

JOINT CONSTRUCTION INSPECTIONS

MIOSHA Finds Serious Health and Safety Hazards at Turner Construction Company Project

By: Robert Pawlowski, CIH, CSP, Director Construction Safety and Health Division

Creation of the new MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Division (CSHD) has allowed increased focus on health hazards at construction sites.

The new CSHD is conducting construction inspections focused on health issues, as well as joint safety and health inspections. The joint approach ensures that health and safety issues are addressed during one inspection.

During the FY '04, CSHD conducted approximately 210 inspections to specifically address health hazards at construction sites, and conducted 100 combined inspections where both health and safety issues were addressed.

To implement this new emphasis on health issues and promote joint inspections, CSHD has provided training on recognition of safety and health hazards. The result is that safety officers are better able to recognize potential serious health hazards and industrial hygienists to recognize potential serious safety hazards. Both are

also better equipped to recognize when an inspection should be expanded to include both a safety and health compliance officer.

Turner Construction Project

A recent example shows that joint inspections can result in the identification of a significant number of safety and health hazards affecting many employers' workers. This example occurred at the "Lofts Of Merchant Row" project in Detroit.

Turner Construction Company served as the general contractor at the site, where approximately 20 contractors were performing various functions. The project involved a multi-story/building complex being renovated into residential housing.

This joint inspection resulted in 19 alleged safety citations and seven alleged health citations to Turner Construction, with proposed penalties of \$50,850. Turner Construction received one **willful/serious citation** for potential exposure of the project workers to lead. The inspection also resulted in a combined total of 119 alleged safety citations and 98 alleged health citations to 20 contractors, with combined proposed penalties of \$11,050.

Below are the serious health and safety citations to Turner Construction.

Serious Safety Hazards

Part 45, Fall Protection

Construction and/or renovation of multi-story structures often require employers to consider how they will protect employees from fall hazards. Falls are the leading cause of accidents and fatalities in the Michigan construction industry. MIOSHA Construction Safety Standard Part 45, Fall Protection, sets forth requirements for



Inadequate fall protection, as this photo shows, was a key safety violation found during the joint inspection of Turner Construction Company's "Lofts of Merchant Row" project.

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From the MIOASHA Director's Desk

By: Douglas J. Kalinowski



Innovations, Improvements and New Approaches to Make a Difference

You have often heard me say that the MIOASHA Program will continue to develop innovative ways to share information about workplace safety and health. As we find new tools, strategies and avenues to improve the delivery of MIOASHA services, we will continue to implement them.

Targeted Outreach

We recently identified two areas—*asbestos awareness* and *excavation awareness*—where targeted outreach would clearly benefit the employers and employees in Michigan. Using various mailing lists of skilled tradespersons, licensed contractors, employee organizations and contractor trade associations, we implemented a plan to provide training in these two areas. (For more details, see the MIOASHA News: *Asbestos Initiative*, Summer 2004, Page 11; and *Excavation Initiative*, this issue, Page 3.)

The response to our initial mailings on these two issues was outstanding. The first day after mailing information for asbestos awareness training, the Consultation, Education and Training (CET) Division and the Asbestos Program received nearly 200 calls! Many calls followed over the next few weeks, and the CET Division scheduled asbestos awareness seminars across the state, according to employer needs. Similar results were seen with the excavation initiative.

We expect to continue this approach in the future, with fall protection as the next targeted area.

CET Training Catalogue

For the first time, the CET Division has produced an annual catalogue of safety and health training seminars. Many employers expressed their interest in knowing what seminars and workshops would be offered in the months ahead so that they could do a better job of putting together a safety and health training plan for their safety committees, maintenance personnel, and safety directors.

The CET Division recognized this was an excellent idea, and CET consultants started the planning process in June 2004. Co-sponsors willingly got on board with the idea and together with the CET consultants, assessed the training needs of our customers and aligned those needs with the MIOASHA strategic plan. The catalogue provides an easy format to look up training sessions by seminar title or date, and includes information on how to register and the costs.

The catalogue contains a wide variety of seminars and workshops designed to help reduce the most common causes of injuries and illnesses in Michigan and to help employers and employees understand MIOASHA standards. They include topics such as: ergonomics, lockout/tagout, machine guarding, noise-induced hearing loss, and excavation and trenching. Other seminars provide safety administrators with: knowledge of specific MIOASHA standards, elements of a safety and health management system and the role supervisors play in safety and health. We are proud of the annual training catalogue and hope that it meets your needs.

Partnering with M-TEC

The CET Division has developed new curriculum for a course entitled “**MIOASHA’s Fundamentals of Safety and Health.**” In cooperation with the Escanaba and Gaylord M-TEC facilities, the CET Division is piloting a new course for the beginner or newly appointed safety manager. The idea for the class was derived from both customer and CET consultant assessment of employer needs. Many employers are faced with the dilemma of appointing an employee to oversee their program that may not be fully prepared or understand what is required for an effective safety and health management system.

This three-day fundamentals course covers the basics of MIOASHA compliance, as well as, assisting attendees in developing an effective safety and health management system. Specific topics include: the MIOASHA Act, focusing on inspections and citations; elements of a comprehensive safety and health management system; recordkeeping; accident investigations; required written programs; outside contractor communications; hazard recognition; and machine guarding. An entire half-day is devoted to industrial hygiene, which will assist employers in uncovering and addressing unseen health hazards in the workplace.

