

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Revised Recordkeeping Rule

"OSHA will now receive crucial reports of fatalities and severe work-related injuries and illnesses that will significantly enhance the agency's ability to target our resources to save lives and prevent further injury and illness. This new data will enable the agency to identify the workplaces where workers are at the greatest risk and target our compliance assistance and enforcement resources accordingly."

What Needs to be Reported to SC OSHA

For any fatality that occurs within 30 days of a work-related incident, employers must report the event within 8 hours of finding out about it.

For any in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or eye loss that occurs within 24 hours of a work-related incident, employers must report the event within 24 hours of learning about it.

Employers reporting a fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye to OSHA must report the following information:

- Establishment name
- Location of the work-related incident
- Time of the work-related incident
- Type of reportable event (i.e., fatality, in-patient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye)
- Number of employees who suffered the event
- Names of the employees who suffered the event
- Contact person and his or her phone number
- Brief description of the work-related incident

Employers do not have to report an event if it:

- Resulted from a motor vehicle accident on a public street or highway, except in a construction work zone; employers must report the event if it happened in a construction work zone.
- Occurred on a commercial or public transportation system (airplane, subway, bus, ferry, street car, light rail, train).
- Occurred more than 30 days after the work-related incident in the case of a fatality or more than 24 hours after the work-related incident in the case of an in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye.

Employers do not have to report an in-patient hospitalization if it was for diagnostic testing or observation only. An in-patient hospitalization is defined as a formal admission to the in-patient service of a hospital or clinic for care or treatment.

Employers do have to report an in-patient hospitalization due to a heart attack, if the heart attack resulted from a work-related incident.

You can report to SC OSHA by

- Calling SC OSHA at (803) 896-7672

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SC OSHA Adopts New Standards

South Carolina Held Hearing to Amend Standards

The South Carolina Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation held a public hearing on September 4, 2014, to revise and amend existing health and safety standards for 29 CFR parts 1910 and 1926, as necessary to comply with federal laws.

SC OSHA confirmed the effective date of February 18, 2014, for record requirements in the mechanical power press standard. Paragraph (e)(1)(i) of 1910.217, power press previously required employers to inspect all parts, auxiliary equipment, and safeguards of mechanical power presses on a periodic and regular basis, to maintain certification records showing that they conducted the inspections; this provision did not require employers to perform any maintenance or repair tasks found necessary during the inspections, much less document such tasks. This final rule revises paragraph (e)(1)(i) to require that employers conduct periodic and regular inspections of each press and, before operating the press, perform and complete any maintenance or repair task found necessary during the inspections. In addition, employers must maintain certification records of inspections conducted and any maintenance and repairs performed during the inspections.

A remand of portions of the vertical tandem lifts standard was also implemented and confirmed. The final rule implements the remand by: Limiting the application of the corner-casting and interbox-connector inspection requirements to shore-to-ship VTLs; and removing the tandem lifts of platform containers from the scope of the VTL standard.

Furthermore, revisions were made to both general and construction industry Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution standards. The final rules for general and construction industry standards included new or revised provisions on host employers and contractors, training, job briefings, fall protection, insulation and working position of employees working on or near live parts, minimum approach distances, protection from electric arcs, deenergizing transmission and distribution lines and equipment, protective grounding, operating mechanical equipment near overhead power lines, and working in manholes and vaults. These revised standards will ensure that employers meet consistent requirements for work performed under the construction and general industry standards.

Revisions were also made to general and construction industry standards for electrical protective equipment. The existing construction standard for electrical protective equipment, incorporates several national consensus standards by reference. The new standard for electrical protective equipment, which matches the corresponding general industry standard, applies to all construction work and replaces the incorporation of out-of-date consensus standards with a set of performance-oriented requirements consistent with the latest revisions of relevant consensus standards. The final construction rule also included new requirements for the safe use and care of electrical protective equipment to complement the equipment design provisions. Both general and construction industry standards for electrical protective equipment will include new requirements for equipment made of materials other than rubber.

The general industry standard for foot protection was also amended. This standard applies to employers performing work on electric power generation, transmission, and distribution installations, and employers in other industries. The final rule removed the requirement for employees to wear protective footwear as protection against electric shock.

