



Weekly Safety Tip

"Your Connection for Workplace Safety"

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We're about service, commitment, results, and accountability!

Our Weekly Safety Tip provides valuable and current safety information relevant for Work, Home & Play.

And, you will be kept current on the latest Safety Compliance issues.



SCI SAFETY NEWS OR TIP



SCI OSHA NEWS OR COMPLIANCE



SCI HEALTHYLIVING and WELLNESS NEWS

We want to hear from you! Send us your feedback and give us ideas for future safety topics.

Let us know how you feel about our new look!

Safety Slogan

Drive to live!

James Lehrke-SCI

of the week

SCI Safety Tip: 10 Steps to a Safe Driving Program

Source: <http://www.blr.com>

Date: October 29, 2014

The single most hazardous task many employees perform each day is driving to and from work. Road accidents remain the number one cause of employee fatalities. If your focus is on chemicals, falls, amputations, and other front-line hazards, you may need to give driving equal attention.

Beyond the incalculable personal price, vehicle crashes cost employers \$60 billion annually in medical care, legal expenses, property damage, and lost productivity. They drive up the cost of benefits like workers' compensation, health and disability insurance, and Social Security.

The average crash costs an employer \$16,500. When injury is involved, that rises to \$74,000 and typically exceeds \$500,000 when there is a fatality.

According to September 2014 data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), fatal transportation incidents were down 10 percent in 2013, but still accounted for about two out of every five fatal work injuries in 2013. Of the 1,740 transportation-related deaths last year, nearly three out of every five (a total of 991) involved motorized land vehicles.

10-step approach

With some exceptions in marine and agricultural employment, OSHA does not regulate [driving](#). But the agency is involved in the effort to make driving safer. According to OSHA guidelines for reducing vehicle crashes, employers should establish a safety program that seeks to:

- Save lives and reduce the risk of life-altering injuries among your workers,
- Protect your organization's human and financial resources, *and*
- Guard against potential company and personal liabilities.

OSHA advocates a program developed by the Network of Employers for Traffic Safety (NETS) centered around 10 elements:

- **Senior management commitment and employee involvement.** Senior management provides leadership, sets policies, and establishes safety culture.
- **Written policies and procedures.** Create a clear, comprehensive and enforceable set of traffic safety policies and make them a cornerstone of your driving safety program.
- **Driver agreements.** Establish a contract with employees who drive for work purposes. In it, drivers acknowledge awareness and understanding of the rules regarding driver performance, maintenance, and reporting of moving violations.

- **Motor vehicle record (MVR) checks.** Check the driving records of all employees who drive for work purposes. Screen individuals with poor records to avoid future problems.
- **Crash reporting and investigation.** All incidents, regardless of severity, should be reported promptly. Your policies and procedures should clearly guide drivers through their responsibilities in order to determine cause and whether the incident was preventable.
- **Vehicle selection, maintenance, and inspection.** Selecting, properly maintaining, and routinely inspecting company vehicles are essential to incident prevention.
- **Disciplinary action.** Use a policy-based strategy to determine the course of action after a moving violation or preventable incident.
- **Reward/incentive program.** Consider an incentive program that makes safe driving an integral part of your business culture. As with all such programs, reward upstream, positive behaviors and make sure you're not discouraging reporting in any way.
- **Driver training and communication.** You need to be continuously training and teaching. Even experienced, safe drivers need regular training to keep skills sharp and avoid complacency.
- **Regulatory compliance.** Make sure your drivers are aware of applicable federal, state, and local regulations, including those issued by the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and the Federal Highway Administration.

SCI OSHA News: Employers Get 3-Year Extension on Crane Operator Certification—but *not* on Training Requirements (Part 1)

Source: www.blr.com

by Jennifer Busick

Date: October 27, 2014

Just ahead of its original deadline for the certification of crane operators under the 2010 final rule on Cranes and Derricks in Construction, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has offered employers and crane operators a [break](#). In a rule finalized on September 25, 2014, the Agency has extended the deadline for operator certification from November 10, 2014, three full years, to November 10, 2017. But, the Agency emphasized, the *certification* requirement is separate from the *training* requirements under the standard. Employers must still provide *training* to crane operators.