The class will be a cooperative interactive learning experience transmitted simultaneously with CET speakers at both locations and covering topics live for both audiences. The outcome of this pilot program will lay the groundwork for the CET Division to re-look at the current Safety and Health Administrator’s Course to supplement or provide another level of advanced training.

Online Interactive training on Bloodborne Diseases

The CET Division has created the first MIOASHA online interactive training program. This new program is designed to provide an overview of the MIOASHA Standard Part 554, Bloodborne Infectious Diseases. It is designed as a “Train the Trainer” Program, providing bloodborne infectious diseases information to those who train employees that are at risk of occupational exposure. The program provides additional resources to assist trainers in becoming more knowledgeable on topics related to bloodborne infectious diseases.

The program is in PowerPoint with enhancements, allowing the student to review training segments through review questions and answers. The program also links directly to letters of interpretation and other online resource pages (i.e. CDC, NIOSH and OSHA).

Stakeholder Input

These are just a few examples of the various approaches that the MIOASHA Program has recently implemented to find new ways to share workplace safety and health information. We have always encouraged and welcomed stakeholder input as one of the key benefits of having a state run OSHA program. If you have any ideas of your own that would help us further improve our outreach approaches, please let us know.

Douglas J. Kalinowski

Excavation & Trenching Initiative

MIOSHA Reminds Construction Employers – Employee Training Can Reduce or Eliminate Excavation and Trenching Accidents

Cave-ins are the most feared trenching hazard in the construction industry. Excavation protection is essential, since the sides of a trench can collapse with great force and without warning, burying workers beneath tons of soil before they have a chance to react or escape. Since 1994, 19 Michigan workers have died in trench collapse accidents.

Cave-ins however, are not the only threat to these construction workers. They also face hazards associated with:

- Underground utilities,
- Working with heavy machinery,
- Manual handling of materials,
- Working in proximity to traffic, and
- Electrical hazards.

“Trenching accidents are a major cause of job-related injuries and fatalities in Michigan,” said DLEG Director **David Hollister**. “Employers are required to provide protection when workers are exposed to the risks of cave-ins and other excavation hazards. Workers can be trapped or killed when decisions are made to shortcut safety.”

Trenching Requirements

Trench sloping and support systems are required by the MIOSHA Construction Safety Standard, Part 9, Excavation, Trenching, and Shoring. This standard covers the digging of excavations and trenches that an employee is required to enter, and the supporting systems used on construction operations. Part 9 also requires a trained and experienced “qualified person” to evaluate excavation hazards.

Excavation and trenching incidents can be anticipated and prevented. MIOSHA rules require construction employers to implement safety and health programs that address the variety of hazards they face. The MIOSHA Construction Safety Standard, Part 1, General Rules, Rule 114, requires an accident prevention program at every construction worksite.

Supervisors and employees involved in excavation work must receive, at a minimum, the training required by the Construction Safety Standards, Part 1, General Rules, and Part 9, Excavation, Trenching and Shoring. Training must include:

- The safe operation of equipment,
- The recognition and avoidance of hazards in the workplace,
- The hazardous substances to which workers may be exposed, and
- The hazards of confined spaces.

Employees at excavation and trenching sites must be able to recognize hazardous con-

ditions before an accident occurs. It is the employer’s responsibility to ensure that their employees possess, at a minimum, adequate training on the above issues and all other training required by standards specific to the work operation or exposure. Proper training can reduce accidents, related costs and lost production, as well as avoid MIOSHA citations and penalties.

Trenching Awareness Campaign

“The MIOSHA program is dedicated to protecting the safety and health of Michigan’s working men and women,” said MIOSHA Director **Doug Kalinowski**. “We are encouraging construction employers to use all available resources, including MIOSHA outreach services, to provide required employee training.”

On August 20th, the MIOSHA Construction Safety and Health Division and the Consultation Education & Training (CET) Division launched a proactive campaign to help reduce or eliminate trenching and excavation accidents.

As part of the awareness campaign, MIOSHA sent letters to more than 4,100 Michigan employers identified as having work activities that may include excavation and trenching, and letters to 23 associations or organizations that may represent the construction trades. MIOSHA is also partnering with trade associations and individual companies to sponsor the training. To date, the response has been very good.

Companies can contact the **CET Division at 517.322.1809** for seminar dates, locations and partnering opportunities. For more information on MIOSHA standards and excavation and trenching hazards, contact the **Construction Safety and Health Division at 517.322.1856**. ■



BAD EXCAVATION - Employers are required to shore or slope the sides of an excavation, or use a trench box.

Excavation Penalties

D'Alessandro Contracting Group Receives \$214,000 Proposed Penalties

On October 13th, Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth (DLEG) Director **David C. Hollister** announced the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) has cited **D'Alessandro Contracting Group**, of Detroit, with \$214,000 in proposed penalties for allegedly failing to adequately protect employees from trenching and excavation hazards.

Unsafe Excavation

On June 25, 2004, MIOSHA opened a complaint investigation with **Lanzo Construction**, and were advised by a company official during the investigation that the company name had been changed to D'Alessandro Contracting Group. Lanzo Construction has a past history of significant MIOSHA violations – including a trenching fatality – and has shown a disregard for protecting its workers.

