

Safety Lines

Wicked weather ahead: Prepare for season's severe weather

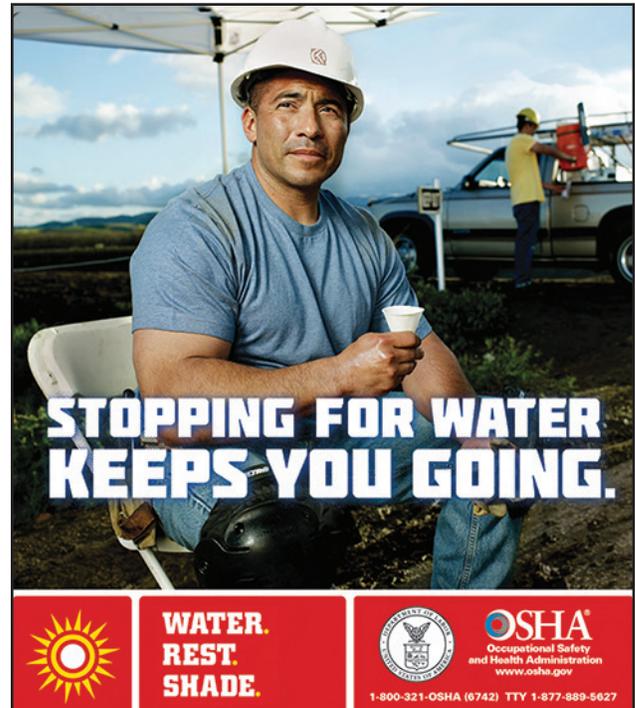
By Diane Amell, MNOSHA Training Officer

While most Minnesotans are happy to see winter go, severe weather during the summer can still pose a serious threat to workers. Minnesota OSHA, federal OSHA and other organizations have a wealth of information available to help employers and employees prepare, react and respond.

Heat stress

For the fourth straight year, federal OSHA is conducting its Campaign to Prevent Heat Illness in Outdoor Workers. This year's emphasis is on acclimatization, defined as "a physical change that builds tolerance to the heat, can be done by gradually increasing workload for new and returning workers."

Under American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists guidelines, a worker is usually considered acclimatized after performing their normal duties in the heat for at least two continuous hours for from five of the past seven days to 10 of the past 14 days. However, acclimatization can be lost within a short time as well. Acclimatization begins to decrease when heat stress exposure ends. A noticeable loss in tolerance can occur after four days and be lost completely in three to four weeks. Acclimatization is also limited to the amount of heat stress to which the workers have been exposed. Changes, such as a heat wave, can result in additional stress to even an acclimatized worker.



The federal OSHA "Water. Rest. Shade." campaign recommends employees:

- drink water often;
- rest in the shade if working outdoors or in a cooler area if working indoors;
- report heat stress symptoms early to a supervisor; and
- know what to do in a heat-related emergency situation.

Federal OSHA also continues to promote the use of its Heat Safety app for smartphones. The app is available in English for both Android and iPhone formats and in Spanish for the Android version.

Resources

Minnesota OSHA Compliance – Heat stress

- www.dli.mn.gov/OSHA/HeatStress.asp

Campaign to Prevent Heat Illness in Outdoor Workers

- www.osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness



Tornadoes

Tornadoes, often considered the most violent of storms, kill approximately 60 to 70 people in the U.S. each year. An employer's emergency response or disaster preparedness plan should address possible tornado hazards, such as additional storms; electrical issues with generators, downed power lines or fires; dangerous driving conditions; slippery walkways and other possible falls; falling and flying objects; debris with sharp edges; and heat stress.

Resources

Disaster preparedness

- www.dli.mn.gov/Ccld/Disaster.asp

Emergency management notices (including links to important notices for Minnesota property owners)

- www.dli.mn.gov/Ccld/ElectricalNotices.asp

Tornado preparedness and response

- www.osha.gov/dts/weather/tornado

Tornado cleanup and response

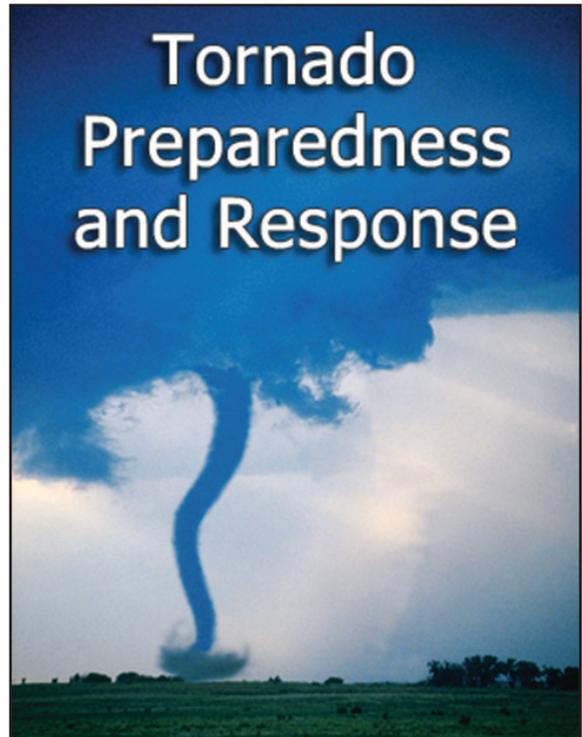
- www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/emres/tornado.html

