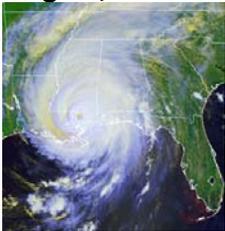


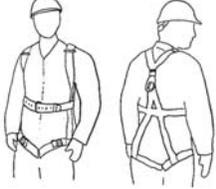
OSHA Celebrates 40 years of accomplishments in the Workplace

<p>Aug 9, 2010</p> 	<p>Cranes and Derricks Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a historic new rule, which replaces a 40-year-old standard, designed to prevent the leading causes of fatalities among crane and derrick operators. The rule affects more than 250,000 worksites, which employ about 4.8 million workers, and is expected to prevent 22 fatalities and 175 non-fatal injuries each year.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/cranes-der...ks/index.html</p>
<p>Jun 3, 2010</p> 	<p>Injury and Illness Prevention Program Initiative</p> <p>OSHA proposes an initiative to require employers to implement a systematic program to help them find the safety and health hazards in their workplace and fix them. This initiative follows the lead of 15 states, such as California and Minnesota that have already implemented such programs.</p>
<p>May 24, 2010</p> 	<p>Falls in General Industry</p> <p>OSHA issues a Walking/Working Surface Safety proposal to improve worker protection from falls, the leading cause of work-related injuries and death. Reducing falls in the workplace is expected to prevent about 20 fatalities and 3,500 serious injuries annually.</p>
<p>Apr 20, 2010</p> 	<p>Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill</p> <p>BP Oil's Deepwater Horizon oil rig experiences a catastrophic explosion, killing 11 workers, and resulting in an unprecedented oil spill. OSHA works as part of the coordinated federal response, making over 4,200 site visits to ensure that BP and its contractors are protecting workers involved in the cleanup of health and safety hazards. To ensure that workers are not inhaling dangerous levels of hazardous chemicals, OSHA takes over 7,000 independent air samples at clean-up areas both on- and off-shore, and reviews over 90,000 air samples taken by other federal agencies and BP.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/oilspills/index.html</p>
<p>Apr 14, 2010</p> 	<p>National Action Summit for Latino Worker Health and Safety</p> <p>OSHA holds a historic summit, bringing together over 1,000 participants with the goal of increasing Latino and other vulnerable workers' knowledge of their OSHA rights and their ability to use their rights.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/latinosumm...o-summit.html</p>

<p>Dec 2009</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary David Michaels</p> <p>Dr. David Michaels, an epidemiologist and professor of Environmental and Occupational Health, becomes OSHA's Assistant Secretary under President Barack Obama.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/as/opa/michaels_bio.html</p>
<p>Oct 21, 2009</p> 	<p>Deadly Dust Explosions</p> <p>In the wake of several deadly industrial combustible dust explosions—including the February 7, 2008, explosion at the Imperial Sugar Refinery in Port Wentworth, Georgia, that killed 14 and injured 30 others—OSHA initiates rulemaking to comprehensively address the fire and explosion hazards of combustible dust.</p>
<p>Sep 30, 2009</p> 	<p>Hazard Communication – Global Harmonization System</p> <p>OSHA proposes to increase the quality, accessibility and consistency of information provided to workers, employers and chemical users by adopting a standardized approach to hazard classification, labels and safety data sheets.</p>
<p>Nov 15, 2007</p> 	<p>Payment for Safety Equipment</p> <p>OSHA confirms through a rule that employers must pay for most types of required personal protective equipment, such as earplugs, respirators, and protective gloves.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/FedReg_osh...D20071115.pdf</p>
<p>Apr 2006 to Nov 2008</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary Edwin G. Foulke, Jr</p> <p>Edwin Foulke is appointed by President George W. Bush to be Assistant Secretary for OSHA. Foulke, an attorney, had served as Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission. Under his tenure, OSHA issues the largest fine in the agency's history.</p>

