



# OSHA REGIONAL INSTRUCTION

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

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**DIRECTIVE NUMBER:** CPL 2 02-00-014A | **EFFECTIVE DATE:** October 1, 2019

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**SUBJECT:** Regional Emphasis Program for Construction

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**REGIONAL IDENTIFIER:** Region VI

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## ABSTRACT

- Purpose:** This Instruction renews a Regional Emphasis Program (REP) for the Construction Industry NAICS 236XXX, NAICS 237XXX, and NAICS 238XXX.
- Scope:** This Instruction applies to all worksites in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, and those worksites in New Mexico that are under Federal OSHA jurisdiction.
- References:** OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-025  
OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-051  
OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-155  
OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-163  
OSHA Instruction CSP 03-02-003  
OSHA Instruction CPL 04-00-002  
Region VI Regional Instruction CPL 2 dated October 1, 2019, Cranes in Construction  
Construction web pages found at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)
- Cancellations:** Region VI Regional Notice CPL 2 02-00-014 dated October 1, 2018, Regional Emphasis Program for Construction.
- State Impact:** Region VI 21(d) Consultation Project Offices in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas will provide outreach, consultation services, and training to affected employers as requested.
- Action Offices:** Region VI Area Offices  
Region VI Consultation Project Offices  
Dallas Regional Office
- Information Offices:** New Mexico Occupational Health and Safety Bureau
- Originating Office:** Dallas Regional Office

**Contact:** Assistant Regional Administrator for  
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By and Under the Authority of

ERIC S. HARBIN  
Acting Regional Administrator

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- I. **Purpose.** This Instruction renews an enforcement initiative to prevent deaths among workers in the construction industry, (NAICS 236XXX), focusing on the hazards of fall from elevations, caught-in or between, struck-by and electrocution.

This Instruction does not supersede the National Emphasis Programs (NEP) for Trenching and Excavations.

- II. **Scope.** This Instruction applies to all worksites in Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas, and those worksites in New Mexico that are under Federal OSHA jurisdiction.

III. **References.**

- A. OSHA Instruction CPL 04-00-002, Procedures for Approval of Local Emphasis Programs (“LEPs”), November 13, 2018, or current update.
- B. OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-163, Field Operations Manual (FOM), September 13, 2019, or current update.
- C. OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-025, Scheduling System for Programmed Inspections, January 4, 1995, or current update.
- D. OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-051, Enforcement Exemptions and Limitations under the Appropriations Act, May 28, 1998, or current update.
- E. OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-155, Inspection Scheduling for Construction, September 6, 2013, or current update.
- F. OSHA Instruction CSP 03-02-003, OSHA Strategic Partnership Program for Worker Safety and Health, November 6, 2013, or current update.
- G. Region VI Regional Instruction CPL 2 dated October 1, 2019, Cranes in Construction
- H. Construction web pages found at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

- IV. **Expiration.** This Instruction expires September 30, 2024, but may be renewed as necessary.

V. **Background.**

Construction work fatalities include work activities associated with, but not limited to work on elevated surfaces, work from scaffolding, work from aerial equipment, work from ladders, work conducted during demolition activities, construction of residential structures, construction of commercial and industrial structures, work conducted in a

trench/excavation, work to construct, service or repair overhead power lines, work conducted on or near streets, roads, highways, bridges and overpasses for the purpose of building, maintaining or repairing. The leading causes of death were falls from elevation, struck-by, caught-in between and electrocution.

Construction workers are at increased risk of suffering a work-related injury, and the extent of the problem may be far greater than the elevated risk reported by employers and seen in the BLS data.

