skyland Pines; Details to follow; Fee

March 9-11, 2016 Ohio Safety Congress

Please Note: due to Ohio Safety Congress, our March Stark County Safety Council meeting has been moved to March 17th.

Coming Next Month (note change in date for March due to the Ohio Safety Congress event)

March 17, 2016
Speaker: Margie Roop, LPCC-S; CEAP; SAP LifeServices EAP, Regional Director, Ohio

Topic: “Stress at Work; Stress from Work: Which is it & How Safety is at Risk!”

Spotlight Company:
Industrial Environmental Monitoring Instruments

March 9-11 • Greater Columbus Convention Center

Education to keep workers safe, healthy and on-the-job
Expo Marketplace to simplify safety product purchases
FREE continuing education credits
Medical and Health Symposium
Safety Innovations Competition

Registration opens in January. ADMISSION IS FREE.
What did we do in the 50’s, 60’s 70’s and most of the 80’s without Cell Phones?

If there was an emergency at home your family called a number at work and you were notified. Today everyone has a cell phone. Some have two, one for work and a personal one. It seems people have no idea what to do with a spare moment other than make a cell phone call or text. We see them everywhere. Children have them, Teenagers have them and adults have them. We cannot leave the house without them, if we do, we are lost for the day. It seems we cannot function without them. Why?

After reading thru several papers on Cell phones I have found some pros and cons on cell phones.

At work there are many benefits to having a cell phone:

- Cell phones enable you to talk to someone you need to reach without having to leave your current location or look for a regular phone.
- Cell phones are extremely helpful in emergency situations.
- Cell phones enables supervisors to communicate with workers in remote areas.

Some cons on cell phones:

- Safety in the workplace: when your cell phone rings, answering the call will divert your attention away from what you are doing and can result in a serious injury.
- Using a cell phone when driving, which is against the law in most states. Hand free are okay, but can cause you to be distracted while driving too.
- Leaving your work station to answer your cell phone is a bad idea.
- Taking pictures with your cell phone at your job, unless you are authorized to do so.
- Sending and receiving personal text messages or phone calls not only takes your focus off your job tasks, it also takes time, time that should be spent performing your job for which you are getting paid for.

These are just some of the reasons. I am sure there are many more.

As for OSHA regulations the only one that deals with cell phones is the new “Cranes & Derrick in Construction” standards. There you will find standard 1926.1417(d), which states: “The crane or derrick operator must not engage in any practice or activity that diverts his/her attention while actually engaged in operating the equipment, such as the use of cellular phones”. OSHA did address the potentially hazardous use of cell phones when driving; OSHA warned employers that they should prohibit any work policy or practice that required or encourages workers to text while driving. Otherwise they could face a citation for violation of the General Duty Clause (paragraph (5)(a) (1) of the OSH Act of 1970) for failure to provide a workplace free from recognized hazards.

Continued on Next page
That is it! There are currently no other federal OSHA standard that specifically forbids the use of a cell phone while at work. Despite the near absence of federal OHSA standards directly addressing the subject; employers should consider developing and implementing a formal policy regarding the use of cell phones while at work. When constructing the policy for your work place, remember, policies must reflect the technology and capabilities of today’s cell phone. Most are capable of texting, emailing, taking pictures, recording video and audio, and updating to social media websites with the touch of a button. Employers must recognize that “Technology can always be misused, either intentionally or accidentally. And because employers are often legally responsible for the acts of their employees, technological developments have exponentially increased the possibility of legal exposure”. Consequently, policies must be comprehensive taking into account current and future technological changes. The policy should be reviewed annually. Remember, for any policies to be effective, employees must be educated through a formal training process, and employers must enforce the policy with consistent disciplinary action. And finally, the best policies are written to protect the integrity and reputation of the organization, therefore, policies should include a code of conduct that emphasizes moral and ethical behavior.

For more information, see OSHA's Cold Stress Safety and Health Guide.

What is cold stress?

**Answer:** What constitutes cold stress and its effects can vary across different areas of the country. In regions that are not used to winter weather, near freezing temperatures are considered factors for "cold stress." Increased wind speed also causes heat to leave the body more rapidly (wind chill effect). Wetness or dampness, even from body sweat, also facilitates heat loss from the body. Cold stress occurs by driving down the skin temperature, and eventually the internal body temperature. When the body is unable to warm itself, serious cold-related illnesses and injuries may occur, and permanent tissue damage and death may result. Types of cold stress include: trench foot, frostbite, and hypothermia.

Employers should train workers.

**Training should include:**
- How to recognize the environmental and workplace conditions that can lead to cold stress.
- The symptoms of cold stress, how to prevent cold stress, and what to do to help those who are affected.
- How to select proper clothing for cold, wet, and windy conditions.

Employers should:
- Monitor workers physical condition.
- Schedule frequent short breaks in warm dry areas, to allow the body to warm up.
- Schedule work during the warmest part of the day.
- Use the buddy system (work in pairs).
- Provide warm, sweet beverages. Avoid drinks with alcohol.
- Provide engineering controls such as radiant heaters.

How can cold stress be prevented?

Although OSHA does not have a specific standard that covers working in cold environments, under the **Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act) of 1970**, employers have a duty to protect workers from recognized hazards, including cold stress hazards, that are causing or likely to cause death or serious physical harm in the workplace.
Safety Series for Industry Workshop Module 3—Feb. 8—1:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.
First Aid in the Workplace—Feb. 17—8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Safety Series for Industry Workshop Module 4—March 14—1:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.
Welding and Brazing Safety—March 15—8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
OSHA Recordkeeping Half-day Workshop—March 17—8:30 a.m.—Noon
Accident Analysis Half day Workshop—March 17—1:00 p.m.—4:30 p.m.
Restaurant & Food Service Safety Workshop—March 21—8:30 a.m.—noon
Combustible Dust Hazards: Recognition, Evaluation & Control Recommendations—March 23—8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
First Aid in the Workplace—March 30—8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Controlling Workers’ Compensation Costs—March 31—8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Basic Construction Safety (OSHA 30) - April 4-8
Measuring Safety Performance—April 12—8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Safety Series for Industry Workshop Module 5—April 18—1-4:30 p.m.
Job Safety Analysis—April 21—8:30 a.m.—noon
Powered Industrial Trucks: Developing a Training Program Half-day workshop 1-4:30 p.m.
Ergonomics: Basic Principles April 26—8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Industry Safety for the Non-safety Professional—April 27-28—8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m. both days

Safety Council Officers & Contributing Members

Chairman: Chris Zabel (czabel@USSafetyGear.com)
Vice Chair: Mark Cush (mcush@youngtrucks.com)
Program Manager & Canton Regional Chamber Representative: Connie Cerny (connie@cantonchamber.org)
Newsletter Coordinator: Karen L. Bostrom (kbostrom@kwgd.com)
Ohio BWC Representatives: Robin Watson (robin.w.1@bwc.state.oh.us) and Deb Bailey (Deborah.b.1@bwc.state.oh.us)