<p>Feb 28, 2006</p> 	<p>Hexavalent Chromium Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard providing greater protection to more than 500,000 workers exposed to hexavalent chromium, whose health effects include lung cancer and dermatitis.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=18599</p>
<p>Aug 31, 2005</p> 	<p>OSHA Responds to Hurricane Katrina</p> <p>OSHA hurricane response workers, joined by staff from State Plans and On-site Consultation Programs, fan out across the Gulf States to help protect workers involved in cleanup and recovery operations.</p>
<p>Mar 23, 2005</p> 	<p>BP Refinery Explosion</p> <p>An explosion and fire at the BP refinery in Texas City, Texas, kills 15 workers and injures more than 160 others. In response, OSHA issues the largest fines in its history and initiates increased inspections in oil refineries across the country.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/dep/bp/bpagreement.html</p>
<p>Sep 15, 2004</p> 	<p>Fire Protection in Shipyard Employment Standard</p> <p>OSHA adopts a standard for increased protection for shipyard workers from fire hazards on vessels and at land-side facilities.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=12974</p>
<p>Sep 11, 2001</p> 	<p>OSHA Responds to the 9/11 Terrorist Attacks</p> <p>OSHA sends staff to Ground Zero in New York City and the Pentagon to monitor worker exposures to hazards during cleanup and recovery operations and to fit test and distribute respirators.</p>
<p>Aug 2001 to Dec 2004</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary John L. Henshaw</p> <p>John Henshaw becomes the Assistant Secretary for OSHA under President George W. Bush. Henshaw is an industrial hygienist and had been president of the American Industrial Hygiene Association.</p>

<p>Jan 18, 2001</p> 	<p>Protecting Healthcare Workers</p> <p>After passage of the Needlestick Safety and Prevention Act, OSHA strengthens worker protections for bloodborne pathogens.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=16265</p>
<p>Jan 17, 2001</p> 	<p>Steel Erection Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard protecting construction workers in steel erection, preventing 30 fatalities and 1,142 injuries annually.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=16290</p>
<p>Nov 1997 to Jan 2001</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary Charles N. Jeffress</p> <p>Charles N. Jeffress becomes Assistant Secretary for OSHA under President Bill Clinton. Jeffress was the former North Carolina Deputy Labor Secretary in charge of that state's OSHA program.</p>
<p>Jul 25, 1997</p> 	<p>Marine Terminals</p> <p>OSHA strengthens health and safety protections for workers at longshoring and marine terminal operations.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=13687</p>
<p>Jul 3, 1997</p> 	<p>California Adopts Ergonomics Standard</p> <p>California adopts rules to protect workers from work-related musculoskeletal disorders, one of the most prevalent of all workplace injuries and illnesses.</p> <p>Link: http://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/5110.html</p>

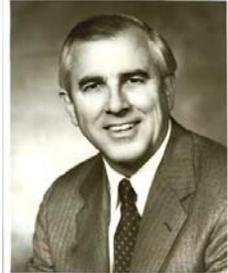
<p>Jan 10, 1997</p> 	<p>Methylene Chloride Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard to protect workers from exposure to methylene chloride, a chemical widely used in a variety of industrial processes and industries, including paint stripping, pharmaceutical manufacturing and metal cleaning and degreasing. Methylene chloride exposure increases the risk of cancer; has adverse effects on the heart, central nervous system and liver; and causes skin and eye irritation.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=13600</p>
<p>Aug 30, 1996</p> 	<p>Construction Scaffold Safety Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard requiring safety measures for workers on scaffolds to protect 2.3 million construction workers, preventing 50 deaths and 4,500 injuries annually.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=13573</p>
<p>Oct 12, 1994</p> 	<p>Logging Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard specifying safety requirements covering all logging operations, regardless of the end use of the forest products.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=13420</p>
<p>Aug 10, 1994</p> 	<p>Stronger Asbestos Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a stronger asbestos standard with lower permissible exposure limits, offering significantly increased protection to 4 million exposed workers, preventing 42 cancer deaths annually. Image: © Earl Dotter</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=13404</p>
<p>Aug 9, 1994</p> 	<p>Fatal Falls in Construction</p> <p>Falls are the leading cause of deaths for construction workers. OSHA strengthens protections requiring employers to provide fall protection, such as safety harnesses and lines or guardrails, saving 79 lives and preventing 56,400 injuries each year.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=13403</p>