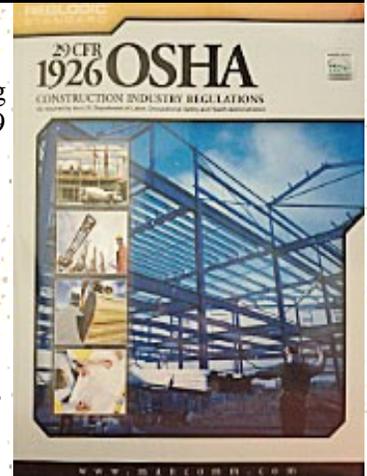
Information on these standards may be obtained by viewing the following links:

[Vertical Tandem Lifts](#)

[Record Requirements in the Mechanical Power Presses Standard](#)

[29 CFR Parts 1910 and 1926 Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution; Electrical Equipment; Final Rule](#)

Additional information on these or any other standards may be found at <http://scosha.llronline.com/> or <https://www.osha.gov/> or by contacting SC OSHA's Standards Office during regular work hours (803) 896-7682 or (803) 896-5811.



SC OSHA Consultation Services

SC OSHA Consultation provides many no-cost, confidential services, including:

- Safety, health, and ergonomic hazard assessments
- Recommendations to control and eliminate hazards
- Written program evaluation
- Industrial hygiene services, such as noise monitoring
- Onsite training on health and safety topics
- Safety and health program assistance



SC OSHA Consultants WILL NOT:

- Issue citations or penalties for violations of OSHA standards
- Provide other businesses with information about OSHA participation, hazards, or business processes
- Guarantee that your workplace will “pass” a SC OSHA inspection

What will the consultant want to see?

- If you request a comprehensive consultation, the consultant will conduct an evaluation of the physical work site; and review your records, written programs, and your safety and health management plan.
- If you request a specific consultation, the consultant will focus on a specific operation, machine, or process at your work site.

It is your worksite and You are in charge!

What are my obligations if I request a SC OSHA consultation?

When you request a SC OSHA consultation, you will receive a report listing the hazards identified and recommendations for corrections. SC OSHA requires you to correct the serious hazards found on your work site, and post a list of the hazards where employees can see them. If a consultant identifies an “imminent danger” situation, the employer must take immediate action to protect all employees.

The Benefits for You

Improving your safety and health program can result in fewer accidents, lower injury and illness rates, decreased workers’ compensation costs, increased employee morale, and lower product losses. A consultation will include:

- Personal, professional, and relevant assistance specific to your business
- Guidance on effective safety meetings and safety committees
- Answers to questions about SC OSHA standards

SC OSHA consultants are available to present program information at safety-related forums such as meetings, trainings, business seminars, or safety/health conferences. Schedule a consultation or contact SC OSHA for more information by:

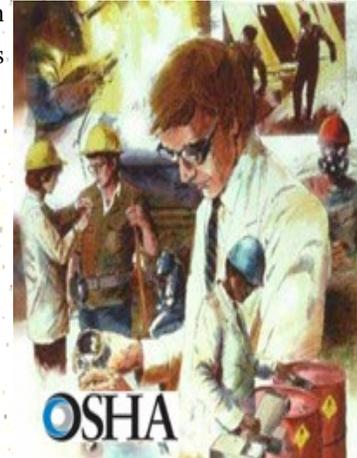
Visiting the Web site <http://www.scosha.llronline.com/index.asp?file=scovp/consult.htm>

Completing request form: <http://www.scosha.llronline.com/scovp/PDF/ConsultFORM.pdf> or Calling 803-896-7744

Preventing Occupational Illnesses through Safer Chemical Management

On October 9, 2014 OSHA announced the publication of a Request for Information (RIF) on Chemical Management and Permissible Exposure Limits (PELs) in the Federal Register. The goal is to prevent occupational illnesses caused by workplace exposure to hazardous chemicals.

In the United States, it is estimated that chemical exposures are the cause of 190,000 occupational illnesses and 50,000 deaths suffered annually by workers. Thousands of hazardous chemicals are routinely used in workplaces, but OSHA only has PELs for 500. Many of the PELs have not been updated since 1971 and are not protective. The OSHA rulemaking process is cumbersome and with the exception of about 30 chemicals most of OSHA's attempts to improve employee protection with updated PELs have been successfully opposed and vacated by the Courts.



In response, OSHA has published advisory (non mandatory) recommendations, [“Transitioning to Safer Chemicals: A Toolkit for Employers and Workers”](#), available at [osha.gov](#). This toolkit is a management system allowing employers to reduce chemical risks by transitioning from more hazardous chemicals to less hazardous chemicals when possible. Companies such as Dell and DuPont are already using this system to reduce costs and risks, improve efficiency, advance socially responsible practices, and create safer consumer products.

