

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA)
REGULATORY UPDATES

FINAL STATUTES AND RULEMAKING

CITATION	SUMMARY
There were no final statutes issued during the 2nd quarter of 2017.	

LETTERS OF INTERPRETATION

OSHA has issued the following letters of interpretation since our last regulatory update:

June 30, 2017 - Monorail Hoists Enforcement Policies [1926 Subpart CC; 1926.1400(a)]

[OSHA.gov](https://www.osha.gov)

RECENT NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

OSHA releases three new publications on Process Safety Management

OSHA has released three guidance documents to help employers comply with the agency's Process Safety Management (PSM) standard. PSM is critically important to facilities that store highly hazardous chemicals. Implementing the required safety programs helps prevent fires, explosions, large chemical spills, toxic gas releases, runaway chemical reactions, and other major incidents. The new documents focus on PSM compliance for Small Businesses (<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3908.pdf>), Storage Facilities (<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3909.pdf>) and Explosives and Pyrotechnics Manufacturing (<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3912.pdf>).

OSHA to delay enforcement of crystalline silica standard in the construction industry

OSHA will delay the enforcement of the crystalline silica standard in construction from June 23 to September 23. The three-month delay will allow for more outreach to be conducted and guidance provided to employers. The compliance deadlines for general industry and maritime, set for June 2018, remain unchanged

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**NIOSH online network helps healthcare facilities address bloodborne pathogens and other hazards**

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has established a web-based injury and exposure monitoring system available at no cost to healthcare facilities. This secure system enables participating facilities to analyze worker injury and exposure data that they already collect. Trends for traumatic injury and hazardous exposures are visualized using a chart function. The system allows facilities to track five common work-related injuries and exposures in healthcare: sharps injuries; blood and body fluid exposure; slips, trips, and falls; patient handling injuries; and workplace violence. Visit the OHSN webpage at (<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ohsn/>) for more information.

New publication offers best practices for preventing injuries among communication tower workers

A new booklet from OSHA and the Federal Communications Commission provides safety information intended to reduce injuries and fatalities among communication tower climbers and ground crew employees. The booklet compiles best practices gathered from a series of discussions involving industry stakeholders and worker safety advocates that began with a workshop in October 2014. The information is organized to appeal to specific audiences: tower climbers and ground crew employees, carriers and tower owners, turfing vendors, and tower construction and maintenance contractors. The document is available at:

[OSHA.gov](https://www.osha.gov)**OSHA and NIOSH offer updated heat safety app**

NIOSH and OSHA have collaborated to update OSHA's original Heat Safety Tool. The updated app, available for both Android and iPhone, provides a clearer user interface, while still providing the same information to help keep workers safe when working outdoors in hot weather. Employers should encourage workers exposed to hot and humid conditions to use the app to check the heat index and relevant protective measures. The app displays the heat index in the user's location and shows the current risk level. The app also forecasts the hourly heat index throughout the entire workday, giving employers information they can use to adjust the work environment as needed to protect workers. To download the updated app, visit OSHA's website at:

[OSHA.gov](https://www.osha.gov)

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS**Proposed rule modifies beryllium standards for construction and shipyards sectors**

OSHA announced a proposed rule on June 23 that would modify the agency's recent beryllium standards for the construction and shipyard sectors. The proposal provides a new opportunity to comment on the rule for all interested stakeholders. Since the new proposal would make changes to the rule only for the shipyard and construction sectors, the general industry standard remains unaffected by the proposal. The proposal would maintain the requirements for exposure limits and revoke the application of ancillary provisions such as housekeeping and personal protective equipment in the January 2017 final standards for the construction and shipyard industries. The proposed rule is available at:

[OSHA.gov](https://www.osha-slc.gov)**OSHA proposes to delay compliance date for electronically submitting injury and illness reports**

OSHA is proposing to delay the 2017 compliance date for electronic submissions of injury and illness logs from July 1 to December 1. The agency published the final rule on May 12, 2016, and has determined that a further delay of the compliance date is appropriate for the purpose of additional review into questions of law and policy. The delay will also allow OSHA to provide employers the same four-month window for submitting data that the original rule would have provided.