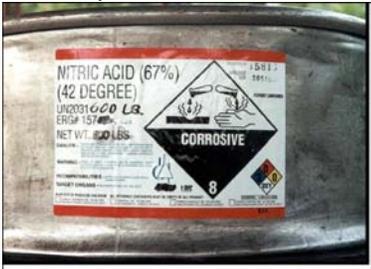
<p>Nov 1993 to Jan 1997</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary Joseph A. Dear</p> <p>Joseph Dear becomes Assistant Secretary for OSHA under President Bill Clinton. Dear was the former Director of Washington State's Department of Labor and Industry. During his tenure, OSHA issues a standard to protect workers from the toxic chemical 1,3-butadiene by reducing the permissible exposure limit from 1,000 parts per million (ppm) to 1 ppm. 1,3-butadiene is used in the production of synthetic rubber.</p>
<p>Jan 14, 1993</p> 	<p>Confined Spaces Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard requiring safe procedures and permits for entry into confined spaces, including underground vaults, tanks, storage bins, manholes, pits, silos, process vessels, and pipelines. The standard prevents more than 50 deaths and more than 5,000 serious injuries annually for the 1.6 million workers who enter confined spaces.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...RDS&p_id=9797</p>
<p>Feb 24, 1992</p> 	<p>Chemical Process Safety Management Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues the Process Safety Management standard to reduce the risk of deadly fires and explosions for 3 million workers at 25,000 workplaces, preventing more than 250 deaths and more than 1,500 injuries each year.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...ER&p_id=13207</p>
<p>Dec 6, 1991</p> 	<p>Bloodborne Pathogens Standard</p> <p>OSHA protects workers from HIV/AIDS (human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immune deficiency syndrome) and hepatitis B with the Bloodborne Pathogens standard, providing protection to 5.6 million workers exposed to the hazards of HIV/AIDS and hepatitis B. It results in the dramatic reduction of hepatitis B infection among healthcare workers.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10051</p>
<p>Sep 3, 1991</p> 	<p>Imperial Foods Fire, Hamlet, North Carolina</p> <p>A disastrous fire at Imperial Foods in Hamlet, North Carolina, kills 25 poultry workers. Many of these workers cannot escape the raging fire because the company had locked exit doors. The tragic fire led to Federal OSHA resuming concurrent jurisdiction in North Carolina (a state-run OSHA program) and resulted in a revamped North Carolina State Plan.</p>

<p>Jul 1, 1991</p> 	<p>California Injury Prevention Program Rule</p> <p>California State OSHA adopts the first comprehensive statewide Injury and Illness Prevention Program standard. Since then, fourteen additional states have adopted required injury and illness prevention programs.</p> <p>Link: http://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/3203.html</p>
<p>Jan 31, 1990</p> 	<p>Laboratory Safety Standard</p> <p>Recognizing the unique dangers posed to workers in laboratories while handling hazardous chemicals, OSHA issues a standard protecting laboratory workers.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10106</p>
<p>Oct 31, 1989</p> 	<p>Excavation and Trenching Operations Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a stronger rule to protect construction workers from the hazards of working in trenches and excavations. The standard requires that trenches be shored up to prevent collapse and that ladders be provided for exit/escape. Since issuing the rule, trenching fatalities have declined by 40 percent.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10774</p>
<p>Oct 23, 1989</p> 	<p>Phillips 66 Explosion</p> <p>Twenty-three workers are killed in a petrochemical plant explosion in Pasadena, Texas. The disaster leads OSHA to issue the Process Safety Management standard in 1992.</p>
<p>Oct 1989 to Jan 1992</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary Gerard "Jerry" Scannell</p> <p>Jerry Scannell is appointed by President George H.W. Bush to become OSHA's eighth Assistant Secretary. Scannell, a safety professional, had worked in OSHA from 1971-1979.</p>