Thunderstorms, tornadoes, lightning ... Nature's most violent storms booklet

- www.nws.noaa.gov/om/severeweather/resources/ttl6-10.pdf

Weather-ready nation

- www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation



Floods

The late-spring and early-summer flooding that occurred throughout much of Minnesota has subsided, leaving behind millions of dollars in damage and months of cleanup and repair work. Some of the hazards associated with floods include: electrical; trees and other debris; carbon monoxide; lifting injuries; mold; pests – rodents, snakes, insects; chemical and biological; fire; drowning; hypothermia; exhaustion; and heat stress.



Federal OSHA offers a three-point flood preparedness plan.

1. **Plan, equip, train, exercise** – Develop an evacuation plan; gather emergency equipment and supplies; train your employees; and evaluate your plan and employee training by conducting exercises.
2. **Know the warning signs** – Learn the meaning of flood and flash-flood watches and warnings and what measures to take if one is issued by the National Weather Service, part of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).
3. **Stay informed** – Listen to NOAA weather radio or commercial radio or television stations for information about flood events.

Resources

Flood information resources, emergency management notices

- www.dli.mn.gov/Flood.asp

Flood preparedness and response

- www.osha.gov/dts/weather/flood

MNOSHA Compliance signs safety, health partnerships

Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance recently signed Level 3 Cooperative Compliance Partnership agreements with Q3 Contracting and with A&P Midwest, LLC.

Level 3 is the peak level of MNOSHA partnerships, with applicants striving to be an industry leader with very comprehensive safety and health programs. To qualify, participants must have reached Level 2 and remained there for at least one year.

The partnership agreements were made through MNOSHA's safety initiative with Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Minnesota, known as Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Minnesota.

The Q3 Contracting project is the 2014 Xcel Energy EMPRP Project in St. Paul, Minnesota, scheduled for completion in November.

The A&P Midwest, LLC project is the Capitol Campus Parking Structure Ramp F in St. Paul, Minnesota, scheduled for completion in December.

The partnerships acknowledge the importance of providing a safe, healthful work environment in construction and seek a working relationship that creates mutual trust and respect among all parties – including project owners and construction workers – involved in the construction process.

Learn more about MNOSHA Compliance Partnerships at www.dli.mn.gov/OSHA/Partnerships.asp.



Q3 Contracting



A&P Midwest, LLC

Carol Bufton retires as Minnesota Safety Council president

By Ann Kulenkamp, Director of Communications, Minnesota Safety Council

Minnesota Safety Council President Carol Bufton retired at the end of June after a long career dedicated to preventing unintentional injuries.

Carol served as president of the not-for-profit organization for the past 27 years. Under her leadership, the Minnesota Safety Council and the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry joined forces on numerous occasions to support employers' safety efforts through training and other forms of outreach. She has also chaired the Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Advisory Council for the past several years.

"Carol will be greatly missed as a leader and as an advocate," said Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) Commissioner Ken Peterson.

"Thousands of Minnesota's workers, children, parents, drivers, pedestrians and others are injury-free today because of her lifetime commitment to safety."

For Carol, the work was a mission and a joy. "It hasn't really seemed like work," she said. "What we do helps to save lives, prevent injuries and strengthen the economy of our state. How many people can say that about their jobs? I've loved every minute of it."

During the course of her career, Carol received numerous honors, including DLI's Arthur E. McCauley, Jr. Occupational Safety and Health Leadership Award, presented to her in May. (For more information about the award, visit www.dli.mn.gov/OSHA/McCauleyAward.asp.)

She has been succeeded by Paul W. Aasen, who has served as assistant commissioner in the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, commissioner of the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and, most recently, city coordinator for the city of Minneapolis.

Learn more about the Minnesota Safety Council at www.minnesotasafetycouncil.org.



Carol Bufton is presented with the Arthur E. McCauley Jr. Occupational Safety and Health Leadership Award by Department of Labor and Industry Commissioner Ken Peterson during the Governor's Safety Awards Luncheon, part of the Minnesota Safety Council's annual conference.

