

Safety Update

Ohio BWC Library

BWC introduces a new tool in safety for public employers

BWC's division of Public Employment Risk reduction Program created a new tool called the PERRP Safety Alert (PSA). It is a tool for employers to educate employees about potential risks that have already caused injuries or death in Ohio. The PSA outlines ways to reduce or eliminate work related accidents. It also covers training and proper work practices.

Click here for Safety Alert 



NIOSH News

New Topic Page Promotes Healthy Aging

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently released a new topic page, [Healthy Aging at Work](#) that offers a worker-focused perspective on health and safety and chronic disease issues related to aging. The page presents data and statistics, research, recommendations and guidelines and resources for a healthy aging workforce.

Smart Phones and Sound Levels

Can you turn your smart phone into a sound level meter? NIOSH says yes. In this [blog post](#), NIOSH shares the results of their tests of smart phone sound level apps. They reviewed 10 iOS and 4 Android apps that met selection criteria. They concluded that the apps can be useful for making spot checks to determine if harmful sound levels are present.

NIOSH 2013 Research Bibliography

NIOSH has published its Bibliography of Communication and Research Products for 2013. This document not only gives the title and authors of journal articles, books, publications and proceedings that the agency authored, it has statistics on the areas of research, numbers of articles and variety of subjects produced.

Worker Safety Information for Poultry Production

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has published a new [Poultry Topic Page](#) which features a recently released study of musculoskeletal disorders in workers at a South Carolina processing facility. The page offers resources to help employers and workers identify risk factors and take effective measures to prevent work-related injuries and illnesses in poultry processing.

OSHA News

Final Rule for Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution

OSHA announced that a final rule will go into effect on July 10, 2014. This updated standard improves safety for construction workers performing work on electric power facilities and aligns it with the current general industry standard. The new standards address the safe use and care of electrical protective equipment, including new requirements that equipment made of materials other than rubber provide adequate protection from electrical hazards. Read the [news release](#) and visit the new [Power Generation Web page](#) for more information.

New Educational Resources on Protecting Nursing Home Workers

OSHA has developed [Safe Patient Handling: Preventing Musculoskeletal Disorders in Nursing Homes](#), a new brochure that addresses the prevention of musculoskeletal disorders among nursing home and residential care workers. This brochure describes the benefits of and the elements of a successful safe patient handling program to reduce or prevent the number of musculoskeletal injuries. It also includes some common misconceptions about patient handling programs. More information can be found on the OSHA [Healthcare](#) topic page.

Two New OSHA Documents for the Construction Industry

- A new OSHA [Safety and Health Information Bulletin](#) addresses the serious fire hazards from applying flammable roofing adhesives using a particular dolly-type roller device. The bulletin contains precautions that should be taken when applying these materials.
- A new fact sheet provides information on safely using mobile, [narrow frame scaffolds](#) that are used like ladders. There tips to avoid hazards such as falls, tip-overs, electric shocks and structural collapse as well as training information.

Other News

EHS Today GHS Topic Page

The magazine EHS Today has a [Web page](#) where they have assembled a series of tip sheets and articles regarding compliance with the new GHS regulations.

MSHA Updated Mine Safety & Health at a Glance Page

The Mine Safety and Health Administration has released a preliminary yearly update to its [website](#) on mine safety and health. The site includes information on inspections, violations, number of mines and miners, and fatality and injury rates for coal, metal and nonmetal, and all mining. The data show that the 2013 overall injury rate improved from the prior year to an historic low, however the number of mining deaths and fatal rates increased. Joseph A. Main, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health provided [comments](#) on the data.

Spring Weather Emergency Information

Boston College Emergency Management Department has prepared a [document](#) with information about how to stay safe during spring weather emergencies including NOAA weather terminology, auto safety and what to do after a storm has passed.

Choose Hand Safety

This [website](#), created by The Center for Construction Research and Training was developed to provide construction workers and contractors with information that can be used to reduce the risk of work-related hand injuries, dermatitis, and related hand and skin disorders. The site includes information on:

- **Choosing Hand Tools** – how to decide if a hand tool is “ergonomic” for the user, what features can reduce the risk for injury, and guidance on selecting hand tools.
- **Choosing Gloves** – how to prevent skin disorders, such as dermatitis, the importance of selecting the right gloves for a product and task, and guidance for selecting gloves.

This site also includes general information on preventing other types of hand injuries and training materials that can be used with workers and contractors on job sites or in classroom settings, to raise awareness of hand and skin hazards and increase the use of preventive measures.

D!straction.gov

The U.S. Department of Transportation is leading the effort to stop texting and cell phone use behind the wheel. D!straction.gov is the US government website for distracted driving. The site contains facts and statistics about distracted driving accidents. There is a place you can take a pledge not to text and drive, ways for people to get involved and spread the message and information on the laws and actions being taken by the DOT.

NAOSH Week

North American Occupational Safety and Health Week, (NAOSH Week), will be May 4 -10 this year and Occupational Safety and Health Professional Day (OSHP Day) is May 7. This event is sponsored by several safety organizations including the American and Canadian Societies of Safety Engineers and the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety. Information about events, resources and promotional materials can be found on the [NAOSH website](#). www.twitter.com/NAOSHweek

National Transportation Statistics Updated

The U.S. Department of Transportation’s Bureau of Transportation Statistics (BTS) updated [National Transportation Statistics](#) (NTS) – a web-only reference guide to national-level transportation data. NTS presents statistics on the U.S. transportation system, including its physical components, safety record, economic performance, the human and natural environment, and national security. NTS, updated quarterly, includes a wide range of national transportation information and consists of more than 260 tables of national data.

Purdue University Grain Entrapment Report 2013

Purdue University’s Agricultural Safety and Health Program publishes an [annual summary](#) of U.S. grain-related entrapments and engulfments. In this 2013 report, 67 incidents were identified including incidents not directly related to grain but including any confined space in an agricultural setting.

Occupational Injuries and Illnesses: A Pilot Study of Job-Transfer or Work-Restriction Cases, 2012

This [pilot study](#) conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics reviewed the case circumstances and worker characteristics for occupational injury and illness cases that resulted in days of job transfer or work restriction for workers in six private industry subsectors in 2012. The report presents data highlights and statistical tables on injuries and illnesses that led to employees being transferred to another job or restricted from their normal duties.

Please contact the library@bwc.state.oh.us or 614-466-7388 for more information on any of these items.