

SAFETY / OSHA UPDATE

A Newsletter from High Safety Consulting Services, Ltd.

Information on Safety & Health in Your Workplace



February – 2003

SAFETY COMMITTEE CERTIFICATION DISCOUNT EXTENDED in PA

In case you missed it, the State has extended the 5% Safety Committee discount from five years to a continual discount. The only requirement for on-going renewal is annual training by a “qualified accident and illness prevention provider” and on-going monthly meetings with minutes and agendas. High Safety offers companies a safety committee report card process. This assessment is inexpensive and provides the committee scores in key areas of performance. The result will allow committees to focus on areas of improvement as well as serve as a benchmark against which future assessments can be compared.

RESPIRATORY CLEARANCE FORM

We have recently seen OSHA cite a company for failure of a healthcare provider to provide a statement on the respiratory clearance form that a copy of the clearance form was provided to the employee. Make sure that the healthcare provider you are using for these clearances provides this statement on the respiratory clearance determination. The company was successful in having the citation dropped when we demonstrated that a copy was given to the employee and this was indicated on the “copy distribution” list at the bottom of the form. Remember too that under 1910.134 (Same in construction) that when sending employees for respiratory clearance, you must provide the healthcare provider with the following:

- (A) The type and weight of the respirator to be used by the employee;
- (B) The duration and frequency of respirator use (including use for rescue and escape);
- (C) The expected physical work effort;
- (D) Additional protective clothing and equipment to be worn; and
- (E) Temperature and humidity extremes that may be encountered.

In addition you need to provide a copy of your respiratory protection program and a copy of section of the regulation governing the medical clearances.

REMINDER ON HAZCOM

Do you have MSDSs for the ALL the products in the workplace that employees might be exposed to? Some sheets that you might find missing from your books: 1) Dry Chemical Fire Extinguisher Contents; 2) Welding Rods and Metals that may be heated; and 3) Wood products that may be altered such as to produce sawdust (hardwoods are nasal carcinogens).

SAFE CANDLES?

Most organizations have strict policies dis-allowing the use of candles at work. This makes good fire sense. From a manufacturing side, the American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) has passed a new standard PS59 which addresses fire safety issues with candle production. Now your candle can meet ASTM standards for fire safety! I'd suggest you keep your policy on “no open flames” anyway. Candles also can become an indoor air quality issue. In some air quality investigations we have conducted the fragrances in the candles are the culprit! The fragrance

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can result in some allergic-type reactions. As candles burn they also cause a ghosting of the soot on walls, usually in corners. So if you see black things contaminating your room air, try putting out your candle first!

OSHA 300S LOG MUST BE POSTED NOW

Not much more to say! Some companies are exempt from this requirement, but most manufacturers and construction companies must post this form. In addition, the signature must be by the highest company official at the location. This usually excludes the safety administrator!

NEW OSHA STANDARDS FORTHCOMING

If you need a new OSHA general industry standard or construction standard they are on the way. Some of you have placed your order already. The 1910 Standard book will be only \$45 plus shipping and tax. Compare this to the GPO price of \$97. The 1926 (Construction) book is \$28 plus shipping and tax. Compare this to the GPO price of \$45.

WHAT DOES AN ACCIDENT COST?

Check out this link from Canada: <http://www.healthandsafetycentre.org/sc/calculator/default.htm>

UPCOMING TRAINING PROGRAMS:

OSHA 10 HOUR Construction (March 13 and 14) -- 7AM to 12:45 PM each day. Held at ABC in Manheim, PA. Call them directly for reservations: 717-653-8106. Cost \$165 per person (members).

OSHA 30 Hour Construction (April 21 to May 19) – Mondays 7:30 – 2:00 PM each day. Held at ABC in Manheim, PA. Call them for reservations. 717-653-8106.

OSHA 10 Hour General Industry (Sept 29, 30) – At High Industries, Inc. Call us 717-293-4483 for information. On register on-line.

OSHA 30 Hour General Industry (Nov 3-7) – At High Industries, Inc. Call for information or register on-line.

Forklift Training (Rough Terrain) (March 19) – 7AM to 11AM. Held at ABC in Manheim, PA. Call them directly. \$70 per person. 717-653-8106.

HAZWOPER for Site Remediation (Feb 24, 25 & March 5-7) Also at ABC. Call direct.

How to Maintain a Healthy Building – Lancaster Chamber of Commerce and Industry. 2-12-03. At the Lancaster Chamber 9AM -11AM. \$60 for members. Call directly at 717-397-3531.

How to Handle an Indoor Air Quality Problem – Facilities Show in Baltimore Maryland. Free tickets available. May 6-7, 2003. Call us if you are interested in attending.

OSHA Update – Pennsylvania Metal Formers Association – 2-18-03 8AM – 9AM. Lancaster, Hampton Inn.

OSHA / How to Handle an Indoor Air Quality Problem – Pennsylvania Chamber of Business and Industry. April 15, 2003. Call PA Chamber or us for more information on this annual conference.

Shop Safety and Paving Safety for Road Contractors – Inter County Contractors Association. Yoder's Restaurant, New Holland. 8:00 AM – 10:30 AM for Safety Topics. Call us if you are interested in more information.



An Affiliate of High Industries, Inc.

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