Thanks for stopping by; conference interactions welcome

Thank you to everyone who stopped by the MNOSHA Compliance and Workplace Safety Consultation booths or sat in on our presentations during the Minnesota Safety and Health Conference in May. We appreciate being able to visit and answer your questions in the relaxed, casual setting.

This year six MNOSHA staff members presented at the conference: Ron Anderson, Bob Durkee, Lisa Hollingsworth, Mike Seliga, Andy Smoka and Nancy Zentgraf. In addition, newly certified and recertified Minnesota Star (MNSTAR) Program and Minnesota Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (MNSHARP) recipients were recognized during the Governor's Safety Awards Luncheon.

Next year's conference will be May 5 through 7 at the Minneapolis Convention Center.

Part ejections from power presses

Initiative

Power presses, also known as punch presses or blanking presses, are common in a wide variety of manufacturing industries. However, they are also associated with a large number of amputation injuries and fatalities nationwide. While the main hazards associated with power presses are the point-of-operation guarding and noise, this document focuses on a lesser-known hazard: the ejection of parts and scrap material.

Description of the hazard

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), through its Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) program, has identified several incidents resulting in fatalities where metal parts or pieces of scrap have shot out of the presses as the machine is running. This phenomenon occurs when a finished part is left on the lower die after the part is finished and the press cycles to punch or form the next part. Build-up of scrap and slugs between or under the dies can have a similar effect. The upper die comes down with such force that the part can shoot out of the press and strike the press operator or another employee, causing grave injuries to the head, neck, chest and abdomen. Other accidents have occurred when the die is improperly installed in the press and the operator or maintenance personnel tries to readjust it without locking out the press. The press can then cycle and the punches on the misaligned die can break off and be ejected in similar fashion.

Controlling and eliminating the hazard

The most preferred way of protecting employees from this hazard is to build in automatic ejection of parts and scrap from the press. The ejection in this case would be controlled, and the parts and scrap could be ejected into separate containers, thus reducing the amount of handling by the operator. Some of the most common methods for mechanically removing parts from dies include:

- positive stripper plates;
- spring pressure pads or pins;
- latch-type mechanical lift dogs;
- compressed air jets; and
- pneumatic or hydraulic lift pins or pick-up fingers.

Beveling the edges in a die can further facilitate automatic removal of parts and scraps. Chutes and slides not only can move parts away from the press but can sometimes be use to move parts to subsequent operations in an orderly fashion. Chutes should be free of sharp corners or objects that can block the flow of parts from the die.

Employees working in power press areas should wear eye protection and safety shoes. Because metal stock, scrap and formed parts can have sharp edges, gloves are also recommended. Glove material can be canvas, terry cloth, leather or synthetic.

Based on their investigations, the NIOSH FACE program adds the following recommendations.

- Create and implement a written safety program, such as an AWAIR program.
- Conduct a job hazard analysis for power press operations.
- Guard power presses as specified in the 1910.217 Mechanical Power Presses standard.
- Install electrically interlocked safety blocks and barrier guards on all presses.
- Follow established lockout/tagout procedures whenever clearing jams in the presses.
- Place two-hand trip buttons an appropriate distance from the point-of-operation and each other.
- Conduct regular maintenance on the presses according to the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Write machine-specific operating procedures.
- Conduct frequent and regular safety inspections.
- Ensure employees understand and follow the safety program.
- Train employees about safe work practices and the safety program, including the employees' roles in the program.

For more information

NIOSH FACE reports can be found on the NIOSH website at www.cdc.gov/niosh/face. Further information about machine safeguarding measures can be found in the National Safety Council's Accident Prevention Manual: Engineering and Technology, 13th edition (2009), and the NIOSH Current Intelligence Bulletin 49: Injuries and amputations resulting from work with mechanical power presses (1987).

Acknowledgements

Much of the information for this hazard alert was derived from the National Safety Council Data Sheet 534: Handling finished pieces at power presses (1963).

Experts available for speaking engagements

Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) staff members regularly speak to community, industry and school groups about issues that affect employees, employers and other DLI stakeholders.

As part of its outreach efforts to stakeholders, DLI's speakers bureau can provide interested parties with a knowledgeable speaker in an array of topics.

- Apprenticeship programs and opportunities
- Construction codes and licensing
- Occupational safety and health topics or free consultation assistance
- Wage and hour requirements
- Workers' compensation coverage, reporting and claims issues
- Workers' compensation dispute resolution
- Workers' compensation ombudsman services.



For more details or to place a request for a speaker, visit www.dli.mn.gov/Speakers.asp.

Minnesota Workplace Safety Report available soon

By Brian Zaidman, Research and Statistics

Based on the estimates from the Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII), the number and rate of injury and illness cases in Minnesota's workplaces have remained unchanged since 2009.

