



Occupational Health, Safety &
Environmental Consultants

OSHA Updates for October – December 2017

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA) REGULATORY UPDATES

1.0 FINAL STATUTES AND RULEMAKINGS

Citations	Summary
<p>Publication Date: 11/09/2017</p> <p>Publication Types: Final Rule</p> <p>Federal Register No: 82:51986 – 51998</p> <p>Title: Cranes and Derricks in Construction: Operator Certification Extension</p> <p>Standard Number: 29 CFR Part 1926</p>	<p>OSHA has issued a final rule that sets November 10, 2018, as the date employers in the construction industry must comply with a requirement for crane operator certification. The final rule became effective on November 9, 2017. After issuing the final cranes and derricks rule in August 2010, stakeholders expressed concerns regarding the rule’s certification requirements. In response, OSHA published a separate final rule in September 2014, extending by three years the crane operator certification and competency requirements. The additional one-year extension provides more time for OSHA to complete a rulemaking to address stakeholder concerns related to the Cranes and Derricks in Construction standard.</p>

2.0 LETTERS OF INTERPRETATION

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

August 8, 2017 - National Association of Tower Erectors (NATE) Response Final. General Industry Walking-Working Surfaces and Personal Protective Equipment (Fall Protection Systems). 29 CFR 1910; 1910.27(b)(2)(i); 1910.140(c)(13)(i); 1910 Subpart D; 1910 Subpart I; 1910.30; 1910.268; 1926 Subpart M; 1910.268(c); 1926.503; 1926.503(a)(2); 1926.503(c); 1910.30(a); 1910.268(a)(1); 1910.28(b)(9)(i)(A); 1910.140(c)(13)(ii); 1910.140(c)(8); 1910.28(a)(2)(ii).

- https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=INTERPRETATIONS&p_id=31373

September 14, 2017 - Determining if employees experienced an injury or illness due to an exposure to hydrofluoric acid. 29 CFR 1904; 1904.7(b)(7); 1904.46.

- https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=INTERPRETATIONS&p_id=31409

November 9, 2017 - OSHA compliance directive CPL 02-00-124, the *Multi-Employer Citation Policy*. 1926.501.

- https://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=INTERPRETATIONS&p_id=31529

3.0 RECENT NEWS AND DEVELOPMENTS

Prevent the spread of seasonal flu

OSHA's Flu webpage offers information about how to reduce the spread of the flu in workplaces. It provides information on basic precautions that should be used by employers and workers in all workplaces. OSHA provides additional precautions that should be used in healthcare settings, such as strictly following infection control practices; using gloves, gowns, and other protective equipment to reduce exposures; and encouraging sick workers to stay home. The webpage is available at the following link: <https://www.osha.gov/dts/guidance/flu/index.html>

OSHA urges employees and employers to be aware of potential hazards connected to snow removal and cleanup

Winter weather presents hazards including slippery roads/surfaces, strong winds and environmental cold. Employers must prevent illnesses, injuries, and fatalities by controlling these hazards in workplaces impacted by winter weather. OSHA and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) are working together on a public education effort aimed at improving the way people prepare for and respond to severe weather. OSHA's website on winter weather hazards is designed to help businesses and their workers prepare for winter weather, and to provide information about hazards that workers may face during and after winter storms. The webpage is available at the following link:

https://www.osha.gov/dts/weather/winter_weather/index.html