

# Safety Update

## Ohio BWC Library

### New Online GHS Training Available from Ohio BWC

BWC announces a new online training to meet the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) Hazard Communication 2012 GHS training requirement. OSHA's deadline for this training is Dec. 1.

The Hazard Communication 2012 Basics: Labeling, Safety Data Sheets, and Pictograms Online course is a fast and easy online tutorial. This is an overview of the OSHA changes to the Hazard Communication Standard to align it with the Globally Harmonized System (GHS).

View this [flyer](#) detailing learning outcomes and the enrollment steps to take this simple and easy 30 minute HazCom 2012 Basics training.

### NIOSH Resources

#### NIOSH Study of Firefighters Finds Increased Rates of Cancer

A combined population of 30,000 firefighters from three large cities had higher rates of several types of cancers, and of all cancers combined, than the U.S. population as a whole, researchers from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and colleagues found in a new [study](#).

- Cancers of the respiratory, digestive, and urinary systems accounted mostly for the higher rates of cancer seen in the study population. The higher rates suggest that firefighters are more likely to develop those cancers.
- The population of firefighters in the study had a rate of mesothelioma two times greater than the rate in the U.S. population as a whole. This was the first study ever to identify an excess of mesothelioma in U.S. firefighters. The researchers said it was likely that the findings were associated with exposure to asbestos, a known cause of mesothelioma.

The findings were reported in an article posted on-line on Oct. 14, 2013, by the peer-reviewed journal Occupational and Environmental Medicine. You can get more information from BWC's library.

#### NIOSH Releases Data and Statistics Gateway

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) [Data and Statistics Gateway](#) is a scientific data repository. It houses NIOSH-generated public-use research datasets, valuable for the public, industry and the scientific community, that are available for download. The Gateway also provides convenient access to surveillance, statistics and other collections of NIOSH data focused on occupational safety and health.

## NIOSH Contest Seeks Mobile App for Respirator Info

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Are you an App developer? NIOSH is challenging teams of developers to design a mobile application (app) that the public will use to query the NIOSH trusted source site <http://knowits.niosh.gov>. The app would enable people to search the site for specific criteria and display all relevant information on the Web page in an easy to view format on a mobile device. The NIOSH trusted-source Web page is the one-stop resource to get reliable respirator information. The goal is to create a mobile app that can run on multiple platforms such as Apple iOS, Windows and Android. It would make the respirator trusted-source content selectable and easy-to-use, reaching users with portable technology. Submissions are due Dec. 23. NIOSH will announce the winner the week of Jan. 11. The winning software development team gets an \$8,000 prize and is obligated to provide technical support for one year at no cost to NIOSH. Two \$1,000 honorable mention prizes are also available. For more details see this [Federal Register](#) page.

## OSHA

### OSHA Public Sector Safety and Health Fundamentals Certificate Program

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If you work in the public sector and are looking for safety and health training, OSHA has created a [certificate program](#) for you. Students can choose from topics such as:

- Occupational safety and health standards for the construction or general industries;
- Safety and health management;
- Accident investigation;
- Fall hazard awareness;
- Recordkeeping.

Participants have the opportunity to earn certificates for construction and general Industry training. To earn a certificate, participants must complete a minimum of seven courses and 68 contact hours. There are two locations in Ohio for this training — Springboro and Cincinnati.

### OSHA Creates Two New Web Tools to Keep Workers Safe from Chemical Exposure

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Each year in the United States, tens of thousands of workers become sick or die from occupational exposures to the thousands of hazardous chemicals used in workplaces every day.

OSHA recently launched two new Web resources to assist companies with keeping their workers safe.

The first resource is a [toolkit](#) that employers and workers can use to identify safer chemicals they can use instead of more hazardous ones. This toolkit walks employers and workers step-by-step through information, methods, tools and guidance to either eliminate hazardous chemicals or make informed substitution decisions in the workplace by finding a safer chemical, material, product or process.

OSHA also created another new Web resource: the [Annotated Permissible Exposure Limits](#), or annotated PEL tables. This resource enables employers to voluntarily adopt newer, more protective workplace exposure limits. The annotated PEL tables provide a side-by-side comparison of OSHA PELs for general industry to the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health PELs, NIOSH recommended exposure limits, and American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienist threshold limit values.

## Other Safety Links

### Safer.gov

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This [website](#) from the US Department of Transportation has safety information for vehicle shoppers, owners, manufacturers and parents. Find crash test ratings, recall information, and file and view vehicle safety complaints. You can also obtain information on car seats, teen driving and more.

### Top 10 Safety Blogs

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According to the MySafetySign blog, there are 10 safety blogs you should read. See the list here <http://www.mysafetysign.com/blog/top-ten-safety-blogs/>.

### Basic Primer on Hydraulic Fracking

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Need a basic primer on hydraulic fracking? This [website](#) from the Council on Foreign Relations provides some background. It includes a definition of fracking and information on where it occurs, how much oil and gas operators can recover, the possible environmental impacts and government regulatory information.

### School Safety Brief

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Promote Prevent a global nonprofit organization created this [brief](#) on how school resource officers (SROs) can create safer schools through effective SRO programs.

### UP Cares

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UP Cares is a [website](#) created by Union Pacific Railroads on train safety. You can find information about pedestrians and trespassing, grade crossings, and trucks. Learn how to stay safe around railroad tracks and crossings.

### Mold Cleanup Guidance

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The National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences' booklet *Mold Cleanup & Treatment: Health & Safety Essentials for Workers, Volunteers and Homeowners* is available. It's primarily intended for workers, volunteers and homeowners who engage in small-scale mold clean-up and treatment of flooded or water-damaged homes. If a flood or storm has damaged your home, you can download a copy of the document in PDF format [here](#) or order a hard copy from this [website](#).

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.