

ACCSH Training Work Group conference call 3/5/2020, 10AM-12PM

Attendees:

Chris Trahan Cain, NABTU
Fravel Combs, Mortenson
Kevin Cannon, AGC
Palmer Hickman, Electrical Training Alliance
Scott Mabry, NC State OSHA
Mark Mullins, IUEC
Wes Wheeler, NECA
Damon Bonneau, OSHA
Tim Irving, OSHA
Joey Gilliland, OSHA SOL
Jessica Bunting, CPWR
Robert Murphy, DTE
George Kennedy, NUCA
Wendell Wood, NAXSA

The conference call of the ACCSH Training Work Group began at 10 AM. ACCSH Chair Kevin Cannon welcomed everyone to the meeting and said that there would be opportunity for the public to provide input later.

Outreach Program Discussion

Robert Murphy of OSHA DTE provided OSHA courses that are specifically geared to or involve trenching and falls.

Falls related courses reached 13,500 students in 1,200 classes, which include the following courses:

- OSHA 3115 – Fall Protection (this curricula is being updated)
- OSHA 3085 – Principles of Scaffolding
- OSHA 7405 – Fall Hazard Awareness for the Construction Industry
- OSHA 7415 – Construction Industry Hazards and Prevention Strategies

Trenching related courses reach 9,100 students in 670 classes, which include the following courses:

- OSHA 3015 – Excavation, Trenching and Soil Mechanics
- OSHA 7410 – Managing Excavation Hazards

Courses are advertised by OSHA Training Institute Education Centers; each publishes a catalog of their available courses, uses social media, employer conferences, and national conferences to connect with potential audiences. Enforcement and DTE do not work in tandem to target courses toward employers who have received citations. The OSHA 10 and OSHA 30-hour courses target a much larger audience; there have been 2.6 million workers trained through that program.

There was a discussion expiration dates on courses, or an ability to take a refresher based on the requirements of a local government or contractor. There are also many state and local laws pertaining to OSHA 10 & 30 hour courses.

There was a discussion on the Request for Information on the effectiveness of OSHA computer-based training. Robert Murphy said there would likely be additional opportunities to comment on this issue in the future; comments received in the RFI ranged from supportive of the prospect to negative of the prospect. Work group co-chair Chris Cain said this issue will continue to be on the ACCSH agenda in the future.

Robert Murphy said that DTE is considering ways to improve the program and how to best utilize the resources they have. This conversation is currently limited to OSHA internally, but Chris Cain said that ACCSH will think about those issues as well and continue to keep changes for DTE on the agenda. There was a mention that some of the pre-requisites for peer trainers in the OSHA program being a barrier, which could be discussed in the future. Either Robert Murphy or another DTE representative will be invited to the April ACCSH meeting.

Falls Discussion

Jessica Bunting of CPWR gave a history and overview of the falls campaign and falls campaign stand-down. The falls stand-down this year will be May 4-8. Ways that the campaign is changing this year is to have a bigger social media push, doing webinars on technical aspects of fall prevention, and NIOSH has video interviews and testimonials of personal experiences. The falls webinar on March 4 was a question and answer format of the technical aspects of falls equipment; Chris Cain will circulate the link to it to the workgroup. Tom Kramer of the A10 Z359 committee answered questions on that webinar and spoke to the committee about current issues in fall protection equipment, as well as issues around how much knowledge on fall protection equipment the average competent person has.

There was a discussion on appendix B of the scaffolding standard. Wes Wheeler of NECA will contact scaffolding industry representatives, who may be invited to the next ACCSH meeting to further discuss appendix B.

Trenching

George Kennedy of NUCA and Wendell Wood of NAXSA presented on the history of the trenching stand-down and trenching summits. In 2017, they reached 47,000 workers with the trenching stand-down; by 2019, they reached 70,000 workers. Wendell Wood was open to sharing a guide on trenching summits with the workgroup. The stand-down and summits are going to focus on a specific kind of contractor that is hard to reach and may not know how easy it is to rent trenching equipment. Wendell Wood and OSHA will look at some of the data to parse out if there is a specific kind of employer or contractor who should be targeted in the information campaign.

ACCSH requested feedback on the resources currently available on falls and trenching, Chris Cain asked Damon Bonneau to supply an inventory of currently available materials for the work group to review prior to the next meeting; he agreed.

The meeting was adjourned at 12 PM.