New Safety and Health Compliance Assistance Resources
(FY 2017 Q1: Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2016)

This update highlights new workplace safety and health resources issued by OSHA, OSHA’s Susan Harwood grantees, OSHA’s Alliance Program participants, NIOSH, and CPWR.

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OSHA issued the following new or updated compliance assistance products from October 1 to December 31, 2016. For a listing of all new compliance assistance products issued by OSHA, see OSHA’s New Compliance Assistance Products Web page.

OSHA Web Resources

Final Rule to Update General Industry Walking-Working Surfaces and Fall Protection Standards

OSHA issued a final rule on Nov. 17, 2016 to update its general industry walking-working surfaces standard. The rule also adds a new section under the general industry personal protective equipment standards that establishes employer requirements for using personal fall protection systems. This web page includes the regulatory text, a fact sheet, and FAQs.
Sustainability in the Workplace (2016, Dec.)

This page highlights the importance of including worker safety and health in the growing movement toward sustainability and corporate responsibility. Download OSHA's white paper, Sustainability in the Workplace: A New Approach for Advancing Worker Safety and Health, to learn more.

2017 National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction

OSHA will hold its 4th annual National Fall Prevention Stand-Down on May 8-12, 2017. Visit this page to find out how to participate.

Confined Spaces in Construction – Frequently Asked Questions (updated 2016, June)

On May 4, 2015, OSHA issued a new standard for construction work in confined spaces, which became effective August 3, 2015. The new standard will help prevent construction workers from being hurt or killed by eliminating and isolating hazards in confined spaces at construction sites similar to the way workers in other industries are already protected. OSHA recently issued an expanded set of questions and answers to help employers comply with the standard.

Small businesses can use this publication to help them comply with OSHA’s Final Rule to Protect Workers from Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica. The guide describes in easy-to-understand language the steps that employers are required to take to protect employees in construction from the hazards associated with silica exposure. Enforcement of the final rule in construction is due to begin June 23, 2017.

Safety and Health Programs: Recommended Practices for Construction (2016, Dec.)

OSHA issued these recommended practices to help construction employers develop proactive programs to keep their workplaces safe. The recommendations may be particularly helpful to small- and medium-sized contractors who lack safety and health specialist on staff. See also OSHA’s Recommended Practices for Safety and Health Programs for general industry and other non-construction employers. OSHA has also launched a Campaign for Safety and Health Programs.
Whistleblower Protection Cards (2016, Dec.)

OSHA has released new cards explaining employee whistleblower rights protected by the agency under five federal statutes covering occupational safety and health (OSHA Publication 3850), commercial motor carriers (OSHA Publication 3853), railroads (OSHA Publication 3854), aviation (OSHA Publication 3851), and securities fraud (OSHA Publication 3852). Each card explains the activities protected by a specific statute, and provides contact information for OSHA and the time limit for filing a retaliation complaint. The cards are in English on one side and Spanish on the other.

General Industry Walking-Working Surfaces and Fall Protection Standards Final Rule Fact Sheet, OSHA Publication 3903 (2016, Nov.)

This fact sheet provides an overview of OSHA’s final rule to update, align, and provide greater flexibility in its general industry walking-working surfaces and fall protection standards.

Electric Power Fact Sheets (2016, Nov.)

A new series of fact sheets outline changes made in 2014 to OSHA’s general industry and construction standards covering work involving electric power generation, transmission and distribution lines and equipment. The fact sheets include: Major Changes to the Rule (OSHA Publication 3872); Electrical Protective Equipment Requirements (OSHA Publication 3875); Fall Protection Requirements (OSHA Publication 3874); and Minimum Approach Distance, Information Transfer and Training Requirements (OSHA Publication 3873). For more information, see OSHA’s web page on the Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution Standard.

Like more workplaces, farms face unexpected emergencies and disasters. This fact sheet reviews how employers and supervisors should develop and exercise an emergency action plan to prepare workers to handle emergencies and disasters.

Root Cause: The Importance of Root Cause Analysis During Incident Investigation. OSHA Publication FS-3895 (2016, Oct.).

In this fact sheet, OSHA and EPA urge employers to conduct a root cause analysis following an incident or near miss at a facility. The fact sheet reviews how to conduct a root cause analysis and its benefits for employers.

OSHA Videos

Injury Tracking Rule Video (2016, Dec.)