The most recent occupational injury and illness figures show that during 2012 there were an estimated 77,600 recordable injury and illness cases; about 21,200 cases involved one or more days away from work. The comparable figures for 2011 were 75,400 total cases and 21,400 days-away-from-work cases. There were 70 people killed by work-related fatal injuries in 2012, compared to 60 fatalities in 2011.

These statistics, and many more detailing injury and illness rates and workplace fatalities for 2012, will be available in the *Minnesota Workplace Safety Report*. The report presents statistics from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics' SOII and Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries. It will be available on the DLI website at www.dli.mn.gov/RS/WorkplaceSafety.asp in August. Tables detailing the 2012 SOII results are also available on the DLI website at www.dli.mn.gov/RS/StatWSH.asp.

'Record' the date:

OSHA log recordkeeping review for state, local government

There will be a half-day training session about basic OSHA recordkeeping requirements, Aug. 19, 2014, from 9 to 11:30 a.m., at the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry in St. Paul, Minn. This session is directed to new OSHA log recordkeepers at state and local government establishments, although more experienced government recordkeepers are welcome to attend.

The session will include a review of the fundamental requirements of OSHA recordkeeping and will expose the most common OSHA log errors. Participants will have time to ask questions about their own recordkeeping situations and receive tips about how to improve the accuracy and usefulness of the injury and illness log.

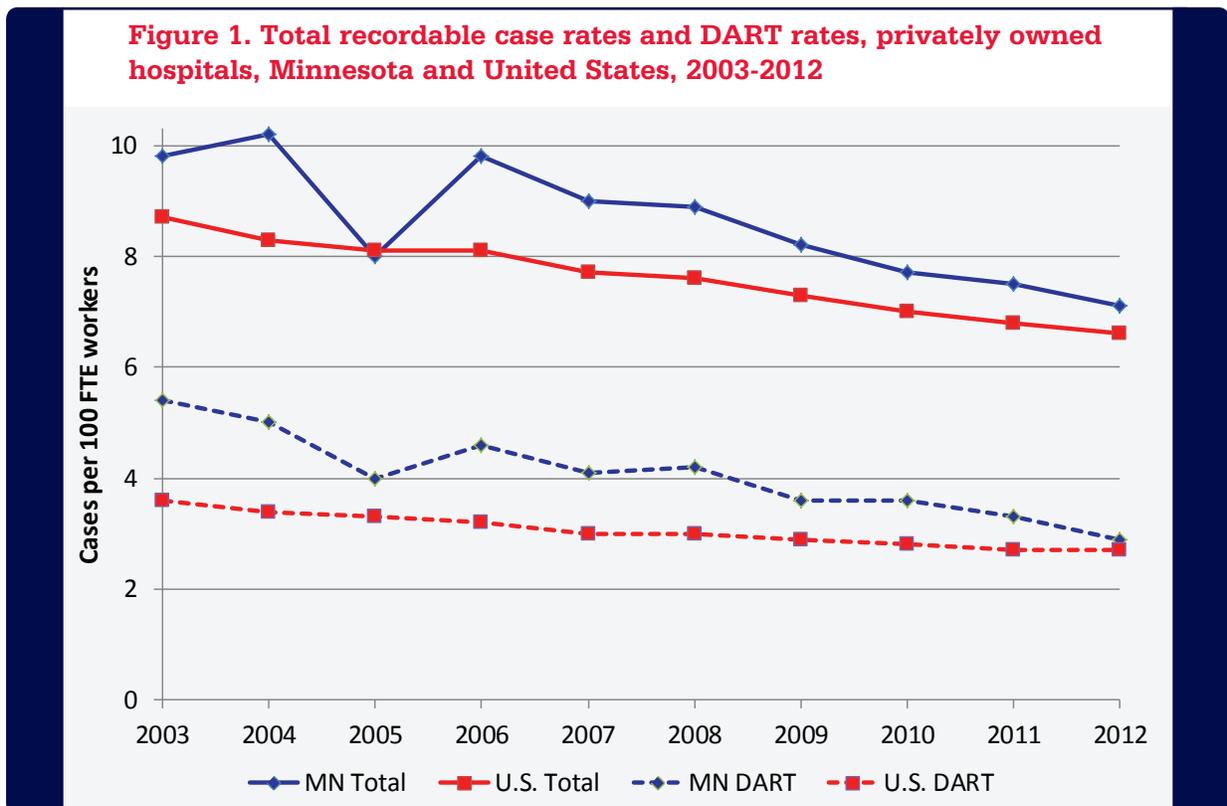
For additional details, including links to the registration page and directions to the Department of Labor and Industry, visit www.dli.mn.gov/OSHA/Recordkeeping.asp.