This system provides specific instructions that allow chemical users to:

- Identify and target highly hazardous chemicals for informed substitution.
- Identify alternatives. Find safer, more efficient and sustainable chemicals.
- Assess and compare safer alternatives. Allows systematic comparison of costs and performance of alternatives.
- Selection of a safer alternative chemical.
- Pilot, implement, and evaluate safer alternative chemical usage in the process.

BLS Releases 2013 State, National Injury/Illness Rates

South Carolina's on-the-job injury/illness rate for private industry was 2.9 injuries/illnesses per 100 workers in 2013, a decline from 2012's rate of 3.0 and 2011's rate of 3.3. The U.S. rate for private industry in 2013 was 3.3. The data comes from the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics' (BLS) annual Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses. The state's rate for manufacturing fell from 3.4 to 3.1. Construction went up slightly from 2.3 to 2.4. The state's 2013 injury/illness rate for the public sector was 4.9, compared to 4.4 in 2012.

Sub-sector industries within private industry with the highest non-fatal occupational injury and illness incidence rates for total cases in the state were: nursing and residential care facilities 6.6, repair and maintenance 6.5, wood product manufacturing 6.2, hospitals 6.0, and textile products mills 5.5

Private Sector Injury/illness	<u>SC</u>	<u>US</u>
2013	2.9	3.3
2012	3.0	3.4
2011	3.3	3.5
2010	3.1	3.5
2009	3.2	3.6

SC OSHA Mold Management

Overview

Mold spores are found almost everywhere and mold will grow on virtually any organic substance as long as moisture, oxygen, and certain temperature ranges are present. It can grow on wood, paper, carpet, foods and insulation. When excessive moisture accumulates in buildings or on building materials, mold growth will often occur, particularly if the moisture problem remains undiscovered or unaddressed. It is impossible to eliminate all mold and mold spores from the indoor environment. However, mold growth can be controlled indoors by controlling moisture. Since mold requires water to grow, it is important to prevent moisture problems in buildings.

Hidden Mold

In some cases, indoor mold growth may not be obvious. It is possible that mold may be growing on hidden surfaces, such as the back-side of drywall, wallpaper, or paneling, the top of ceiling tiles, the underside of carpets, etc. Possible locations of hidden mold can include pipe chases and utility tunnels (with leaking or condensing pipes), walls behind furniture (where condensation forms), condensate drain pans inside air handling units, porous thermal or acoustic liners inside ductwork, or roof materials above ceiling tiles (due to roof leaks or insufficient insulation). Hidden mold may be suspected if a building smells moldy, but the source is not visible, or if there has been water damage and building occupants are reporting health problems.

Health Effects

The scientific study on the relationship between mold exposures and health effects is ongoing. Molds have the potential to cause adverse health effects by producing allergens. The allergic reaction to mold exposure can be immediate or delayed. Some allergic responses include hay fever-type symptoms such as runny nose and red eyes. These potential health concerns would be reason to prevent mold growth and to remediate any existing problems.

Procedures

The following procedures are to provide general guidance for actions to be taken for various scenarios relating to mold issues. Locate and secure the source of water. An effort will be made to dry wet porous materials (installed carpeting, upholstered furnishings, dry-wall, etc.) effectively within 24-48 hours by vacuum extraction or dehumidification to prevent mold growth.

- Consult health professional as appropriate throughout process
- Assess size of mold problem and note type of mold-damaged materials
- Communicate with building occupants throughout process as appropriate to situation
- If a musty/moldy odor exists in the building or occupants have any other reason to suspect the presence of mold but none is visible. The company should conduct a thorough visual investigation and conduct an assessment of indoor air quality including all sampling deemed necessary.
- If visible mold is present, action will be based on the amount of mold present and the type of material contaminated (i.e. whether it can be cleaned or must be discarded). Porous materials from mold cannot be cleaned and must be removed from buildings. Non-porous building materials may be cleaned using detergent, diluted bleach or cleaners specifically formulated for mold.

Prevention

The control of moisture is the key to mold control. Leaks or moisture issues should be reported immediately. The following are some guidelines to keep moisture levels at a minimum:

- Fix leaky plumbing and leaks in the building envelope as soon as possible.
- Watch for condensation and wet spots.
- Keep heating, ventilation and air conditioning drip pans clean, flowing properly and unobstructed.