This OSHA video and blog message reviews OSHA’s recent final rule to improve tracking of workplace injuries and illnesses. The rule requires certain employers to electronically submit injury and illness data that they are already required to record on their onsite OSHA Injury and Illness forms. These employers must send their first reports to OSHA by July 1, 2017. OSHA will launch a secure website in February 2017 that will provide employers with several options for submitting the data. For more information on this rule, see OSHA’s website.
II. Harwood Grant Materials

No new materials developed by grantees under OSHA’s Susan Harwood Training Grant Program were posted on the OSHA Web site from October 1 to December 31, 2016. See the OSHA Web site for a complete list of materials developed by Harwood grantees. These materials do not necessarily reflect the official views of OSHA.

III. Alliance Program Materials

The following products were issued by OSHA’s Alliance Program participants as part of the Alliance Program from October 1 to December 31, 2016. These products do not necessarily reflect the official views of OSHA. For a complete listing of Alliance products, see the Alliance Program Participants Developed Products page.

<table>
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<th>Silica Toolbox Talk (2016, Oct.)</th>
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<td>Though OSHA’s Alliance with the Sealant Waterproofing &amp; Restoration Institute (SWR Institute), SWR Institute developed a toolbox talk on protecting construction workers from exposure to crystalline silica.</td>
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<th>Case Study on the Shared Responsibilities of Staffing Agencies and Host Employers for Temporary Worker Safety – Personal Protective Equipment and Injury Recordation (2016, Oct.)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Through OSHA’s Alliances with the American Staffing Association (ASA) and National Safety Council (NSC), ASA and NSC developed a case study on the safety obligations of staffing firms and host employers. The case study provides practical information for staffing companies and host employers to better protect temporary workers and understand which party is responsible for recording injuries on the OSHA Form 300 injury and illness log.</td>
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The NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program conducts investigations on workplace fatalities to identify the factors that contributed to these fatal injuries. This information is used to develop comprehensive recommendations for preventing similar deaths. The NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program issued the following reports and products from October 1 to December 31, 2016.

**Featured FACE Reports and Products**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Report Title</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>Preventing Falls in Construction: Kentucky FACE Program Workbook (2016, Oct.)</td>
<td>This workbook addresses the leading causes of fall-related injuries and deaths in construction. The workbook includes checklists on how to avoid the hazards, case reports of incidents in Kentucky, and a fall safety quiz.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Safety Alert: Remove Your Gloves When Using Machinery with Accessible Rotating or Moving Parts! - Massachusetts (2016, Nov.)</td>
<td>This safety alert reviews cases of severe finger and hand injuries, including amputations, as the result of workers wearing gloves while operating machines with accessible moving parts.</td>
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Other New FACE Reports

- Roofing Contractor Falls 25 Feet from Church Roof – Washington (2016, Oct.)
  - Fatality Narrative - as slideshow
- Convenience Store Robbery Safety – Kentucky FACE Alert (2016, Oct.)
- Municipal Foreman Killed When Struck by a Backhoe Loader Outrigger While in an Excavation – Massachusetts (2016, Nov.)
- Construction Siding Subcontractor Installer Killed when Oversized Scaffolding Platform Destabilized and Telescopic Forklift Overturned - Kentucky (2016, Dec.)
- Dairy Laborer Dies When Loader Falls Into Manure Pit - Washington (2016, Dec.)
  - Fatality Narrative - as slideshow

Criteria for a Recommended Standard: Occupational Exposure to Diacetyl and 2,3-Pentanedione. DHHS (NIOSH) Publication Number 2016-111 (2016, Oct.)

NIOSH released formal recommendations for controlling workplace exposures to diacetyl and 2,3-pentanedione. Diacetyl and its substitute, 2,3-pentanedione, are widely used as flavoring compounds. The NIOSH criteria document establishes recommended exposure limits (RELs) for these chemicals.
V. CPWR Resources

CPWR, the Center for Construction Research and Training, issued the following new resources:

Infographic: Keep Workers Safe on the Road (2016, Dec.)

NIOSH’s Center for Motor Vehicle Safety issued this infographic on why workplace motor vehicle safety matters. It covers the human and economic impact of work-related crashes, information enabling HR or safety professionals to make a business case for a motor vehicle safety program in the workplace.

CWPR Hazard Alerts

CPWR has issued updated Hazard Alerts on Working in Cold Weather and Asbestos. These sturdy, water-resistant pocket brochures are written in plain language with color illustrations. Available in English and Spanish, they can be used for handouts for toolbox talks and training classes. The Hazard Alerts can be downloaded as 8x11 flyers. Print versions can be ordered by email or phone (301-495-8544).