

Safety Update

Ohio BWC Library

New OSHA Walking-Working Surfaces and Fall Protection Final Rule

Falls from heights and on the same level (a working surface) are among the leading causes of serious work-related injuries and deaths. [OSHA's final rule on Walking-Working Surfaces and Personal Fall Protection Systems](#) better protects workers in general industry from these hazards by updating and clarifying standards as well as adding training and inspection requirements. It does not change construction or agricultural standards.

Specifically, the rule updates general industry standards addressing slip, trip and fall hazards (subpart D), and adds requirements for personal fall protection systems (subpart I). Most of this final rule takes effect Jan. 17, 2017, but some provisions have delayed effective dates. Answers to frequently asked question about this new standard are available on the [OSHA website](#).



NIOSH/CDC News

Nanoparticle Assessment Technique Update

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has updated the Nanoparticle Emission Assessment Technique (NEAT 1.0), into a more comprehensive technique for assessing worker and workplace exposures to engineered nanomaterials called Nanomaterial Exposure Assessment Technique (NEAT 2.0). You can find details in the [September issue of Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene](#).

Nail Gun Safety

The [NIOSH Science Blog](#) recently discussed the changes to the 2002 version of the American National Standard for Power Tools – Safety Requirements for Portable, Compressed-Air-Actuated, and Fastener Driving Tools (ANSI SNT-101 2015). The writer recommends the more stringent [NIOSH nail gun recommendations](#) because ANSI “failed to require sequential triggers for all construction operations despite strong evidence of their injury prevention value.”

Dangerous Drugs in Health-Care List

NIOSH released its 2016 list of hazardous drugs in health-care settings. The new document, [NIOSH List of Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings, 2016](#) is the latest version of the hazardous drug list first published by NIOSH in 2004 as an appendix to the document, [NIOSH Alert: Preventing Occupational Exposure to Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Health Care Settings](#). Health-care workers who prepare or give hazardous drugs to patients, such as those used for cancer therapy, as well as support staff may face individual health risks when exposed to these drugs.

Infographic of the Month

The Centers for Disease Control [Business Pulse](#) on tobacco use has our infographic of the month. Tobacco Use: A Threat to Workplace Health and Productivity has information on the cost of tobacco use and secondhand smoke on businesses and information on programs to reduce tobacco use and protect your employees.

OSHA News

Trench Collapse Fatalities Rise in 2016

This [OSHA Region Five press release](#) outlines a recent Ohio fatality in an unprotected trench to highlight the numbers of trench collapse fatalities, which have more than doubled from last year. Twenty-three workers died and 12 others had injuries in trenches in 2016 in the U.S. These fatalities are preventable by complying with OSHA standards, which require cave-in protection in trenches over 5-feet deep. Visit the OSHA page on [Trenching and Excavation](#) for details about these important regulations.

Silica Standard Compliance Assistance

OSHA released the [Small Entity Compliance Guide for Construction](#) intended to help small construction business employers comply with the agency's [Final Rule to Protect Workers from Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica](#). Enforcement of the final rule in construction is due to begin June 23, 2017.

Oilfield Hazard Alert

A [new hazard alert](#) explains how to prevent fatalities associated with hot work on oilfield tanks, tankers and related equipment. The document has information for employers on exposure and hazard assessments, training and safe work practices and for workers on their safety responsibilities.

Other News

Employer-Reported Workplace Injuries and Illnesses – 2015

The Bureau of Labor Statistics released its [yearly report on workplace injuries and illnesses](#). There were approximately 2.9 million nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses reported by private industry employers in 2015, which occurred at a rate of 3.0 cases per 100 equivalent full-time workers down from 3.2 in 2014. Total reportable cases for Ohio were 2.8 per 100 equivalent full-time workers, less than the national average.

Updated Toxicology Training Site

Do you want to know more about toxicology? The National Library of Medicine has updated its online toxicology tutorial. [ToxTutor](#) is a self-paced tutorial covering key principles of toxicology. The new tutorials cover:

1. Introduction to toxicology;
2. Dose and dose response;
3. Toxic effects;
4. Interactions;
5. Toxicity testing methods;
6. Risk assessment;
7. Exposure standards and guidelines;
8. Conclusion.

Smoke Alarm Installation Guide

More fires happen in the winter months. Protect your family by making sure that your smoke detectors are installed and working correctly. This [NFPA guide](#) is directed toward fire departments for community planning but also informs you on how to install and test your smoke alarms.

Keep Trucking Safe

The [Trucking Injury Reduction Emphasis \(TIRES\)](#) is a research project developed by the SHARP program at the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries. The site has a wealth of safety information for the trucking industry. It breaks down materials by general freight, specialized freight, solid waste collections, moving and storage, and couriers and messengers. Information includes toolbox talks, safety plans, a newsletter and much more.

Workplace Safety and Health Perceptions of Construction Workers

The Center for Construction Research and Training [Quarterly Data Report](#) contains the results data analyzed from the 2010 and 2015 NIOSH Occupational Health Supplement to the National Health Interview Survey. Among the key findings, 46.6 percent of construction workers thought their workplace was very safe, 23.9 percent reported that their employers had health promotion programs, and small firm workers were less likely to believe that management valued employee safety and health.

New Electrical Code Videos

The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is issuing videos to assist you in understanding the new 2017 National Electrical Code (NEC). Two videos are currently available.

- The [first video](#) issued is on the five new articles in the NEC.
- The [second video](#) covers changes in the NEC that impact all electrical installations regardless of type of occupancy.

For free access to the 2017 NEC, visit the [NFPA website](#) (requires free registration).

NFPA Firefighter Injury Report

NFPA's latest report, [U.S. Firefighter Injuries - 2015](#), estimates that 68,085 firefighter injuries occurred in the line of duty in 2015. This was an increase of 14 percent over 2014. The website contains an infographic of the primary findings of the report including the fact that there were 16,600 collisions involving fire department emergency vehicles responding to or returning from incidents resulting in 1,150 injuries.

Driving Can Be Back-Breaking

A North American Spine Society [press release](#) lists "Driver" at the top of its list of most back-breaking jobs. The group called out drivers for ride-sharing services such as Uber and Lyft where workers may be sitting for long periods of time and assisting passengers with heavy luggage. The press release has 10 tips for drivers to help relieve back pain and stay healthy on the job.

Glove Safety in Health Care

The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology, which is the leading professional association for infection preventionists, released the flier [Do's and Don'ts for Wearing Gloves in the Healthcare Environment](#). It describes the kinds of gloves used in health care and how to use them. The document also contains links for further information on the topic.

Please contact the library@bwc.state.oh.us or 614-466-7388 for more information on any of these items.