

# Safety Update

## Ohio BWC Library



### **Statewide competition recognizes safety innovations**

*BWC looking for competitors — Apply by Oct. 31, 2014*

This competition encourages Ohio companies or organizations that have developed and/or implemented an effective, innovative solution to an occupational safety or health issue to submit an application. Representatives from our Division of Safety & Hygiene will review all entries and select the finalists who will compete for cash prizes. The finalists will display their innovations at the Ohio Safety Congress & Expo, on April 1 and 2, 2015, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center. At that time, a panel of independent judges will evaluate and score the innovations on risk reduction, innovation, cost savings, potential impact and presentation.

**To apply:** Visit [www.bwc.ohio.gov](http://www.bwc.ohio.gov) by Oct. 31, 2014. Click on safety services.

**Submit questions to:** [SafetyInnovations@bwc.ohio.gov](mailto:SafetyInnovations@bwc.ohio.gov) or phone 1-800-644-6292

### **New Requirements for Reporting Severe Injuries**

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) announced a final rule requiring employers to notify OSHA when an employee is killed on the job or suffers a work-related hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye. The rule, which also updates the list of employers partially exempt from OSHA record-keeping requirements, will go into effect on Jan. 1, 2015, for workplaces under federal OSHA jurisdiction. You can read the full press release here.

OSHA has a blog post on this new rule, including an infographic to help you interpret what injuries must be reported to OSHA and when. More information on the new rule, including partially exempt industries can be found on the OSHA website.

## NIOSH News

### NIOSH and OSHA Announce Best Practices to Protect Temporary Workers

On August 25, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) jointly published a document that outlines best practices for temporary workers. These recommendations are specific to employers who use workers from staffing agencies and include practices for providing proper safety and health protections for these workers. To download the full fact sheet, please visit: <https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3735.pdf>.

### Updated Hazardous Drug List

NIOSH recently released a new document on healthcare worker safety. The [NIOSH List of Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs in Healthcare Settings, 2014](#) is an update of the 2004 initial list of major hazardous drugs. The current update adds 27 drugs and removes 12 drugs that did not meet the NIOSH criteria for hazardous drugs.

### Worker Exposures to Specific Chemicals during Oil and Gas Extraction Flowback

New NIOSH findings indicate that benzene exposure can occur at above the NIOSH recommended limits during certain work activities at oil and gas extraction sites. They posted their findings in a recent [blog post](#) regarding exposure assessments, which discusses the preliminary conclusions and recommendations for worker protection at these sites.

## OSHA News

### Top 10 OSHA Violation Categories for 2014

OSHA revealed the agency's preliminary top 10 most-cited violations for fiscal year 2014 during the National Safety Congress and Expo. For the fourth year in a row, the fall protection standard was the agency's most frequently cited violation. A copy of the press release can be found [here](#).

Here are the top 10 most-cited violations along with the number of citations for each.

1. Fall protection (1926.501) – 6,143
2. Hazard Communication (1910.1200) – 5,161
3. Scaffolding (1926.451) – 4,029
4. Respiratory Protection (1910.134) – 3,223
5. Lockout/Tagout (1910.147) – 2,704
6. Powered Industrial Trucks (1910.178) – 2,662
7. Electrical – Wiring Methods (1910.305) – 2,490
8. Ladders (1926.1053) – 2,448
9. Machine Guarding (1910.212) – 2,200
10. Electrical – General Requirements (1910.303) – 2,056

### Electrical Safety Videos

OSHA produced two new videos on electrical safety.

- [Electrocution/Work Safely with Cranes Near Power Lines](#)  
This OSHA prevention video describes how to prevent deaths and injuries while using cranes near power lines.
- [Electrocution/Work Safely with Ladders Near Power Lines](#)  
This OSHA prevention video describes how to prevent deaths and injuries while working on ladders near overhead power lines.

### National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries in 2013 (Preliminary Results)

A preliminary total of 4,405 fatal work injuries were recorded in the United States in 2013, lower than the revised count of 4,628 fatal work injuries in 2012, according to results from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The rate of fatal work injury for U.S. workers in 2013 was 3.2 per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers, compared to a final rate of 3.4 per 100,000 in 2012. The full news release can be read [here](#).

#### Key Findings for 2013:

- The 3,929 fatal work injuries that occurred in private industry is the lowest total since BLS began collecting this data more than 20 years ago;
- Fatal work injuries involving workers under 16 years of age were substantially lower, falling from 19 in 2012 to five in 2013 - the lowest total ever reported by the census;
- Fatal work injuries among Hispanic or Latino workers were higher in 2013, rising 7 percent;
- Transportation-related incidents accounted for 40 percent of all fatal work injuries but declined in 2013;
- Overall, violence accounted for one out of every six fatal work injuries in 2013.