Estimates from the Bureau of Labor Statistics annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses show that the privately owned hospitals and nursing homes industries in Minnesota experienced different changes in measures of case counts and rates of work-related injuries and illnesses from 2011 to 2012. Hospitals and nursing homes make up 6.5 percent of Minnesota’s private-sector employment, but they account for 11.8 percent of all OSHA recordable injuries and illnesses and for 12.3 percent of the cases with one or more days away from work. The Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry (DLI) monitors trends in these industries as part of its administration of the Safe Patient Handling Act.

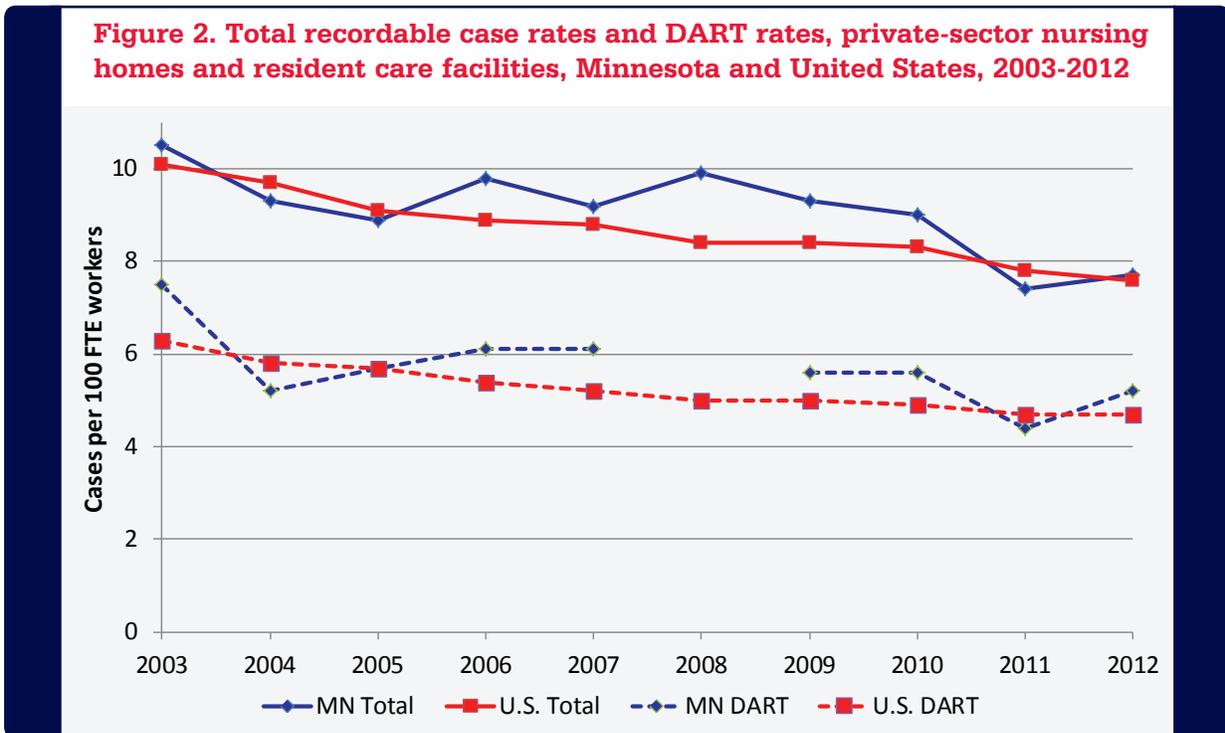
From 2011 to 2012, the estimated number of total cases in Minnesota’s privately owned hospitals (NAICS 622000) decreased by 200 (all figures rounded to nearest hundred), from 5,400 to 5,200. The total case rate decreased from 7.5 cases per 100 full-time-equivalent (FTE) workers in 2011 to 7.1 per 100 FTE workers in 2012. Most of the changes were due to cases with one or more days away from work (DAFW), which decreased from 1,500 to 1,300 cases and decreased in rate from 2.1 to 1.8 cases per 100 FTE workers. The estimated case counts and rates for cases with one or more days of job transfer or restriction (DJTR) (and no days away from work) and for other recordable cases showed no significant differences.

Figure 1 shows the rate trends in total cases and DART cases (DAFW and DJTR combined) for privately owned hospitals in Minnesota and the United States from 2003 through 2012. The total case rates and DART rates have been trending downward for both Minnesota and the U.S. since 2006, with Minnesota’s rates keeping slightly above the U.S. rates.



The number of OSHA-recordable cases for privately owned nursing homes (NAICS 623100) remained unchanged from 2011 to 2012, at approximately 2,800 cases. The total case rate showed a statistically insignificant decrease, from 9.3 to 9.2 cases per 100 FTE workers. The stability in the results for total cases was achieved through opposing changes in DAFW cases (an increase of 200 cases) and in other recordable cases (a decrease of 300 cases). The DAFW case incidence rate increased from 2.4 cases per 100 FTE workers in 2011 to 3.1 cases per 100 FTE workers in 2012.