“We will not tolerate employer indifference to worker safety,” said Hollister. “This significant penalty of \$214,000 shows we are determined to take whatever steps are necessary to ensure that companies comply with their MIOSHA responsibilities and provide necessary safety and health protections for their workers.”

Excavation protection is essential, since the sides of a trench can collapse with great force and without warning, burying workers beneath tons of soil before they have a chance to react or escape. To ensure worker safety at excavations over five feet deep, walls must be sloped or shored, or trench shields or boxes must be used, to prevent serious injuries or fatalities.

On June 25, 2004, six employees were installing water lines and manholes within a 17-foot-wide by 20-foot-long by 9.8-foot-deep excavation at the intersection of Third and Abbott streets in downtown Detroit. Employees were working in a trench with near-vertical sides; with an overhang caused by two feet of con-

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Congratulations to Michigan's

Louisiana-Pacific Corporation Newberry Plant



Newberry Plant Manager Kurt Chamberlain and members of the Newberry plant Safety and Health Committee celebrate receiving the MVPP Star Flag.

On June 18th, Louisiana-Pacific Corporation's (LP) Newberry plant received the Michigan Voluntary Protection Program (MVPP) Star Award for an outstanding workplace safety and health record.

"It is a privilege to present LP's Newberry plant with this prestigious award that recognizes the 'best of the best' companies in Michigan," said DLEG Deputy Director **Bob Swanson**. "You have created a work environment where everyone accepts responsibility for safety, every day. We applaud your exemplary safety success."

Achieving Continuous Improvement

DLEG Deputy Director Swanson and MIOSHA Director **Doug Kalinowski** presented the award to Newberry Plant Manager **Kurt Chamberlain** and members of the **Safety and Health Committee**. Employees raised the MVPP Star flag during the ceremony.

"Our employees in Newberry exemplify LP's commitment to providing a safe workplace. Receiving Michigan's prestigious VPP Star Award, which sets the bar for safety excellence, validates their outstanding efforts," stated **Brad Southern**, LP vice president, Specialty Operations. "Their actions and achievements serve as a model for other LP facilities. They've shown that a pervasive attitude toward working safely and focus on continuous improvement will bring positive results. It's exactly this type of commitment that will continue to enhance our performance in Newberry and across the company."

The Newberry plant's incidence rates and lost work day rates are well below the Michigan average for their SIC code 2493, Reconstituted Wood Products. Their total case incidence rate was 4.78 in 2001, 2.89 in 2002, and 2.83 in 2003—

compared to 4.9 each of the three years for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) industry average. The total lost work day cases for the plant was 1.59 in 2001, 1.45 in 2002, and 1.41 in 2003—compared to 2.2 each year for the BLS industry average.

"I can't express enough how proud I am of the employees of LP Newberry for what they have accomplished," said Plant Manager **Kurt Chamberlain**. "Safety is

work. Safety doesn't just happen—it's made to happen by dedicated people who respect themselves and each other enough to do each job correctly and with an intent on being safe throughout each step of the process."

Addressing Workplace Hazards

The Newberry facility employs 126 workers and is considered a high-hazard operation. The **MIOSHA Review Team** conducted 22 formal and six informal interviews during the site visit. The team examined each of the required elements of Newberry's safety and health management system, and found them to effectively address the scope and complexity of the hazards.

"National VPP sites experience 60 to 80 percent fewer lost work day injuries than would be expected of an average site in their industry," said MIOSHA Director Doug Kalinowski. "Not only does the MVPP program significantly reduce injuries and illnesses, but it also has a tremendous impact on the bottom line."

It was evident during the management interviews that employee safety and health are equal to or more important than production. Management commitment is evidenced by:

- Written accident prevention/safety and health program;
- Dedicated safety staff and resources;
- An active and em-

powered safety and health committee;

- Comprehensive safety and health training;
- A fully implemented accident investigation program;
- Significant engineering and administrative controls to eliminate ergonomic hazards; and
- Employee accountability.

Maintaining Safety & Health Compliance

Employee involvement is high and employees believe their safety and health is a top priority. Workers have many avenues to bring safety and health issues to management, including an open-door policy. Employees are involved in the creation and annual updating of a job safety analysis (JSA) for all jobs in the plant.

The company conducts inspections in various areas of the plant each month to ensure the entire facility is covered every few months. Managers and supervisors are required to complete an established number of proactive safety-related tasks each month. Corporate safety and health professionals have developed a Compliance Index (CI) to help each LP facility stay focused on maintaining safety and health compliance.

The Newberry plant manufactures high-quality SmartSide™ siding products that provide beauty, performance and value to homeowners. The Newberry plant joins three other LP facilities that have earned VPP status.

LP is a premier supplier of building materials, delivering innovative, high-quality commodity and specialty products to its retail, wholesale, homebuilding and industrial customers. Visit LP's website at www.lpcorp.com for additional information. ■



Doug Kalinowski, MIOSHA Director; Bob Swanson, DLEG Deputy Director; Kurt Chamberlain, Newberry Plant Manager; Chris Forslund, Operations Manager, SmartSide Products LP; Brad Southern, Vice President, Specialty Products LP; Randy Morton, Safety Manager, Specialty Products LP; Steve Lindberg, Aide, 109th State House District.

Newest MVPP Star Companies!

