

The Safety & Health Advisor

Summer 2006



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Newsletter Format Change

We are using a new industry specific format for this issue of the newsletter. Articles are in abstract form and provide Internet links or other information to allow you to obtain additional details. We hope that you enjoy reading this issue and welcome feedback on the format change or content (see contact list on page 3).

OSHA 2006 Site Specific Targeting (SST)

On May 31, 2006, OSHA announced its targeted inspection plan for 2006, which will focus on about 4,250 high-hazard worksites based on injury and illness statistics from 2004 reporting. They will also visit some companies that did not respond to its 2005 information request. The primary inspection list consists of worksites with a DART (Days Away from Work, Restricted or Transferred) rate of 12 or more and worksites with a DAFWII (Days Away from Work Injury and Illness) rate of 9 or higher. The program directive can be viewed at

http://www.osha.gov/OshDoc/Directive_pdf/CPL2_06-01.pdf.

The news release, which also discusses the secondary inspection list and other focus establishments, can be viewed at

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=12242

Whether your company is on the list or not, you should review your safety program (including procedures and training) to ensure regulatory compliance. Your Atlantic Charter Safety and Health Consultant can provide guidance in this area. In Massachusetts, you may contact the OSHA Consultation office listed below or view their website by clicking on the link.

Division of Occupational Safety
Dept. of Workforce Development
1001 Watertown Street
West Newton, Massachusetts 02465
(617) 969-7177
(617) 727-4581 FAX
[E-mail/Website](#)

Public Construction Work – Do all your workers have their OSHA – 10 Hour Cards?

Massachusetts has passed a law that will require “. . . all employees on public construction worksites to have successfully completed a course in construction safety and health approved by the United States Occupational Safety and Health Administration that is at least ten hours in duration at the time the employee begins work and who shall furnish documentation of successful completion of said course with the first certified payroll report for each employee. . .”

The law takes effect on July 1, 2006 for all public construction work estimated by the awarding authority to cost more than \$10,000 – be it new work, renovation, demolition, installation, maintenance, repair of any public works or building by a public agency.

Section 5 of the law requires that “Any employee found on the worksite without documentation of successful completion of a course in construction safety and health approved by [OSHA] that is at least ten hours in duration shall be subject to immediate removal.”

Below is a list of training agencies that can assist you if you have workers that need to be trained and certified under this Massachusetts law:

- AGC Massachusetts – (781) 235-2680
- Associated Builders and Contractors - Gould Construction Institute – (781) 273-0123

NIOSH Safe Patient Handling Presentation

The presentation “Safe Patient Handling and Movement Principles,” was developed by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and its partners, the American Nurses Association and the Veterans Health Administration's Patient Safety Center, to improve work practices for patient care workers. This presentation is designed for use in training by schools of nursing.

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The presentation was available for review until May 30, 2006. NIOSH is now considering all the comments submitted and making appropriate revisions to the presentation before publishing a final version. This presentation will also undergo scientific peer review. Details of this review will be referenced on the NIOSH Web site in the near future.

The draft presentation can be viewed at www.cdc.gov/niosh/review/public/safe-patient. The algorithms mentioned in the presentation will be made available as part of the final training package and can be accessed now at the VA web site, www.visn8.med.va.gov/patientsafetycenter/SPHMAIq050105.pdf.

The presentation is formatted in Flash and includes both audio and video. The draft presentation is available in an online version and a downloadable version.

Restaurant & Food Service Safety

According to the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) website, restaurants and other eating and drinking businesses employ 11.6 million people in the United States. Nearly 30% of these employees are under twenty (20) years of age. Many teenagers first work experience is working in the restaurant industry. Because teenagers may have limited job experience, are new to the working world, and may not have had safety and health training, it is essential that employers adequately train employees on known restaurant hazards before they start work. The website link noted below will direct you to resources that will help you identify common hazards and address potential solutions for teen workers and employees in the restaurant industry.

The following link is an interactive web-based training E-tool on Teen Worker Safety in Restaurants. Although this E-tool is titled "Teen Workers Safety in Restaurants", the exposures and solutions are the same for all employees, particularly, the tabs labeled "Clean-up, Cooking, Drive-thru, Food Prep, and General". In addition, there are even safety posters and sample quiz material for each topic.

<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/restaurant/index.html>

On a related topic, the following website will provide more information regarding child labor laws.

<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/youth/restaurant/resources.html>

Printing Industry Ergonomics

In March 2006, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) unveiled a new eTool on its website related to ergonomic practices in the Printing Industry: Lithography where there is concern that workers may be at risk to develop musculo-skeletal disorders (MSD's) due to performing some tasks that may exceed their physical capabilities. A review of this information reveals that it may also be applicable to other industries with production or packaging processes that use sheet feeders, heavy material rolls, conveyors, cutting, palletizing or manual handling of stock or product. The eTool identifies potential hazards and possible controls and also provides a link to the revised NIOSH lifting equation. The information can be accessed on the OSHA website at <http://www.osha.gov/dccsp/products/etools/printing/index.html>.

OSHA Construction eTool Technical Resource

Despite its high fatality rate, construction can be a safe occupation when workers are aware of the hazards, and use an effective Safety and Health Program. OSHA has an area of their website called the construction eTool* to help you identify and control the hazards that commonly cause the most serious construction injuries (<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/construction/index.html>)

These resources are grouped under the following headings:

- Electrical Incidents
- Trenching
- Falls
- Struck By

*eTools are "stand-alone," illustrated, Web-based training tools on occupational safety and health topics. As indicated in the disclaimer, eTools do not create new OSHA requirements. This resource is available in Spanish as well.

Other Websites of interest:

<http://www.cdc.gov/elcosh/index.html>

http://www.buildsafe.org/resource_dx.htm

http://www.constructionweblinks.com/Industry_Topics/Safety/safety.html#S

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Extended Care Career Ladders Initiative

Commonwealth Corporation, based in Boston, is comprised of educators, facilitators, researchers, youth development experts, career counselors, and industry specialists who work with their partners to solve their workforce challenges. Their Extended Care Career Ladders Initiative (ECCLI) addresses the recruitment and retention of nursing staff by providing them with flexible educational opportunities and incentives. A framework for Nursing Home Quality was also implemented in order to encourage better workplace conditions for CNAs while simultaneously promoting workplace culture change.

Since 2000, ECCLI has helped 142 nursing homes and home health agencies train over 6,500 individuals. ECCLI sites report improved worker retention rates and reductions in the cost of doing business, while improving the quality of patient care. Direct-care workers who completed at least one training module have received a wage increase at an average of \$.96 per hour.

CNAs have historically had one of the highest back injury rates amongst all occupations from manually handling residents. In some cases, inadequate staffing from turnover has been a contributing factor to these injuries.

Several Atlantic Charter (and Sallop Insurance Brokerage) insureds are partners. The list can be seen at www.commcorp.org/eccli/partners_sites.html.

Business Preparedness

The Department of Homeland Security has recently unveiled planning tools for business to assist them with emergency preparedness and business continuity. Planning documents, forms and checklists can be obtained at the new website www.ready.gov.

With regard to the avian flu concerns, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) maintains two (2) website addresses that provide planning tools for individuals, businesses, healthcare organizations and communities. Information can be viewed at either www.avianflu.gov or www.pandemicflu.gov. General health and safety topic information may be found at www.cdc.gov.

If you need assistance in evaluating your ergonomics or safety and health program or have questions or comments, please contact any of the listed Consultants from Atlantic Charter's Safety and Health Department at (617) 488-6500 or by email.

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