### Journey to Safety Excellence

The National Safety Council announced the Journey to Safety Excellence, a workplace initiative for organizations of all sizes to make their workers safer. In partnership with national founding sponsor Grainger, the initiative aims to help equip organizations with free, practical tools to improve safety. Organizations may join the Journey for free on the [NSC website](#).

### Power Strip Safety

Overloaded power strips were to blame for two separate Manhattan fires that occurred on Aug. 18, 2014 that left one resident dead and another resident seriously burned, and another fire near Lower Manhattan on Aug. 17, 2014. The Electrical Safety Foundation International has [safety tips](#) for the use of power cords and power strips.

### Preventing Falls Infographic

We love infographics! The Canadian Center for Occupational Health and Safety (CCOHS) posted this [infographic](#) on preventing falls from slips and trips. The document has information on the causes of slips, how to prevent falls and five ways to reduce the risk of falling. There is also a link to the CCOHS website with more information on the topic.

### Workstation Stretches

Sitting too much at your workstation? Do you feel like you need to get up and do something about it?

Here are some stretches you can do at your workstation to help reduce muscle pain and strain caused by a lack of movement. The Canadian Center for Occupational Health and Safety recommends that you take a break for 5 - 10 minutes every hour spent at a workstation. They have some [suggested stretches](#) that can be done right at your desk.

### National Fire Prevention Week is Oct. 5 - 11, 2014.

The theme this year is Working Smoke Alarms Save Lives: Test Yours Every Month. [This page](#) from the National Fire Prevention Association contains material for the fire service, teachers, and kids and families.

## Young Worker Safety and Health

The Georgia Tech Research Institute has a website dedicated to young worker safety. The [Center for Young Worker Safety and Health](#) has free online training in seven areas: general, teacher, primer, healthcare, cosmetology, culinary and construction. Designed for workers age 15 - 24, there is also a blog and links to other resources for young worker safety.

## Prescription Drug Overdose in the U.S.

According to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#) drug overdose was the leading cause of injury death in 2011. Among people 25 - 64 years old, drug overdose caused more deaths than motor vehicle traffic crashes. Learn more about this problem, the most common drugs abused, the cost to society and the risk factors for drug overdose along with information on prevention and treatment.

## Drive Safely Work Week

Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS) 2014 [Drive Safely Work Week](#) is Oct. 6 - 10, 2014. The NETS has a four step program you can use to get your organization thinking about the importance of safe driving, including leadership involvement, employee engagement, extension to the community, and sustaining road safety all year.

## Chemical Risk Assessments from the U.S. EPA

The United States Environmental Protection Agency(EPA) through the Toxic Substances Control Act Program has several new chemical assessments available. More information on these and other chemicals is available on the [EPA website](#).

- **Methylene Chloride or Dichloromethane (DCM)**

This risk assessment addresses DCM in paint stripper products. On Aug. 28, 2014, EPA released the final risk assessment that indicates health risks to both workers and consumers who use these products, and to bystanders in workplaces and residences where DCM is used. EPA is considering a range of possible voluntary and regulatory actions to address concerns and anticipates conducting a workshop in late fall to engage key stakeholders and the public on potential alternatives and risk reduction approaches.

- **Antimony Trioxide (ATO)**

This risk assessment addresses effects on ecological receptors from the use of antimony trioxide (ATO) as a synergist in halogenated flame retardants. On Aug. 28, 2014, EPA released the final risk assessment that indicated no concern for this use of ATO.

- **1,3,4,6,7,8-Hexahydro-4,6,6,7,8,8,-hexamethylcyclopenta[γ]-2-benzopyran (HHCB)**

This risk assessment addresses ecological risks from HHCB as a fragrance ingredient in commercial and consumer products. On Aug. 28, 2014, EPA released the final risk assessment that indicated no concern for this use of HHCB.

## Harvest Safety

As harvest season comes into full swing in Ohio, [SafeElectricity.org](#) has a website dedicated to reminding farmers and agricultural workers to be safe in large farm equipment around overhead power lines. The website has a news release, video public safety announcements in English and Spanish, audio sound bites and photos

Please contact the [library@bwc.state.oh.us](mailto:library@bwc.state.oh.us) or 614-466-7388 for more information on any of these items.