Alcoa Howmet Castings Whitehall Operations

On June 22nd, Alcoa Howmet Castings' Whitehall Operations received the Michigan Voluntary Protection Program (MVPP) Star Award for workplace safety and health excellence. MIOSHA Director **Doug Kalinowski** presented the award to the Whitehall Operations' Senior Leadership Team and their four health and safety professionals.

"I am honored to welcome Howmet's Whitehall Operations, Muskegon County's largest employer, into this exceptional group of Michigan companies who have outstanding workplace safety and health programs," said Kalinowski.

Reaching for Zero Injuries

"On behalf of everyone in Alcoa Howmet Castings, I would like to congratulate all the employees of the Whitehall Operations. Achieving the MVPP Star Award is a significant milestone in our journey towards zero work-related injuries and environmental incidents," said **Mike Pepper**, Vice President, Howmet Castings, Aerospace Sector.

The Whitehall Operation's incidence rates are well below the Michigan average for their SIC code 3369, *Nonferrous Foundries, Not Elsewhere Classified*. Their total case incidence rate was 10.1 in 2001, 5.8 in 2002, and 4.4 in 2003—compared with the BLS industry average of 13.1 each of the three years. The total days away/restricted cases (DART) rate was 2.9 in 2001, 3.1 in 2002, and 3.1 in 2003—compared to the BLS industry average 7.7 each year.

"Our attainment of the MIOSHA Star award is attributable to the hard work of each

and every Whitehall Operations employee...and the realization that each employee is responsible for the health and safety of themselves and others," said **Amy Heisser**, Director of Human Resources. "We are confident that together we will achieve our goal of ZERO work-related injuries."

Eliminating Serious Hazards

Howmet Castings is a wholly owned subsidiary of Alcoa and the Whitehall Operations employs 2,220 workers at seven manufacturing facilities and two support operations. Production employees are represented by UAW Local 1243. They are considered a high-hazard operation. The **MIOSHA review team** conducted 24 formal and 43 informal interviews during the site visit. The team examined each of the required elements of their safety and health management system, and found them to effectively address the scope and complexity of the hazards at the site.

Howmet Castings regards the health and safety of workers and the protection of the environment in the communities where it conducts business as a top priority. In 2000, Alcoa acquired Howmet Castings and this association provided Howmet with a new Health and Safety Management System. This system and other tools have been utilized throughout all levels of the organization to significantly improve the overall EHS performance.

Since 2000, from a safety and health perspective, there have been a number of important changes throughout the Whitehall Operations. Employees at all levels are now focused on "risk based" factors that could potentially contribute to injuries and incidents, as well as developing a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities in every workplace process.



Mike Pepper, Howmet Castings, Vice President Aerospace Sector; **Amy Heisser**, Director of Human Resources; **Bruce Shepherd**, CSP, Manager of Health and Safety; **Don Moinet**, CSP, Industrial Hygienist; **Paul Tater**, Safety Engineer; **John Hamann**, Industrial Hygiene Technician.

Managing Risk Potential

Howmet Castings has developed specific programs for managing processes identified as having the highest risk. These "Critical 4" programs cover confined space, lockout/tagout, mobile equipment and fall prevention/fall protection. Each Critical 4 program has a management individual assigned as a Single Point of Accountability (SPA). The SPA develops a tactical team, utilizing the location's health and safety professionals as a resource, tracking leading indicators, and ensuring all aspects of programs are implemented. The SPAs and their teams have effectively taken these programs to the next level and have helped Howmet achieve a level of excellence, rather than simply regulatory compliance.

The Howmet Casting facilities and operations have also developed an aggressive ergonomics program, including a pre-work/post-lunch stretching program; an ergonomic intervention process; and ergonomically designed workstations, equipment and processes. In addition, their medical review systems have been dramatically upgraded to ensure employees can safely perform their work assignments.

Alcoa Howmet Castings is a world leader in the investment casting industry, providing precision-cast components of superalloy and titanium for aerospace and industrial gas turbine engines and non-aerospace applications. Howmet is a key supplier of titanium ingots; provides component coating, heat-treating and refurbishment; hot isostatic pressing; ceramic products manufacturing; and conducts extensive research to aid development of its material, product and process technologies. ■



Doug Kalinowski, MIOSHA Dir.; **Bruce Shepherd**, CSP, Mgr. of Health & Safety; **Mike Pepper**, Howmet Castings, VP, Aerospace; **Don Moinet**, CSP, IH; **John Hamann**, IH Tech.; **Bob Grunstra**, Dir. of Foundry Tech.; **Carla Johnson**, Safety Asst.; **Paul Tater**, Safety Engineer; **Amy Heisser**, Dir. of Human Resources; **Dave Punola**, GM, Plant 4; **Paul Woerz**, VP, Env. Health & Safety; **James Burton**, President, UAW Local 1243; **Dan Kosheba**, VP, UAW Local 1243; **Eric Foos**, GM, Plant 5.

Hazard Communication Standard

MIOSHA Recently Issued Written Guidelines for the Hazard Communication Standard (Employee Right-to-Know)

By: *Martha Yoder, Deputy Director
Michigan Occupational Safety and Health
Administration*

MIOSHA's Strategic Plan for Fiscal Years 2004-2008 calls on the agency to, "Strengthen public confidence through continued excellence in the development and delivery of MIOSHA's programs and services." This is a carry-forward goal from the previous strategic plan and challenges the agency to foster program excellence and confidence, respond effectively to legal mandates, and improve MIOSHA services.