<p>Sep 1, 1989</p> 	<p>Unsafe Machines: Lockout/Tagout Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues the Lockout/Tagout standard, establishing procedures to safeguard over 39 million employees from the unexpected energization or startup of machinery and equipment or the release of hazardous energy during service or maintenance activities. The Lockout/Tagout standard prevents an estimated 120 fatalities and 50,000 injuries each year.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...RDS&p_id=9804</p>
<p>Mar 24, 1989</p> 	<p>Exxon Valdez Oil Spill</p> <p>The Exxon Valdez oil tanker spills 11 million gallons of crude oil into Alaska's Prince William Sound. OSHA sends inspectors to monitor worker protection and required safety and health training.</p>
<p>Mar 6, 1989</p> 	<p>Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a final rule to protect 1.75 million public and private sector workers exposed to toxic substances from spills or at hazardous waste sites.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...RDS&p_id=9765</p>
<p>Jan 26, 1989</p> 	<p>Safety and Health Program Management Guidelines</p> <p>OSHA issues voluntary guidelines for effective safety and health programs.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/dat...lth_mngt_.pdf</p>
<p>1988</p> 	<p>Protecting Meatpacking Workers</p> <p>In the wake of Congressional hearings, OSHA begins an inspection and outreach effort at several large meatpacking plants. Meatpacking remains one of the nation's most dangerous industries, and these plants have high rates of serious injuries and illnesses, especially cumulative trauma disorders. As a result, OSHA issues the Ergonomic Program Management Guidelines for Meatpacking Plants.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/Publicatio...osha3108.html</p>

<p>Apr 12, 1988</p> 	<p>Testing Laboratories Regulations</p> <p>OSHA adopts regulations on safety testing and certification of certain workplace equipment and materials by nationally recognized testing laboratories (NRTLs).</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...RDS&p_id=9703</p>
<p>Dec 31, 1987</p> 	<p>Protecting Grain Workers</p> <p>Following a series of devastating grain elevator explosions, OSHA issues the grain handling standard to protect 155,000 workers in the grain industry from the risk of fire and explosion from highly combustible grain dust. The standard also protects workers from suffocation hazards when entering grain bins. Since the standard was issued, explosions have been reduced by over 40 percent, and the number of workers killed by explosions fell by 70 percent.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...RDS&p_id=9874</p>
<p>Sep 11, 1987</p> 	<p>Benzene Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a revised standard to protect workers from benzene, a highly toxic chemical that causes leukemia. Image: © Earl Dotter</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10042</p>
<p>May 1, 1987</p> 	<p>Farmworkers Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard requiring employers of 11 or more field workers to provide toilets, potable drinking water, and handwashing facilities to hand laborers in the field.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10959</p>
<p>Apr 23, 1987</p> 	<p>L'Ambiance Plaza Collapse, Connecticut</p> <p>This construction disaster in Bridgeport, Connecticut, kills 28 workers and leads to stronger regulation of the "lift slab" construction method, which is now rarely used.</p>

