



Weekly Safety Tip

“Your Connection for Workplace Safety”
Phone: 920-208-7520

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

A clean floor everyday keeps lost days away.

James Lehrke-SCI

Of the week

SCI Safety Tip: Are You Ready for an OSHA Inspection? (Part 2)

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

Date: September 17, 2013

The heart of the inspection process is the walkaround. Jim Stanley, former OSHA deputy assistant secretary and currently president of FDRSafety in Brentwood, Tennessee, says advance planning is the best hedge against negative outcomes during this phase.

The walkaround is the time when the inspector observes processes and talks with employees and supervisors. The law also provides for a representative authorized by employees, typically a union representative, to accompany the inspection.

If unsafe conditions are observed during the walkaround, Stanley advises correcting them on the spot or soon after the inspector leaves. If a citation is issued, taking prompt corrective action will show good faith, which might result in a reduced penalty..

Stanley also urges employers to be especially cautious regarding complex health inspections involving air contaminants, noise, or ergonomic hazards. Because the employer's inspection representative might not have the expertise to effectively monitor or replicate OSHA's scientific monitoring, you may want to designate your own expert to accompany inspectors during these parts of the inspection, he says.

Employee Interviews

Inspections also include the opportunity for the inspector to conduct interviews. According to Stanley, "An alarming number of citations are based on statements of employees or supervisors to the OSHA inspector during the inspection or formal interviews."

Under the law, employees can talk privately with OSHA. Even though you or your representative can't be present in these private interviews, you can prepare employees by informing them that they have a right to speak or not to speak to the compliance officer. Employees also have the right to request that a union representative or interpreter be present.

Stanley recommends the following concerning employee interviews:

- Give employees an idea of what OSHA may ask them—for example, about facts or safety training surrounding an alleged violation.
- Urge workers to tell the truth.
- Help those who may be distraught over a death or injury or otherwise unable to speak with OSHA.

- Tell employees that they have the right not to be recorded, and to bring their own recorder to an interview.
- Conduct a voluntary debriefing of all employees interviewed by OSHA.

Supervisor interviews are different from employee interviews because the content may be legally binding to the company. Stanley advises companies to minimize management interviews by having the employer representative responds to OSHA's questions as much as possible.

Closing Conference

When it comes to the closing conference, Stanley says employers should not be afraid to ask questions or seek clarification about what they are being cited for and why. But, he warns, "Don't attempt to argue or settle these citations at a closing conference."

He also advises caution when agreeing to informal conferences with OSHA. If later there is a contest, the information shared during such a conference can be used against you.

“Saving Green by Going Green” Tip of the Week

Did you know you can save money on shipping costs by consolidating your vendors and number of purchasing requests? Minimize your staff time needed to process requests by streamlining orders with a minimal number of vendors. Research companies that can supply nearly everything on your lists. The staff time needed to research is well invested in the money and staff time saved in the long run. For more help saving green by going green email Laura@safetyconnections.com

SCI OSHA News: OSHA Cites Contractor for Tragic—and Avoidable—Injuries (Part 2)

Source: www.blr.com

Date: September 25, 2013

Three steps to preventing falls: Plan, provide, and train

Falls are the leading cause of death in construction. But OSHA says they can be prevented by following three simple steps.

Plan ahead to get the job done safely. When working from heights including roofs, employers must plan work to ensure that the job is done safely. Know ahead what tasks and risks are involved, what safety equipment is needed, and what fall protection is best for the job. In roofing, for example, hazards could include holes or skylights and leading edges.

Provide the right equipment. Workers who are 6 feet or more above lower levels are at risk for serious injury or death from falls. Employers must provide fall protection, including the right type of ladders, scaffolds, and safety gear. Workers who use personal fall arrest systems need a harness to tie off to the anchor.

Train everyone to use the equipment safely. OSHA says a key to preventing falls is ensuring that workers understand how equipment should be set up and used. Employers are also required to train workers in hazard recognition and in the care and safe use of all equipment they'll be using on the job.

OSHA has created a webpage at <http://www.OSHA.gov/stopfalls> with detailed information in English and Spanish on fall protection standards. It offers videos, fact sheets, and educational resources.

Are you aware of the up and coming changes to OSHA's Hazard Communications Standard? Call for an appointment!

SCI Upcoming event



OSHA is not the only regulator out there, have you given enough thought to what the EPA, DNR, or Fire Department would have to say while visiting your site?

Join us for breakfast on

Wednesday October 2nd from 8-9:30 AM

Black Wolf Run in Kohler

You'll leave knowing:

- ***How to be better prepared for a visit from the environmental regulators, Federal EPA and WI DNR***
- ***Prevent spills, ensure product & employee safety***
- ***The top 10 most frequently recognized violations from the local Sheboygan County fire departments***
- ***Lots of supplemental handouts & copy of presentation***

Any questions or to register:

Please email Laura directly at Laura@safetyconnections.com

\$20 at the door, (\$25 if billing)

The Instructor: Laura Sauermilch, a trained investigator and former environmental compliance officer.

Read her bio at www.safetyconnections.com

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Check out her bio at: www.safetyconnections.com



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Send us an email at:
jlconnections@aol.com
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<http://www.safetyconnections.com/>**

**In Loving
Memory of Jessica
Lehrke**