In November 2013, a 42-year-old employee of a real estate company was struck and killed by a large section of a 60-foot (ft)-tall eucalyptus tree he was helping to remove from the employer's property. The California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) investigated the incident and found that neither he nor any of the other construction laborers employed by the company had the experience or training to safely cut down a tree of that size, leading to nearly \$92,000 in fines for his employer. The change is a relief for employers and industry groups who had argued that OSHA's crane operator certification requirements were insufficient for determining whether an operator could operate equipment safely on a construction site, and that there was confusion about who could provide certification, and exactly what aspects of crane safety the equipment certification covered. OSHA is promising to reexamine this issue. In the interim, employers will still be required to assess crane operators to ensure their competent operation of the equipment in accordance with the phase-in provisions 29 CFR 1926.1427(k).

Training Requirements are Still In Effect

OSHA emphasizes that the certification requirements that have been delayed by the new rulemaking—which were, essentially, requirements for operator testing—do not delay any training requirements. OSHA noted that some of the commenters on the new rule appeared to be confusing the two requirements. What OSHA does not explicitly say is that, in the absence of a certification process, employers remain responsible for thoroughly training workers in the requirements that would be covered by the certification process.

HEALTHY BITES Quick Tips for Healthy Living



Nose Disorders and Injuries

Your nose is important to your health. It filters the air you breathe, removing dust, germs, and irritants. It warms and moistens the air to keep your lungs and tubes that lead to them from drying out. Your nose also contains the nerve cells that help your sense of smell. When there is a problem with your nose, your whole body can suffer. For example, the stuffy nose of the [common cold](#) can make it hard for you to breathe, sleep, or get comfortable.

Many problems besides the common cold can affect the nose. They include

- Deviated septum - a shifting of the wall that divides the nasal cavity into halves
- Nasal polyps - soft growths that develop on the lining of your nose or sinuses
- Nosebleeds
- Rhinitis - inflammation of the nose and sinuses sometimes caused by [allergies](#). The main symptom is a runny nose.
- Nasal fractures, also known as a broken nose

The Lehrke Family Scholarship Fund Is Up & Running It's 2015 Fundraiser In Memory of the Lehrke Family Children - Jessica, Nick & Kristin – Our Theme – “ Help Us Help Others “



Lehrke Family Scholarship Fund

All proceeds go to the High School Scholarship

Las Vegas Trip & \$500 Cash

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Drawing Held 12/13/14

Tickets \$1 Each

This prize has the following guidelines:

- Prize is for 2 airline tickets & 3-night hotel stay for 2 people valued up to \$1000 and \$500 cash.
- Maximum travel prize value is \$1000. Prize covers 2 airline tickets (round-trip flight) from Appleton or Milwaukee to Las Vegas, NV; 3-night hotel stay for 2 people; service of a travel agent at Fox World Travel and any additional charges (transfer, time tickets, etc.) up to \$1000. Cash beyond \$500 are the responsibility of the winner.
- Winner may choose travel dates, hotel accommodations and flight, but will be responsible for any charges above the \$1000 hotel value of the vacation.
- All taxes, fees, and expenses over \$1000 (including, but not limited to, food, beverages, and checked-baggage fee) are the responsibility of the winner.
- Package is redeemable in 2015. Travel must be completed by 12/31/15.
- Unused travel award will be forfeited. This award has no cash value and is non-refundable and non-changeable once booked.
- Travel arrangements must be made through Fox World Travel in Sheboygan.
- Cash prize of \$500 must be redeemed from Jim Lehrke on behalf of the Lehrke Family Scholarship Fund.
- Other restrictions may apply.

Travel arrangements by:

FOX WORLD TRAVEL

To redeem the travel prize, please choose your travel dates well in advance and contact
Fox World Travel - 912 J. Taylor Drive, Sheboygan
920-459-4800 or vacations@fox.com
at least 60 days prior to your anticipated travel date.

To redeem the cash prize, please contact
Jim Lehrke - 920-912-7255
Thank you for your support!



What do you think?
Send us an email at:
j1connections@aol.com
See our bold new look @
<http://www.safetyconnections.com/>

In Loving
Memory of Jessica Lehrke