<p>Jul 11, 1986</p> 	<p>Ground-fault Circuit Interrupter Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard for ground-fault circuit interrupter protection on construction sites. Ground-fault circuit interrupters help to reduce the risk of electric shock and fires by correcting imbalances in the flow of electricity through a circuit. In 2005, OSHA estimated that this standard had saved between 650 and 1,100 lives.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10705</p>
<p>May 1986 to Mar 1989</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary John Pendergrass</p> <p>John Pendergrass, an industrial hygienist by training, becomes Assistant Secretary for OSHA under President Ronald Reagan. Under his direction, the agency issues 11 safety standards and 4 health standards. He oversees a rulemaking to strengthen OSHA's standards for hundreds of toxic substances (Permissible Exposure Limits, PELS), an effort that was overturned by the courts in 1992.</p>
<p>Apr 1, 1986</p> 	<p>Egregious Violation Enforcement Policy</p> <p>OSHA issues the first "egregious" penalties to Union Carbide of Institute, West Virginia. The seriousness of the violations prompts OSHA to create a new level of fines for egregious violations, and to propose record penalties of nearly \$1.4 million against the company.</p>
<p>Dec 3, 1984</p> 	<p>Bhopal Disaster</p> <p>The catastrophic release of the toxic chemical methyl isocyanate at Union Carbide's plant in Bhopal, India kills at least 3,800 immediately, results in thousands of additional deaths and affects half a million people. The disaster sparks worldwide concern, prompts OSHA to inspect all U.S. facilities manufacturing or processing this chemical, and leads OSHA to increase inspections of chemical plants. (1985-86).</p>
<p>Jul 1984 to Jul 1985</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary Robert Rowland</p> <p>Robert A. Rowland, a recess appointment by President Ronald Reagan, serves as the sixth Assistant Secretary for OSHA. Rowland served as the Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission before his appointment.</p>

<p>Jun 22, 1984</p> 	<p>Ethylene Oxide Rule Issued</p> <p>OSHA publishes a final standard for ethylene oxide (EtO), a highly toxic chemical used as a sterilizing agent in healthcare and in fumigants. The standard limits worker exposure to EtO and includes provisions for personal protective equipment, measurement of employee exposure, training, signs and labels, medical surveillance, regulated areas, emergencies, and recordkeeping.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10070</p>
<p>Nov 25, 1983</p> 	<p>Right-to-Know Regulations</p> <p>The historic Hazard Communication standard (HCS) is issued, giving workers the right to know which chemicals they may be exposed to in their workplace and the hazards these chemicals present. Employers with hazardous chemicals in their workplaces are required to implement a program to provide information and training to workers, including the procedures used to protect workers.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10099</p>
<p>Jul 2, 1982</p> 	<p>Voluntary Protection Programs</p> <p>OSHA creates the Voluntary Protection Programs to recognize workplaces with exemplary safety and health management systems and encourage other employers to follow suit.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/vpp/index.html</p>
<p>Mar 1981 to Apr 1984</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary Thorne Auchter</p> <p>Thorne Auchter, a construction executive, serves as the Assistant Secretary for OSHA under President Ronald Reagan. During his tenure, Auchter launched OSHA's Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP). He also issued OSHA's Hazard Communication standard, requiring information for workers on hazardous substances in the workplace, and strengthened worker protection at marine terminals.</p>
<p>Jan 16, 1981</p> 	<p>Hearing Conservation Standard</p> <p>OSHA issues the Hearing Conservation standard which requires that hearing protection be provided to workers exposed to noise levels above 85 decibels. The new standard also requires employers to perform hearing tests on workers to monitor how these protection measures are working.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...RDS&p_id=9735</p>