In a 2002 survey, MIOSHA stakeholders identified consistency in information provided by agency staff and in application of the standards as an important factor in both rating the "usefulness" of the MIOSHA program and their confidence with the agency.

One approach identified to help ensure greater consistency among staff is to develop and distribute documents, which provide information on how to apply and interpret specific MIOSHA rules and requirements. To facilitate this approach, a document management system was recently developed and implemented. This document management system provides a format and tracking process for issuing information to staff.

These instructions also provide information that can be used by employers and employees to help understand MIOSHA expectations. As instructions are developed,

those that address rule application and agency processes affecting the public will be published on the MIOSHA website, as well as distributed internally to MIOSHA staff.

Developing and issuing documents is anticipated to be a long-term, ongoing process, but it is well underway. Recently, instructions have been issued and posted on the MIOSHA website addressing Residential Fall Protection, General Fall Protection, Partnerships with MIOSHA, and Alliances with MIOSHA.

Rule Application & Inspection Guidelines

The most recent instruction issued provides guidance on applying MIOSHA's Hazard Communication Standard (HCS). The instruction applies to Construction Safety Standard Part 42, R408.44201 et seq., General Industry Safety Standard Part 92, R 408.19201 et seq., and Occupational Health Standard Part 430, R325.7701 et seq.

It is a detailed document, providing guidance on each paragraph of the standard, including both rule application and inspection guidelines.

The Hazard Communication Standard was chosen for an instruction because it has broad application, covering both construction and general industry. It applies to any chemical that is known to be present in the workplace in a manner that employees may be exposed, regardless of whether the employer has created the chemical exposure. As the instruction explains, the mere presence of a hazardous chemical in the workplace does not trigger coverage under the standard; rather there must be actual or potential exposure to an employee.

Written Hazard Communication Program

The Hazard Communication Standard requires employers who use or produce chemicals to have a written hazard communication program. This provision of the standard was the fifth most frequently cited general in-

dustry rule during FY '03, with 345 violations and \$91,675 in penalties.

The instruction indicates that during an inspection, MIOSHA compliance officers will review written programs to ensure the following elements are addressed.

1. Labels and other forms of warning for containers, pipes, and piping systems;
2. Material Safety Data sheets (MSDSs) for chemicals that are used or produced, including presence of a MSDS poster as required by the MIOSH Act;
3. Training for employees at the time of initial assignment and when a new hazard is introduced into the workplace;
4. A list of the hazardous chemicals;
5. Other topics such as:
 - A. Methods to inform employees of hazards associated with non-routine tasks,
 - B. The method used to communicate the contents of pipes and piping systems,
 - C. The method to provide other employers with on-site access to MSDSs and special precautionary measures that are needed when working on multi-employer worksites,
 - D. Availability of the written program to employees and their designated representatives.

The instruction provides detailed information on each aspect of the written program and further detail with the corresponding paragraph of the standard.

Appendix Material

The instruction also includes four appendixes with further information and guidance:

- Appendix A provides clarifications and interpretations.
- Appendix B is a sample letter for inquiries regarding missing or deficient MSDSs and labels.
- Appendix C provides general guidelines for health hazard evaluation procedures.
- Appendix D is a guide for reviewing MSDSs.

Appendix A is a very useful document. It provides clarifications of provisions where significant interpretations have been necessary to ensure uniform enforcement and understanding. This 22-page appendix provides extensive information on when and how a provision may be applied. As an

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The MIOSHA Hazard Communication Standard requires employers who use or produce chemicals to have a written hazard communication program.

The Bottom Line

Workplace Safety and Health Makes Good Business Sense

Christman Constructors, Inc. - Lansing

Christman Constructors, Inc. is a wholly owned subsidiary of The Christman Company, located in Lansing. It was incorporated as a separate organization in April of 1994, for the purpose of providing quality concrete, carpentry and selective demolition services. Since that time Christman Constructors' services have grown to include General Contracting, Construction Management and Design/Build Construction.

Corporate Values & Beliefs

Building on a 100-year tradition of self-performing work on projects from the Fisher Building in Detroit, to the restoration of the Michigan State Capitol in Lansing, the Christman Company took the best-of-the-best tradesmen and a select management group, and established a group focused on furnishing the highest quality construction services in the commercial market sector.

Christman Constructors, Inc. currently employs 15 salaried Project Managers, Estimators & Administrators along with approximately 130 tradesmen, often expanding to over 200 tradesmen in the busier months of the year. They have over \$4 million invested in capital equipment, necessary to self perform their work and they operate a custom mill working shop to meet the needs of the most discriminating client. They have offices in Lansing and Ann Arbor and their target markets include Healthcare, Power/Industrial, Higher Education, General Commercial and Historic Preservation.

Christman Constructors, Inc. has adopted the "Christman Way" philosophy, which is "To Unite Great People in Great Achievement." They have established four basic company values:

- Honor all commitments with integrity.
- Build lasting relationships.
- Have passion for your work and a competitive spirit.
- Be a great place to work.

Corporate Safety Program

Consistent with the corporate philosophy and values, is a comprehensive company safety plan and a commitment to safety that is second to none.