Figure 2 shows the rate trends for total cases and DART cases for privately owned nursing homes and residential care facilities (NAICS 623000) in Minnesota and the United States from 2003 through 2012. (Complete trend data for nursing homes ((NAICS 623100) is not available for this time period.) Minnesota's rates remained above the U.S. estimates from 2006 through 2012, except for a dip in 2011.



This summer, DLI is collecting information directly from nursing assistants in nursing homes to understand their experiences with safe-patient-handling equipment and how use of the equipment is integrated into their work routines. Two student interns, paid through the Occupational Health Internship Program, are conducting the interviews. It is anticipated the information they gather will improve the Department of Labor and Industry's ability to help nursing homes implement their safe-patient-handling programs and reduce their injury rates.

OSHA answers

frequently asked questions

As part of its continual effort to improve customer service and provided needed information to employers and employees, Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance answers the most frequently asked questions from the previous quarter.

Q. **Our maintenance staff members periodically have to go on top of our flat roof to change filters or make adjustments to our heating, ventilating and air conditioning (HVAC) system. Do they need fall protection?**

A. Under 1910.23, Guarding Floor and Wall Openings and Holes, employees exposed to a fall of four feet or more must be protected by a guardrail or other means of fall protection. Citations can be issued under 1910.23, 1910.132 – Personal Protective Equipment: General Requirements or Minnesota Statutes § 182.653, subd. 2, Conditions and Place of Employment.

(Minnesota Statutes § 182.653, subd. 2, states “Each employer shall furnish to each of its employees conditions of employment and a place of employment free from recognized hazards that are causing or likely to cause death or serious injury or harm to its employees.” It is known as the state general duty clause.)

Q. **Why does MNOSHA issue penalties for first-time violations?**

A. Penalties are designed to be a deterrent to employers not protecting their employees prior to a Minnesota OSHA (MNOSHA) Compliance inspection. As stated above, employers have a duty to provide their workers with a safe and healthful workplace by abating known hazards. While many employers go the extra mile to protect their employees by identifying hazards, keeping up with regulations and assessing available protective measures, some are not so conscientious. The threat of MNOSHA Compliance penalties encourages some employers to become more vigilant.



MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation (WSC) is available – at no cost and without citations or penalties – to help employers identify hazards in their workplaces and learn about the best safety practices. The employer’s only obligation is to abate any serious hazards that are identified through the process. Priority for MNOSHA WSC’s services is given to small employers. Visit www.dli.mn.gov/Wsc.asp for more information about WSC services or to request a consultation visit, or call (651) 284-5060 or 1-800-657-3776.

Do you have a question for Minnesota OSHA? To get an answer, call (651) 284-5050 or send an email message to osha.compliance@state.mn.us. Your question may be featured here.

Hazardous drugs, part two:

Include handling of antineoplastic drugs in safety program

Cancer-killing – or antineoplastic – drugs are being administered in hospital, nursing home and physician’s office environments every day. Although the toxicity of such drugs is well-documented and guidelines for their safe handling have been available for nearly three decades, studies show workplace contamination occurs and health care workers are being exposed. It was also found that health care workers either are not following safe work practices or they have not been provided with hazard awareness training.

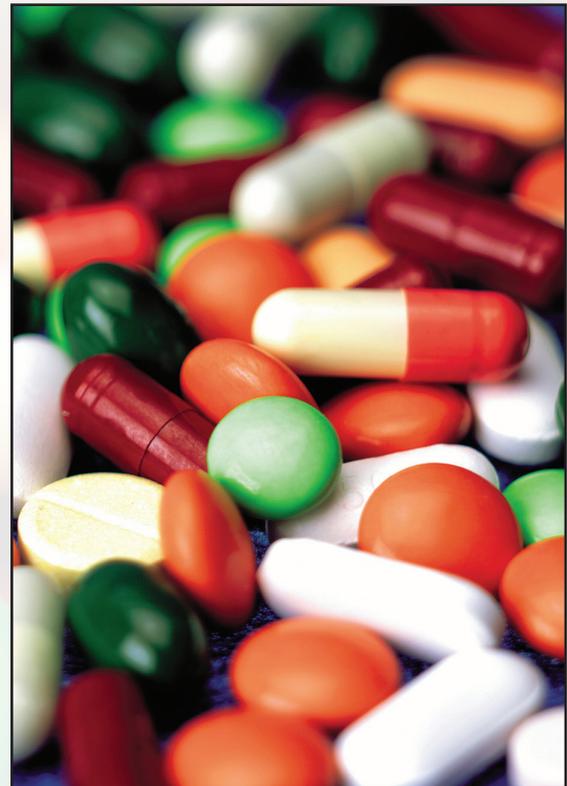
California and Washington both have state legislation focusing on the safe handling of hazardous drugs. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is updating its hazard alert, Antineoplastic and Other Hazardous Drugs. The organization is also updating its list of hazardous drugs, which should be available this summer; the list will be divided into three groups: antineoplastic drugs; non-antineoplastic drugs or drugs that meet the NIOSH criteria for a hazardous drug and are used for treating diseases other than cancer; and drugs that have reproductive hazards. NIOSH also plans to provide guidance about personal protective equipment and engineering controls when handling hazardous drugs.