| Number and rate of non-fatal occupational injuries and illnesses by selected industry, All U.S., private industry, (Incidence rate per ten thousand full-time workers) |                  |      |              |      |                  |      |              |      |
|--|------------------|------|--------------|------|------------------|------|--------------|------|
| Characteristic   | 2016             |      |              |      | 2017             |      |              |      |
|  | Private industry |      | Construction |      | Private industry |      | Construction |      |
|  | Number           | Rate | Number       | Rate | Number           | Rate | Number       | Rate |
| <b>Injuries &amp; Illnesses</b>  |                  |      |              |      |                  |      |              |      |
| Total cases  | 2857.4           | 2.9  | 203.5        | 3.2  | 2811.5           | 2.8  | 198.1        | 3.1  |
| Cases with days away from work job transfer or restriction   | 1547.8           | 1.6  | 119.9        | 1.9  | 1528.0           | 1.5  | 115.5        | 1.8  |
| Cases with days away from work   | 892.3            | 0.9  | 82.8         | 1.3  | 882.7            | .9   | 79.8         | 1.2  |
| Cases with job transfer or restriction   | 655.6            | 0.7  | 37.2         | .6   | 645.3            | 0.7  | 35.7         | .6   |
| Other recordable cases   | 1309.5           | 1.3  | 83.5         | 1.3  | 1283.5           | 1.4  | 82.6         | 1.3  |
| <b>Illnesses</b>   |                  |      |              |      |                  |      |              |      |
| Total cases  | 137.5            | 14.1 | 5.7          | 9.2  | 126.4            | 12.8 | 3.8          | 6    |
| Illness categories   |                  |      |              |      |                  |      |              |      |
| Skin disorders   | 21.8             | 2.2  | -            | -    | 18.5             | 1.9  | 1            | 1.6  |
| Respiratory conditions   | 11.0             | 1.1  | .5           | .8   | 10.4             | 1.1  | .3           | .4   |

|                         |      |     |     |     |      |     |     |     |
|-------------------------|------|-----|-----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|
| Poisoning               | 2.0  | 0.2 | .2  | .2  | 1.7  | 0.2 | .1  | .2  |
| Hearing loss            | 16.5 | 1.7 | 0.1 | .2  | 14   | 1.4 | .1  | .2  |
| All other illness cases | 86.2 | 8.9 | 3.0 | 4.7 | 81.8 | 8.3 | 2.3 | 3.6 |

BLS data also indicates that workers in the construction industry have elevated injury rates related to private industry (2017 construction incidence rate is higher than the private industry rate).

OSHA initiated this program to reduce the fatality events throughout the industry and to solicit the cooperation of the industry to achieve better and continuously effective safety and health programs.

OSHA will employ a number of tools to address this issue, including enforcement, outreach, training, onsite consultation, partnerships, alliances, and the Voluntary Protection Program (VPP).

The provisions of OSHA Instruction CPL 02-00-051, Enforcement Exemptions and Limitations under the Appropriations Act, Section XI, and Enforcement Guidance for Small Employers shall apply where appropriate.

## VI. Enforcement.

- A. Hazards. Fall from elevations, caught -in or between, struck-by, crushed-by and electrocution will be addressed because previous OSHA inspection data indicates these hazards are the leading cause of death within the construction industry.
- B. This Instruction is provided because of the immediate need to address unsafe working conditions in the construction industry that contribute to workplace fatalities and, more importantly, to minimize or entirely eliminate them.

The specific targeted industries are Construction of Buildings NAICS Code 236XXX, Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction NAICS Codes 237XXX, and Special Trade Contractors NAICS Code 238XXX.

- C. Scheduling of Inspections.

- 1. The Area Director will instruct trained CSHOs to be alert of construction hazards throughout the Area Office's jurisdiction. Inspections will take place in instances where the Compliance Officer observes hazards covered by this instruction.

2. Before initiating enforcement activities, the CSHO will determine if an inspection is limited by the Enforcement Exemptions and Limitations under the Appropriations Act.
3. Exemptions. If an employer and/or contractor are a Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) employer or have passed an annual OSHA verification inspection, the terms of the VPP and/or partnership agreement will be followed.

If “plain view” hazards, outlined by this REP, are observed by a CSHO a limited scope inspection will be conducted to address the “plain view” hazards (including appropriate records review). A verification inspection will not be conducted until the Area Director has been consulted.

A list of current partnership sites within the area office jurisdiction will be maintained and made available for CSHO review.

- D. Scope of REP Inspection. Inspections under this emphasis program will be limited to the hazards which are in plain view including those which caused the CSHO to identify the worksite. If the CSHO’s evaluation indicates that a more comprehensive inspection should be completed at the worksite, they will request authority to expand the inspection from the Area Director or the Assistant Area Director. In determining whether to approve the expansion, the Area Director or Assistant Area Director will follow the FOM and current Agency policy. CSHO’s will make appropriate entries into their case file regarding the scope of the inspection. Apparent potential health hazards, such as but not limited to, silica, lead, noise, and other recognized health hazards will be evaluated. If necessary, a health referral will be made.