In January of 2001, Christman Constructors began a comprehensive review of its corporate safety program as an integral part of the company's five-year strategic planning effort. A committee that included the President, Safety Director, Safety Administrator, two superintendents and two carpenter foremen began by defining safety goals and developing a corporate safety mission statement. Christman Constructors developed a philosophy that was simple.

"We believe it is a fundamental value of Christman Constructors that safety is the primary consideration in everything we do. Safety adds value to the services we provide to our customers and a safe work environment will make Constructors the best company employees can choose to pursue their personal and professional goals."

Christman Constructors consulted with experts in construction safety such as the MIOSHA CET Division, Associated General Contractors, and several outsourced safety consultants. New programs that were developed included a comprehensive employee training program, revised hoisting and respiratory programs, revised concrete work fall protection requirements, enhanced silica awareness training, and implementation of an eye protection program.

Draft copies of the safety program were circulated through field supervisors and project management personnel resulting in development of a final program. Implementation began January 1, 2002, with company-wide training. Employees' response to the program was positive and measurable results were immediate.

Currently Christman Constructors, Inc. (and the entire Christman Organization) enjoys a 0.57 Experience Modification Rating (EMR) that is rarely equaled in the construction industry. Clearly, the success of the program enables Christman to be a more competitive company, to be a better place to work, and to provide a higher level of service to their current and future clients.



Christman Constructors is performing all of the concrete work at Central Michigan Community Hospital in Mt. Pleasant, part of their new cancer center.

This column features successful Michigan companies that have established a comprehensive safety and health program which positively impacts their bottom line. An accident-free work environment is not achieved by good luck—but by good planning! Creating a safe and healthy workplace takes as much attention as any aspect of running a business. Some positive benefits include: less injuries and illnesses, lower workers' compensation costs, increased production, increased employee morale, and lower absenteeism.

FLEET SAFETY

By: Rob Stacy, Safety Consultant
Consultation Education & Training Division

What do you think the leading cause of deaths and disabilities is in the workplace today? If you guessed traffic crashes, you are absolutely correct! In 2002, on-the-job motor vehicle crashes cost 1,372 American workers their lives—25 percent of all work-related deaths.

A National Health Issue

Road traffic injury is one our nation's largest and most pressing health issues. Nationally, every five seconds a crash occurs, and every seven seconds a property damage crash occurs. Every 10 seconds there is a traffic-related injury, and every 12 minutes, someone is killed. In 2003, there were 42,643 fatal traffic accidents in the U.S., and 1,283 in Michigan.

The single best proven way to bring traffic deaths and serious injuries down is to increase the use of seat belts. In highway traffic crashes, wearing a seat belt can reduce the risk of death by 45 to 60 percent, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

The Michigan State Police announced on September 30, 2004, that Michigan achieved a 90.5 percent seat belt use rate. Traffic safety officials credit expanded safety belt enforcement zones and intensive, widespread publicity efforts for the state's increase.

In the general population, use of safety belts saved nearly 12,000 lives in motor vehicle crashes in 2000, and could have prevented an additional 9,000 fatalities had the

victims been wearing safety belts, according to NHTSA estimates. Belt use also prevented almost 325,000 moderate-to-severe injuries in 2000, and could have prevented another 143,000 such injuries had the victims been wearing safety belts, NHTSA also estimated.

Although these estimates apply to crashes in the general population, it is likely that safety belts would be equally effective in preventing work-related injuries and fatalities. In both cases, the basic risk of injury is associated with the physical forces of a crash, not necessarily with any factor unique to the use of a vehicle for carrying out the duties of a job.

Other contributing factors to road crashes:

- There were 17,419 alcohol-related fatalities in the United States in 2002, 41 percent of the total fatal crashes. An estimated 258,000 persons were injured in crashes where police reported that alcohol was present.

- Driver drowsiness and fatigue contributes to more than 100,000 motor vehicle crashes and 1,550 deaths annually, according to NHTSA. Shift workers and young men are most vulnerable to fatigue-related crashes.

- Driver distraction accounts for 25 to 30 percent of all crashes, and causes an estimated 4,000 to 8,000 traffic crashes each day. Even a momentary distraction can cause a crash. Inattentive drivers are less likely to recognize potential hazards and react more slowly to traffic conditions.

- In 2003, Michigan had 67,760 car-deer crashes. Nationally in 2000, according to the National Safety Council, there were 520,000 animal-related accidents, resulting in 100 deaths and 4,000 injuries.

- Have you thought about vehicle-related road debris (VRRD)? There are almost 12,000 tow-away crashes involving VRRD annually, with an estimated 47 fatal crashes.

Employer Responsibility

It is every employer's responsibility to ensure safety on the job, whether it is on a construction site, a chemical manufacturer, a factory, an

educational facility, or driving on public roadways.

Unlike other workplaces, the roadway is not a closed environment. Preventing work-related roadway crashes requires strategies that combine traffic safety principles and sound safety management practices. Although employers cannot control roadway conditions, they can promote safe driving behavior by providing safety information to workers and by setting and enforcing driver safety policies. Crashes are not an unavoidable part of doing business.