<p>May 23, 1980</p> 	<p>Right to Access Worker Medical and Exposure Records</p> <p>OSHA issues historic rule requiring employers to provide workers and their doctors with access to worker medical and exposure records.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10027</p>
<p>Feb 26, 1980</p> 	<p>OSHA Coverage for Federal Workers</p> <p>President Carter issues Executive Order 12196, providing OSHA coverage for millions of Federal workers.</p> <p>Image Source: AFGE</p>
<p>Feb 26, 1980</p> 	<p>High Court Clarifies Worker Rights on Imminent Danger</p> <p>The Supreme Court, in Whirlpool Corp. v. Marshall, issues a landmark decision affirming that the OSH Act provides workers with the right to refuse to perform an assigned task on the basis of a reasonable apprehension of death or serious injury, coupled with a reasonable belief that no less drastic alternative is available. The Court held that workers who use this OSHA protection may not be discriminated against for such action.</p>
<p>Nov 14, 1978</p> 	<p>OSHA Lead Standard</p> <p>Workplace lead exposures in general industry decrease significantly after OSHA issues a lead standard in 1978. Lead has long been recognized as a toxin that can cause damage to the kidney, nervous system and reproductive system. OSHA publishes a lead standard to protect workers in the construction industry in 1995. The rule results in a significant decrease in workers' lead exposure.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10030</p>
<p>Jun 23, 1978</p> 	<p>Protecting Textile Workers</p> <p>OSHA issues the Cotton Dust standard to protect 600,000 workers from the crippling hazards of "brown lung" (byssinosis) in the textile industry. Effective implementation of the cotton dust standard virtually eliminates byssinosis among American textile workers and at the same time leads to increased productivity in the textile industry.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10053</p>

<p>Apr 27, 1978</p> 	<p>Willow Island Disaster</p> <p>Fifty-one construction workers plunge to their death when the scaffolding they were on collapses at a power plant's cooling tower construction site in Willow Island, West Virginia. The Willow Island tragedy is considered the worst construction disaster in U.S. history.</p>
<p>Apr 12, 1978</p> 	<p>OSHA Training and Education Grants</p> <p>OSHA announces the New Directions Training and Education grants (now Susan Harwood Grants) to support the development of occupational safety and health training and education programs for workers and employers in high hazard workplaces. This program has trained over 1 million individuals.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/dte/sharwood/index.html</p>
<p>Jul 22, 1977</p> 	<p>Diving Standard</p> <p>OSHA adopts standards to protect workers in commercial diving operations.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...RDS&p_id=9977</p>
<p>Apr 1977 to Jan 1981</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary Eula Bingham</p> <p>The only woman Assistant Secretary for OSHA, Dr. Eula Bingham is sworn in under President Jimmy Carter. Dr. Bingham, a toxicologist, initiates the ground-breaking New Directions Training and Education grant program (now Susan Harwood Grants) to train workers and employers in high hazard workplaces on job hazards and how to prevent them. She oversees the elimination of outdated rules. Critical new health standards for toxic industrial substances, including cotton dust, lead, benzene, dibromochloropropane (DBCP), inorganic arsenic and acrylonitrile, are developed. The first "right to know" rule allowing workers access to their workplace medical and exposure records is issued during her tenure.</p>
<p>Oct 22, 1976</p> 	<p>OSHA Issues Coke Oven Emissions Standard</p> <p>Coke oven emissions in steel production facilities contain numerous chemicals and have been associated with the development of lung cancer in exposed workers. The coke oven emissions standard requires implementation of engineering controls, and results in significant decreases in exposures to these emissions in steel production operations. Image Source: American Iron and Steel Institution</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10048</p>

<p>Dec 1975 to Jan 1977</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary Morton Corn</p> <p>Dr. Morton Corn, a professor of Occupational Health and Chemical Engineering, serves as Assistant Secretary for OSHA under President Gerald Ford. He is the first scientist to head the agency.</p>
<p>1975 to 1976</p> 	<p>Kepone Chemical Disaster, Hopewell, Virginia</p> <p>The pesticide Kepone, produced at a manufacturing plant in Hopewell, Virginia, poisons workers and pollutes the environment. Fifty-seven workers suffer sterility, tremors, and liver damage. The tragedy prompts OSHA to develop and expand its expertise to respond to complex hazards.</p>
<p>1975</p> 	<p>On-site Consultation Program Established to Assist Small Businesses</p> <p>OSHA establishes the On-site Consultation Program, a free service funded by OSHA to help small, high-hazard employers identify and correct serious hazards, train workers and supervisors to recognize workplace hazards and develop effective safety and health management systems at their worksites. With significant financial support from Federal OSHA, state-run agencies, using well-trained professional staff, deliver these services. Since its creation, the program has made over 1 million visits to small businesses.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/small.../consult.html</p>
<p>Oct 4, 1974</p> 	<p>Vinyl Chloride Standard</p> <p>OSHA establishes a permissible exposure limit of 1 part per million for workers exposed to vinyl chloride, a flammable gas. Vinyl chloride causes angiosarcoma, a cancer of the liver. As a result of OSHA's standard, vinyl chloride exposures are significantly reduced in manufacturing facilities and productivity of the processes for manufacturing this plastic increased as well.</p> <p>Image Source: B.F. Goodrich Company</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10021</p>