SC OSHA Mold Management Continued

- Vent moisture-generating equipment, such as dryers, to the outside where possible.
- Maintain low indoor humidity, ideally 30-60%, if possible.
- Perform regular building/HVAC inspections and maintenance as scheduled.
- Clean and dry wet or damp spots within 48 hours.
- Don't let foundations stay wet. Provide drainage and slope the ground away from the foundation.
- Prevent moisture due to condensation by increasing surface temperature or reducing the moisture level in air (humidity). To increase surface temperature, insulate or increase air circulation. To reduce the moisture level in air, repair leaks, increase ventilation (if outside air is cold and dry), or dehumidify (if outdoor air is warm and humid).

Remediation

The goal of remediation is to restore satisfactory building conditions. In all situations, the underlying cause of water accumulation must be rectified or mold will recur. Remediation should be conducted in a manner that will remove or clean contaminated materials while preventing the spread of fungi and dust from the work area to adjacent clean areas. The removal of mold from contaminated surfaces will vary depending on the material, the location, and the extent of mold growth. Generally, some degree of isolation or containment will likely be required, and larger areas may require evacuation of occupants along with contracting of trained abatement professionals.

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Personal protective equipment worn during the mold remediation process can help mitigate exposure to mold. The main function of PPE is to prevent contact to the skin or eyes and inhalation and ingestion of mold and mold spores. The following are various types of PPE used during the remediation process:

- Gloves
- Goggles
- Respiratory Protection
- Protective Clothing (reusable or disposable)
- Face shield
- Apron

Evaluating the Completeness of Remediation/Cleanup

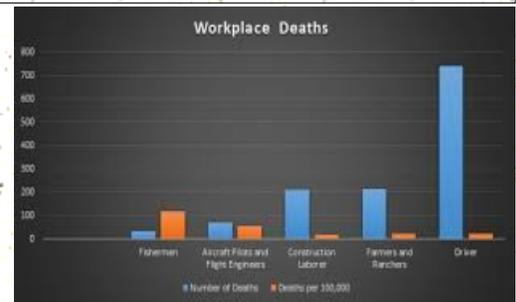
- The water or moisture problem should be corrected.
- Mold removal should be complete. Use professional judgment to determine if the cleanup is sufficient. Visible mold, mold-damaged materials, and moldy odors should not be present.
- If air sampling has been conducted, the kinds and concentrations of mold and mold spores in the building should be similar to those found outside, once cleanup activities have been completed.
- Revisit the site shortly after remediation, and it should show no signs of water damage or mold growth.
- People should be able to occupy or re-occupy the space without health complaints or physical symptoms.



Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI)

A preliminary total of 72 fatal work-related injuries were recorded in South Carolina in 2013, according to data from the Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI).

In previous years, the totals were: 63 in 2012; 81 in 2011; 69 in 2010; 73 in 2009; 87 in 2008; and 122 in 2007. CFOI is compiled by the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, in cooperation with the SC Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. The report compiles a count of all fatal work injuries occurring in South Carolina during the calendar year. The CFOI program uses diverse state, federal, and independent data sources to identify, verify, and describe fatal work injuries.

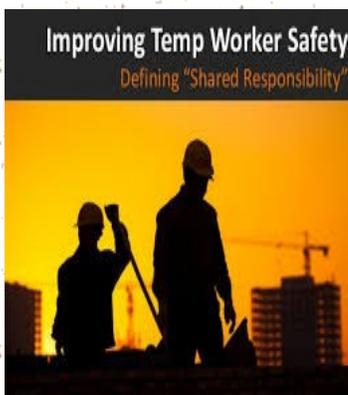


The fatality census counts every death that is work related, including highway deaths and homicides, which are not covered by OSHA. Thus, any comparison between the BLS fatality census counts and S.C. OSHA counts should take into account the different coverage requirements and definitions being used by each agency.

Key preliminary findings of the 2013 South Carolina CFOI include:

- By event or exposure, transportation incidents led the way with 27 fatalities, followed by violence at 14, slips, trips and falls at 13, and contact with objects and equipment at 9.
- Deaths among men totaled 62, while women accounted for 10 fatalities.
- Fatalities by race or ethnic origin were led by White, non-Hispanic workers at 49, followed by 16 for Black or African American, non-Hispanic, and 7 for Hispanic or Latino workers.

Temporary Worker Safety– A Shared Responsibility



While the extent of responsibility of staffing agencies and host employers is dependent on the specific facts of each case, staffing agencies and host employers are jointly responsible for maintaining a safe and healthful working environment for temporary workers. Temporary agency and the host employer contracts should clearly define who is responsible for which aspects of worker safety and health, including the extent of safety and health training, and provision of personal protective equipment, medical test, etc.