Injuries resulting from non-use of safety belts are estimated by NHTSA to cost employers more than \$1 billion each year in health insurance and other direct costs. For every employee involved in an on-the-job crash, the direct cost to the employer averaged \$27,750 if the employee was not wearing a safety belt, compared with \$11,310 if the employee was wearing a safety belt.

Isn't it time for your business or organization to get involved in reducing the number of lives lost on our state's highways? Employers bear legal responsibility to ensure that employee drivers are qualified and competent in operating vehicles for business purposes. Training in safe driving practices is only one component.

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recommends that employers establish and enforce workplace driver safety policies, as a key step in preventing job-related fatalities in motor vehicle crashes. As part of a driver safety program, NIOSH recommends, employers should:

- Provide a key member of the management team with responsibility and authority to set and enforce a comprehensive driver safety policy.

- Require use of seat belts by all persons in a vehicle used on the job.

- Select vehicles that provide high levels of occupant protection.

- Maintain complete and accurate records of driving performance.

- Stipulate that driving is a task that requires full attention, including instructions to avoid placing or taking cell phone calls while the vehicle is in operation.

- Set schedules that allow adequate time for employees to make deliveries or visit clients without violating traffic laws or safety regulations.



This car was hit by a jack-knifing tractor-trailer rig. The driver survived because he was wearing his seat belt and the car was equipped with optional advanced safety systems.

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CET GRANTS

Governor Announces \$1 Million for Worker Safety and Health Grants

By: *Jerry Zimmerman*
CET Grant Administrator

On September 15th, **Governor Jennifer M. Granholm** announced that MIOSHA awarded 17 Consultation Education and Training (CET) Grants totaling \$1 million to promote worker safety and health.

"This \$1 million investment in Michigan's working men and women gives employers new tools to protect their workers from being injured on the job," said Granholm. "We are dedicated to helping Michigan businesses succeed—these grants will protect workers on the job and make employers more competitive by reducing costs associated with workplace injuries and illnesses."

The Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division provides outreach services to employers in a variety of formats. The CET Grant program provides additional options for safety and health education and training to employers and employees.

Most of the grants will focus on the performance goals identified in the MIOSHA strategic plan, with a particular emphasis on hazard recognition and prevention for high-hazard manufacturing industries. The 17 statewide projects will include a wide range of training activities and proficiency levels, and many will offer interactive computer-based training modules.

Four new programs are included in the 17 grants, with targeted training in the key areas of: asbestos-related hazards; techniques for rescue workers responding to excavation cave-ins; safety and health problems in the food processing industry, particularly for Hispanic workers; and workplace violence prevention.

"Education is a powerful weapon that can promote safety and health in the workplace," said DLEG Director **David C. Hollister**. "These grants are an excellent investment that will enhance MIOSHA's delivery of outreach services to help prevent workplace injuries and illnesses."

CET grants are awarded on a competitive basis to nonprofit organizations, such as management/employer groups, labor/employee organizations, universities, hospitals and service agencies.

FY 2005 CET Grant Projects

Associated General Contractors will provide an interactive computer-based training program for the construction industry. The program is designed to provide easy access to 14 standardized modules which include: Asbestos Awareness, Confined Space, Electrical Safety, Fall

Protection, Fire Safety, Hazard Communication, Lockout/Tagout, PPE, Trenching and Shoring, Scaffold Safety, Silica Safety, Ladder Safety and Lead Safety.

Bay de Noc Community College will provide statewide training and services for the wood harvesting (logging) and wood using industry with emphasis on sawmills and secondary wood manufacturing. The training program will offer on-site presentations to both employees and employers with emphasis on: employee awareness of hazards, personal protective equipment, chain saw safety, safe work habits, employee safety responsibility, sound ergonomic practices and proper lockout procedures.

Center for Workplace Violence Prevention will provide three different training products which address MIOSHA strategic plan objectives, homeland security priorities and gaps in emergency response capabilities. Proposed activities are: 1) A seminar on Personal Safety and Verbal Diffusion Skills, 2) A course on Preparedness for Terrorist or Catastrophic events, and 3) writing a training manual on coping with these events.

Eastern Michigan University will provide a two-hour asbestos awareness course which will train workers on: the nature of asbestos, health effects of exposure, materials which typically contain asbestos, and the elements of the MIOSHA General Industry and Construction Standards for asbestos.

Lansing Area Safety Council will provide safety and health training to employees in long-term care facilities. The topics in the training program will include: aggressive behavior; bloodborne pathogens and tuberculosis awareness; disaster preparedness; ergonomics; slips, trips and falls; hazard communication; and safe lifting and transfer of patients/proper use of lifting equipment

Michigan Chiropractic Association will provide back safety and ergonomics training to workers in the nursing home, manufacturing and construction industries. Prior to conducting the on-site training, facilitators will observe and conduct an on-site evaluation of the workplace. The



As part of Michigan State University's CET Grant, the Ypsilanti Fire Department received a 36-hour Rapid Intervention Training (RIT) course for firefighters.

WorkSafe program is designed to increase employee awareness of the workplace safety issues related to back and other ergonomics injuries.

Michigan Farm Bureau will provide training that targets agricultural employers, managers, service providers and owners. The project will develop and provide realistic hazard identification guidance and minimization practices suitable for owners, employees and affiliated industry personnel utilizing computer and DVD formats. Hosting facilities will be provided with pre-seminar on-site surveys.