<p>Jan 29, 1974</p> 	<p>Fourteen Carcinogens Standards</p> <p>Responding to the growing recognition that chronic health effects were an increasing and little-examined aspect of workplace exposures, OSHA issues a final rule that establishes comprehensive standards for 14 cancer-causing substances.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...DS&p_id=10007</p>
<p>Apr 1973 to Jul 1975</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary John H. Stender</p> <p>John H. Stender becomes the Assistant Secretary for OSHA under President Richard Nixon. During his tenure, OSHA issues standards to protect workers from a variety of carcinogens.</p>
<p>Nov 23, 1972</p> 	<p>Construction Safety Standards</p> <p>OSHA issues standards to protect construction workers operating electric power transmission and distribution equipment, aerial lifts and helicopters.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...=Construction</p>
<p>1972</p> 	<p>First OSHA State Plans Approved, Extending Coverage to State and Local Government Workers</p> <p>OSHA approves South Carolina and Oregon to adopt and enforce the agency's standards in their states. They become the first State Plans. In addition to the private sector, OSHA State Plans extend OSHA coverage to state and local government workers who are otherwise not protected by the OSH Act. Currently, 27 states and territories operate OSHA-approved State Plans.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/osp/index.html</p>
<p>Jun 7, 1972</p> 	<p>OSHA Develops and Issues First Standard – Asbestos</p> <p>OSHA issues a standard limiting workplace exposure to asbestos fibers to protect workers from lung cancer, asbestosis (serious lung disease) and mesothelioma (cancer of the lining of the lungs and abdomen). Significant asbestos exposure is now rare in American workplaces. Image: © Earl Dotter</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...RDS&p_id=9995</p>

<p>Jan 17, 1972</p> 	<p>OSHA Training Institute Established</p> <p>The OSHA Training Institute is established to train OSHA compliance officers and private sector and other Federal government safety personnel. Since its creation, over 210,000 safety professionals have received training at the Training Institute's center. An additional 12,000 have received training through webinars since their introduction in FY 2008. In 1992, the OSHA Training Institute began partnering with colleges and universities to conduct workplace safety classes. Since then, over 248,000 safety personnel have been trained through these education centers.</p> <p>Link: http://www.osha.gov/dte/oti/index.html</p>
<p>May 1971 to May 1972</p> 	<p>First OSHA Standards</p> <p>OSHA adopts existing national consensus and establishes Federal standards to provide a baseline for safety and health protection in American workplaces.</p>
<p>Apr 28, 1971 to Jan 1973</p> 	<p>Assistant Secretary George Guenther</p> <p>George Guenther becomes the first Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health under President Richard Nixon. He oversees the adoption of initial safety and health consensus standards and the development of OSHA's first standard – on asbestos fibers, a carcinogen.</p>
<p>Apr 28, 1971</p> 	<p>The Occupational Safety and Health Administration Is Established</p> <p>OSHA is officially established on April 28, 1971. OSHA ensures safe and healthful working conditions for working men and women by setting and enforcing standards and by providing training, outreach, education and assistance.</p>

Dec 29, 1970



Signing of the Occupational Safety and Health Act

In response to dangerous working conditions across the nation and as a culmination of decades of reform, the bipartisan Williams-Steiger Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 was signed into law by President Richard M. Nixon. This law led to the establishment of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), and the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

Link: <http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshawe...tatus=CURRENT>