

**OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA)
REGULATORY UPDATES**

FINAL STATUTES, RULEMAKINGS, AND GUIDANCE

Citation(s)	Summary
N/A	No Final Statutes or Rulemakings occurred during the second quarter of 2007
OSHA Guidance Document 3328-05 2007. Issued May 21 st , 2007.	<p>On May 21st, OSHA unveiled a new workplace safety and health guidance document that will help employers in the healthcare industry and their employees prepare for an influenza pandemic. <i>Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response Guidance for Healthcare Workers and Healthcare Employers</i> includes technical information on infection control and industrial hygiene practices to reduce the risk of infection in healthcare settings, workplace preparations and planning issues, and OSHA standards having special importance to pandemic preparedness planners and responders in the industry. A copy of the guidance document is available at the link listed below.</p> <p>http://osha.gov/Publications/OSHA_pandemic_health.pdf</p>
OSHA Guidance Document 3170-02R 2007. Issued 2007.	<p>OSHA has issued a revised guide to help protect employees from amputations. <i>Safeguarding Equipment and Protecting Employees from Amputations</i> offers practical information for the employer to identify and manage common amputation hazards. This guide ties directly to OSHA's <u>National Emphasis Program on Amputations</u>, released Oct. 27th, 2006. A copy of the guide is available at the link listed below:</p> <p>http://www.osha.gov/Publications/osha3170.pdf</p>

Other Recent Developments:

NIOSH Publishes Ergonomic Guidelines for Manual Material Handling

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) has published a booklet for managers and supervisors in industries that involve the manual handling of containers. The publication, *Ergonomic Guidelines for Manual Material Handling*, offers suggestions to improve the handling of rectangular, square, and cylindrical containers, sacks, and bags. A copy of the publication is available at the link listed below.

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2007-131/pdfs/2007-131.pdf>

OSHA Issues Proposed Rule on Explosives

OSHA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the April 13th Federal Register to revise the Explosives and Blasting Agents standard. The agency is accepting public comments on the proposal until July 12th, 2007. The proposed rule aims to enhance the protections provided to employees working in the manufacturing,

storage, sale, transportation, handling, and use of explosives. Complete instructions on submitting written comments are available in the notice.

OSHA Proposes to Update Personal Protective Equipment Standards

OSHA published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the May 17th Federal Register to revise the personal protective equipment (PPE) sections of its general industry, shipyard employment, longshoring and marine terminals standards regarding the use of eye, face, head, and foot protection. These proposed revisions are a continuation of OSHA's effort to update references to specific consensus and industry standards located throughout the agency's standards. OSHA is accepting comments until July 16th. See the Federal Register notice for complete instructions on submitting comments.

OSHA Posters and Publications

Advertisements suggesting that OSHA workplace posters must be purchased from private companies may be misleading employers. OSHA reminds employers that official posters - such as the new OSHA Job Safety and Health: It's the Law poster (English/Spanish) - are available at no cost by visiting the publications page on the agency's Web site or by calling the publications office at (202) 693-1888.

OSHA's Targeted Inspection Plan for 2007

Approximately 4,150 high-hazard worksites are on tap for inspection under OSHA's 2007 Site-Specific Targeting Program. This year's program will initially target sites that reported 11 or more injuries or illnesses, resulting in days away from work, restricted work activity, or job transfer for every 100 full-time employees (known as the DART rate). The list will also include sites that have a days away from work injury and illness (DAFWII) rate of 9 or higher. The program stems from the agency's Data Initiative for 2006, which surveyed approximately 80,000 employers to attain their injury and illness numbers for 2005. A copy of the notice is available at the link listed below.

http://osha.gov/OshDoc/Directive_pdf/CPL_02_07-03.pdf

OSHA Defines "On Site in One Location" for Process Safety Management Standard

OSHA recently issued its explanation of "on site in one location" in the "Application" section of the Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals standard. This interpretation means that the standard applies when a threshold quantity of a highly hazardous chemical (HHC) exists within an area under the control of an employer or group of affiliated employers. It also applies to any group of vessels that are interconnected, or in separate vessels that are close enough in proximity that the HHC could be involved in a potential catastrophic release. Details are available in the June 7th Federal Register.

OSHA Proposes to Update Mechanical Power Press Safety Standard

OSHA published an advance notice of proposed rulemaking in the June 4th Federal Register to revise the general industry mechanical power press standard. OSHA is seeking comments regarding whether and how the standard should be amended. Comments must be submitted by Aug. 3rd. See the Federal Register notice for complete instructions on submitting comments.

Semiannual Regulatory Agenda

OSHA recently issued its Semiannual Regulatory Agenda. Listed below are the items from the Agenda that are in the final or proposed rule stage, along with anticipated date of action.

Final rules

- Longshoring and Marine Terminals (Parts 1917 and 1918) - Reopening of the Record (Vertical Tandem Lifts (VTLs)) - 12/01/07
- Electric Power Transmission and Distribution; Electrical Protective Equipment - 01/01/08
- Employer Payment for Personal Protective Equipment - 11/01/07
- Procedures for Handling Discrimination Complaints Under Federal Employee Protection Statutes - 04/01/07

Proposed rules

- Confined Spaces in Construction (Part 1926): Preventing Suffocation/Explosions in Confined Spaces - 08/01/07
- General Working Conditions for Shipyard Employment - 06/01/07
- Cranes and Derricks - 10/01/07
- Updating OSHA Standards Based on National Consensus Standards - 05/01/07
- Explosives - 04/01/07
- Standards Improvement - 04/01/07
- Hazard Communication - 08/01/07
- Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratories Fee Schedule - Revised Approach - 07/01/07