Both host employers and staffing agencies have roles in complying with workplace safety and health requirements, and they *share* responsibility for ensuring worker safety and health. Each employer must consider the hazards it is in a position to prevent and correct.

- The key is *communication* between the agency and the host to ensure that the necessary protections are provided.
- Staffing agencies have a duty to inquire into the conditions of their worker's assigned workplaces. They must ensure that they are sending workers to a safe workplace.
- Ignorance of hazards is not an excuse.
- Staffing agencies do not need to become experts on specific workplace hazards, but they should determine what conditions exist at their client (host) agencies, what hazards may be encountered, and how best to ensure protection for the temporary workers.
- The staffing agency has the duty to enquire and *verify* that the host has fulfilled its responsibilities for a safe workplace.
- And just as important: Host employers *must treat temporary workers like any other workers* in terms of training and safety and health protections.

Safety and loss helps prevent indirect costs of training temporary employees and clerical work because 80 percent of accidents are caused by unsafe acts.



INCIDENT SUMMARY

Incident type: Caught In
 Weather conditions/Time of day: Fair, 34 degrees F
 Type of operation: Motor Vehicle Metal Stamping
 Size of work crew: 13
 Worksite inspection conducted: Yes
 Competent safety monitoring on site: Yes
 Safety and Health program in effect: Yes
 Training and education for workers: Inadequate
 Occupation of deceased worker: Tool & Die Maker
 Age/Sex of deceased worker: 62/M
 Time on job: Over 9 years
 Time at task: 4 days
 Time employed/classification (FT/PT/Temporary): FT
 Language spoken: Not Available
 Union/Non-Union: No

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF INCIDENT

An employee was clearing a steel blank from a 150 to 600 ton power press when his head was caught in the press. To remove the material from the press, the employee stepped behind the light curtain and reached into the point of operation without locking out the press, using safety blocks, or using hand tools to reach into the point of operation. The employees supervisor was on the other side of the press. The supervisor activated the press and the employee was caught in the press.

Likely Causes of Incident

- Press area not being supervised
- Employees can get behind the light curtain and the machine will still operate
- Use of hand tools was not enforced for freeing and removing work or scrap pieces from the die
- Safety blocks were not utilized whenever die was being adjusted or repaired
- Lockout/tagout procedures were not utilized for equipment
- Periodic Inspections of lockout/tagout procedures not being conducted

INCIDENT PREVENTION

- Ensure that employees are observed by a supervisor for selection of off, inch, single stroke, continuous. Employers should make sure that employees and supervisor meet the criteria of **29 CFR 1910.217(b) (7) (iii)**.
- Employees should never reach into the point of operation with their hands. Point of operation devices should be used to prevent the operator from inadvertently reaching into the point of operation. Employers should make sure that they meet the requirements of **29 CFR 1910.217 (c) (3) (i)**.
- Employers should ensure that dies and operating methods are used to control or eliminate hazards to personnel. According to **29 CFR 1910.217 (d) (1)**, the employer shall enforce the use of hand tools so that no employee reach into the point of operation.

Fatal Facts Prevention Continued

- Ensure that the use of safety blocks is enforced. **29 CFR 1910.217(d)(9)(iv)** states that the employer shall provide and enforce the use of safety blocks for use whenever dies are being adjusted or repaired in the press.
- Employers shall establish a program and use procedures for affixing lockout devices or tagout devices to energy isolating devices, and to otherwise disable machines or equipment to prevent unexpected energization, start-up or release of stored energy in order to prevent injury to employees. **29 CFR 1910.147 (c) (4) (i)**.
- Ensure that the energy control procedures continue to be implemented properly, annually inspected and that the employees are familiar with their responsibilities, and that any deviations or procedural inadequacies that are observed are corrected. **29 CFR 1910.147(c)(6)(i)**
- When press operations require more than one operator separate two hand controls shall be provided for each operator, and shall be designed to require concurrent application of all operators' controls to activate the slide. The removal of a hand from any control button shall cause the slide to stop. **1910.217(c) (3)(vii)(a)**



www.scosha.llronline.com

(803) 896-7665

SC OSHA CONTACT LISTING

TRAINING	(803) 896-7769
CONSULTATION	(803) 896-7744
FATALITIES/ACCIDENTS	(803) 896-7672
COMPLAINTS	(803) 896-7825
STANDARDS	(803) 896-7682/896-7661
INFORMAL CONFERENCE	(803)896-7687