The CSHO will evaluate all on-site employers through inspection, observation, photographs, video footage, measurements, and interviews of management and employees.

- E. Citations. Citations for violations shall be issued in accordance with the FOM, Chapters V, VI, and VII.
- F. Interface with Unprogrammed Activity. Reports of imminent danger, fatalities, catastrophes, complaints, and referrals shall be scheduled as unprogrammed inspections, and shall be inspected in accordance with the applicable provisions of the FOM.
- G. Inspection Resources. Only trained Compliance Officers with experience in the construction industry shall be assigned to conduct inspections under this REP.

All OSHA personnel participating in this REP must be familiar with the policies and procedures described in this instruction.

- H. CSHO Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). CSHO’s will use personal protective equipment suitable for the targeted industry. PPE will include, at a minimum, a hard hat, safety glasses with side shields, safety shoes/boots (with metatarsal guards as necessary), hearing protection, and high visibility apparel/vest.
- I. Relationship to Other Programs. Area Offices will continue to schedule worksites for inspection from the Construction Inspection Targeting System that maximize the best utilization of area office resources. These inspections will be conducted according to the FOM and the OSHA Instruction for Inspection Scheduling for Construction

**VII. Recording in OIS.**

- A. Enforcement Inspections: Enforcement inspections completed under this initiative will be coded:

In OIS in the Inspection Type sub-tab:

- 1. Initiating “Type” will be coded “Programmed Planned” with the following exception. Any inspections conducted as a result of a complaint, referral, or fatality/catastrophe will be coded as the appropriate “unprogrammed” activity.
- 2. Local Emphasis Program will be coded **CONSTR6** for all programmed and unprogrammed inspections.
- 3. Additional codes will be coded with any applicable additional codes and with the following codes specific to the construction activity covered by the inspection:

| <u>Type</u> | <u>ID</u> | <u>Value</u> |
|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| R           | 19        | FALL6        |
| R           | 19        | STRUCK6      |
| R           | 19        | CAUGHT6      |
| R           | 19        | ELECT6       |

- B. Enforcement Interventions: Enforcement Interventions completed under this initiative, including partnerships, alliances, Voluntary Protection Programs, and other interventions, will be coded:

In OIS in the Task sub-tab, Task Details, Emphasis Areas as follows:



1. Local Emphasis Programs will be coded **CONSTR6**.
  2. Other Emphasis Areas will include any applicable additional codes and the codes specific to the construction activity covered by the inspection per VII.A.4.
- C. Consultation Visits: Consultation Visits completed under this initiative will be coded:
1. In OIS on the Request Form CONS-20:
    - a. Local Emphasis will be coded **CONSTR6**.
    - b. Field 18 will include any applicable additional codes and the codes specific to the construction activity covered by the inspection per VII.A.4.
  2. In OIS on the Visit Form CONS-30:
    - a. Local Emphasis will be coded **CONSTR6**.
    - b. Field 22 will include any applicable additional codes and the codes specific to the construction activity covered by the inspection per VII.A.4.
- D. Consultation Interventions: Consultation Interventions completed under this initiative will be coded:
- In OIS on the Consultation Intervention Form CONS-66:
1. Local Emphasis will be coded **CONSTR6**.
  2. Field 15 will include any applicable additional codes and the codes specific to the construction activity covered by the inspection per VII.A.4.
- E. Area Offices, Consultation Projects, and the Regional Office shall periodically check their OIS databases to verify accuracy of the data for the initiative.

### **VIII. Outreach.**

All REP's must contain an outreach component that must be ongoing throughout the effective period of the program. These outreach efforts should be coordinated with or include the consultation program for that area. The method of outreach is at the Area Director's discretion and can consist of one or more of the following components:

1. Broadcast mail-outs or program information
2. Stakeholder meetings
3. Targeted training sessions
4. Presentations to the affected group(s)

**IX. Partnerships and Alliances.**

In the event outreach efforts result in the interest in developing an alliance or partnership the Area Director will insure that these efforts conform to current National and Regional Policy.

- X. Evaluation.** The Regional office will evaluate the impact of the REP at the midpoint of the program as well as at the expiration. Information and data from OIS along with input from the Area Directors will be used in program reports. Elements to be considered in the program reports are contained in OSHA Instruction CPL 04-00-002.