To address the hazards associated with the handling of antineoplastic and other hazardous drugs, each worksite should develop a hazardous drug safety and health program that includes:

- a written inventory of the hazardous drugs in the workplace;
- a current hazard-assessment for hazardous drugs where there is reasonably anticipated occupational exposure (see below for this assessment); and
- hazardous drug policies and procedures, including
 - engineering controls (equipment use and maintenance) if required,
 - personal protective equipment (gloves, respirators, eye protection, protective clothing, etc.)
 - safe handling practices (receiving and storage, labeling, preparing, administering and disposing of hazardous drugs),
 - cleaning, housekeeping and waste handling (body fluids and pharmaceutical wastes),
 - spill control measures,
 - personnel issues (such as exposure of pregnant workers) and
 - training.

Worksites should also consider:

- purchasing drugs in a ready-to-use form to eliminate drug preparation work;
- purchasing the safest form possible;
- developing a procedure for administering hazardous drugs to patients that minimizes exposure; and
- reviewing health and safety information about the hazardous drug(s) before purchasing.



For more information about developing a hazardous drug safety and health plan, contact Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation at (651) 284-5060 or osha.consultation@state.mn.us, or use the resources below.

References and resources

- James M. Boiano, Andrea L. Steege and Marie H. Sweeney (2014): *Adherence to Safe Handling Guidelines By Healthcare Workers Who Administer Antineoplastic Drugs*, Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene, DOI: 10.1080/15459624.2014.916809
– <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/15459624.2014.916809>
- NIOSH Science Blog: Safe handling of hazardous drugs
– <http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2014/05/21/hazardous-drugs>
- OSHA, Hazardous drugs
– www.osha.gov/SLTC/hazardousdrugs
- OSHA Technical Manual
– www.osha.gov/dts/osta/otm/otm_toc.html
- OSHA Technical Manual (OTM) Section VI: Chapter 2 – Controlling occupational exposure to hazardous drugs
– www.osha.gov/dts/osta/otm/otm_vi/otm_vi_2.html
- Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, Hazardous drug program guides
– www.lni.wa.gov/Safety/Topics/AtoZ/HazardousDrugs/ProgramGuides.asp

Ergonomics issues discussed during roundtable event April 30

Three local ergonomics experts gave short presentations April 30 to companies that have already achieved outstanding safety and health status. Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation hosted a roundtable session for companies that have earned recognition through the Minnesota STAR (MNSTAR) Program or the Minnesota Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (MNSHARP).



Local ergonomics experts gave presentations April 30 during the ergonomics roundtable session at the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Left to right are: Gene Kay, ErgoAdvocate; Stephen H. Gutmann, S.H. Gutmann Consulting, LLC; Breca Tschida, Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation; and Mark A. Anderson, ErgoSystems.

The presentations were about commonly seen ergonomic hazards, the ergonomics evaluation process and office ergonomics; conventional wisdom and current thinking about ergonomics was also discussed. The companies were also invited to share ergonomics challenges and successes in their facilities.

For information about similar discussion and learning opportunities or to request a free, on-site consultation to assess workplace ergonomics risk-factors, contact Workplace Safety Consultation at (651) 284-5060, 1-800-657-3776 or osha.consultation@state.mn.us.

Consultants featured in national magazine

Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation’s Ben Bloom, Dave Ferkul and Ryan Nosan were featured in “Effective safety committees: Are you tapping into workers’ knowledge?” in the June edition of *Safety + Health* magazine. The story discusses how workers and management can work together to help identify hazards as a team.

Visit www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/10413-effective-safety-committees to read the story.

Stand-down events highlight fall prevention at worksites

Falls from elevation accounted for more than one-third of all construction fatalities recorded in 2012 nationally. To shine a light on the issue and stop such occurrences, Minnesota OSHA Workplace Safety Consultation (WSC) participated in multiple “stand-down” events across Minnesota, as part of the National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction.

During the first week of June, construction employers across the state and nation were asked to halt work and “stand-down” to discuss fall

prevention. WSC consultants were invited to participate with and conducted multiple “toolbox talks” on small- and large-project construction worksites. Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry Commissioner Ken Peterson and WSC management were also invited to and participated in stand-down events at M.A. Mortenson and J.E. Dunn construction sites.

As a result of these efforts, the fall-prevention message was shared with more than one million construction workers across the United States.

Minnesota stand-down events with WSC participation

- Kraus Anderson at 3M R&D Lab project, St. Paul
- M.A. Mortenson-Thor at Minnesota Multi-Purpose Stadium project (Vikings), Minneapolis
- Ryan Companies at St. Paul Saints Stadium project, St. Paul
- McGough Construction at United Health Group Campus project, Minnetonka
- J.E. Dunn at Minnesota State Capitol project, St. Paul
- International Concrete Repair Institute, Minnesota Chapter, New Brighton
- Weis Builders at Pillsbury “A” Mill project, Minneapolis
- ACME Window Cleaners, Big Lake
- Vertical Limit at telecommunication tower construction site, Mabel

More than 550 fall-protection booklets were distributed to employees at these stand-down events. Additional stand-down events were completed throughout the state by multiple employers.



MNOSHA Workplace Safety Consultation consultants Mike Seliga (at left) and Andy Smoka (right) help conduct a June 3, 2014, safety stand-down event at Kraus Anderson’s 3M R&D Lab project in St. Paul.

SAFETY STAND-DOWN EVENTS AT MINNESOTA CONSTRUCTION WORKSITES



Ames/Lunda's June 3, 2014, stand-down event at the St. Croix Crossing project in Stillwater



J.E. Dunn's June 6, 2014, stand-down event at the Minnesota State Capitol Renovation in St. Paul



Mortenson's June 4, 2014, stand-down event at the Minnesota Multi-Purpose Stadium in Minneapolis

Minnesota's newest **MNSHARP Construction** worksite



Ryan Companies at Target North Campus Project

Ryan Companies' Target North Campus Project in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota, was recently recognized by the Department of Labor and Industry as a Minnesota Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (MNSHARP) Construction worksite.

MNSHARP Construction is a Minnesota Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MNOSHA) program that recognized major-construction companies where managers and employees work together to develop safety and health programs that go beyond basic compliance with all applicable OSHA standards and result in immediate and long-term prevention of job-related injuries and illnesses.

Only construction projects at least 18 months in duration are eligible for participation in MNSHARP Construction. MNSHARP Construction began in Minnesota in 2007. There are currently five approved MNSHARP Construction worksites; there have been 21 since the program began.

Learn more about MNSHARP Construction at www.dli.mn.gov/WSC/MnsharpConstruction.asp.

Free Construction Seminars cover important topics, start discussions



Members of the Construction Seminar Steering Committee discuss possible safety and health topics for the 2014/2015 season. Pictured above (l to r): Scott Richert, Travelers Companies, Inc.; Terry Hukriede, Adolfson & Peterson Construction; Gary Robertson and Nancy Zentgraf (back to camera), MNOSHA Compliance; Wayne Solland and Blake Pfaffendorf, Carl Bolander & Sons Co.; Chad Stuart, Q3 Contracting, Inc.; and Lisa Hollingsworth, MNOSHA Compliance. Not pictured: Lorinda Floding, MNOSHA Compliance.

About the Construction Seminars

Minnesota OSHA Compliance's free Construction Seminars feature a presentation about a specific construction safety or health topic – with time for questions, answers and input – plus an update from MNOSHA Compliance about what's currently happening regarding investigations.

There is no fee for the seminars, but participants are still asked to pre-register for each seminar. Attendees are welcome to bring their own food and beverages.

The seminars are presented in a panel discussion format. The Construction Seminar Steering Committee decided this format leads to better interaction with the audience, leading to a better understanding and more practical learning. This format provides a safe environment for participants to ask real worksite questions and get real worksite safety and health solutions.

The Construction Seminars are at the MnDOT Training and Conference Center, 1900 W. Cty. Road I, Shoreview, Minnesota. The facility is state of the art and has plenty of free parking available for attendees. Directions and maps are available at www.dot.state.mn.us/hr/trngctr/contacts.html. Doors open at 6:30 a.m. and the program begins at 7 a.m.

Visit www.dli.mn.gov/OSHA/ConstructionSeminars.asp for complete information and to register (available closer to the seminar dates) or to be added to the mailing list.

2014/2015 Construction Seminar dates, topics

- **Sept. 16, 2014** – Confined space in construction
- **Nov. 18, 2014** – Exposure to silica; respirator programs
- **Jan. 13, 2015** – A Workplace Accident and Injury Reduction (AWAIR) program; basic safety programs; and GHS
- **March 17, 2015** – Residential fall-protection
- **May 19, 2015** – Traffic control and workzone safety