Michigan Road Builders (MRBA) will provide several training and service components. The training includes "Safety and Health Day" presentation and an "Occupational Health Management in Highway Construction" seminar. There will also be a communication and dissemination of information component.

Michigan State AFL-CIO will provide generic and customized workplace safety and health training to new employees and incumbent workers affected by new technology and new work processes, equipment or operation. Training topics will include: back injuries, lifting techniques, workplace hazards and recognition, right-to-know, and hazardous substances. In cases where generic training does not meet the needs of an employer, staff will meet with the employer and identify worksite needs and issues and then will customize a training program to meet their needs.

Michigan State University/School of Criminal Justice will provide a 36-hour train-the-trainer Rapid Intervention training course for

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Michigan Road Builders Alliance

On August 13th, Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth Director **David C. Hollister** announced the renewal of a strategic alliance between DLEG, the Michigan Road Builders Association (MRBA) and the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA).

“The continued collaborative efforts of this premiere alliance are vital to ensure that safety and health issues play a major role in road building and bridge construction work in Michigan,” said Hollister. “The Michigan Road Builders are an outstanding advocate for workplace safety and health and we are proud to partner with them.”

Road Work Hazards

The construction industry is one of the most hazardous industries in Michigan. Only about four percent of Michigan’s workforce is employed in construction—however, construction fatalities account for more than 40 percent of all fatal workplace accidents.

And these numbers are particularly dramatic for the roadbuilding industry. While employees who work in the public right-of-way, including road and bridge construction workers, make up only about seven percent of Michigan’s construction workforce—they account for over 30 percent of the construction fatalities. These numbers are the driving force behind the dedication of both MIOSHA and MRBA to assure worker protection on construction sites.

Road construction zones are marked by orange barrels and flashing lights—but they also include real workers. Every employee is entitled to a safe workplace—and our roadways are the workplace where road construction workers perform their dangerous work.

Improving Road Worker Safety

Chris Shea, MRBA President and CEO of

PK Contracting, and **Doug Kalinowski**, MIOSHA Director, were among those signing the alliance, which took place during the MRBA Summer Conference in Shanty Creek. The three organizations officially became partners to improve worker safety and health in the road and bridge industry in 1998.

“We value the strong partnership between highway contractors and MIOSHA, as we understand that it is by working together that we can make our workplaces safer for our members, our families and the motoring public,” said Shea. “We look forward to continuing our strong alliance into the future.”

The interchange of ideas, information and training has been very useful to the MIOSHA staff, and to many roadbuilders as well. Together we have forged a positive relationship that has exceeded both of our expectations to help reduce construction fatalities, injuries and illnesses.

“Our members believe that partnering with MIOSHA will lead to safer work sites, and while we don’t always agree on every issue, we are definitely committed to this dynamic partnership,” said **Mike Eckert**, MRBA Director of Safety Services.

The key goals of this alliance include:

- Promote worker safety through education, training, and ongoing communication;

- Increase the use of joint forums to discuss issues which affect worker safety regulations in road construction;

- Conduct joint meetings to discuss pertinent and/or urgent issues; and

- Continually stimulate positive cultural change in both organizations to promote worker safety, to save lives, and to prevent injuries and illnesses.

While participation by individual employers is voluntary, MIOSHA an-



Construction Safety and Health Division Director Bob Pawlowski; MIOSHA Director Doug Kalinowski; MRBA Director of Safety Services Michael L. Eckert; 2004 MRBA President Chris Shea from PK Contracting; MRBA Executive Vice President Tony Milo; 2004 President Elect Vance Johnson.

icipates that contractors, who embrace the goals of the partnership and who strive to provide a safe and healthy workplace, will experience a decrease in workplace accidents and illnesses, and a decrease in workers’ compensation costs.

Alliance Benefits

“Road workers going home safe and healthy every day has been the key benefit of this landmark partnership,” said Kalinowski. “We have built a relationship based on trust that has helped all parties work together to keep workers safe in Michigan’s high-hazard road construction industry.”

Alliances enable organizations committed to workplace safety and health to collaborate with MIOSHA to prevent workplace injuries and illnesses. Alliances are open to all groups, including: trade or professional associations, businesses, labor organizations, educational institutions, and government agencies.

There are many benefits to participating in an alliance with MIOSHA. Through this program, organizations will:

- Build trusting, cooperative relationships with the program.

- Network with others committed to workplace safety and health.

- Exchange information about best practices.

- Leverage resources to maximize worker safety and health protection.

For more information about forming an alliance or partnership with MIOSHA, please check our website at www.michigan.gov/miosha or contact the Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division at 517.322.1809. ■



Road construction is one of the most hazardous industries in Michigan.

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH PROFILES

Since the passage of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act 33 years ago, workplaces have become safer. The overall decline in occupational injury and illness rates in Michigan and nationally can be attributed to many factors, including: strong enforcement of health and safety standards, increased awareness, and support from the private sector.

Nevertheless, work-related injuries and illnesses cost employers \$1.5 billion dollars in workers' compensation claims in Michigan every year; and the indirect costs of these conditions may be as much as five times greater, or nearly \$7.5 billion dollars.

Occupational Health Tracking

Prevention is the key to greater success. Identification, quantification and tracking of adverse health outcomes are essential for understanding and preventing occupational injuries and illnesses. Data is available on the magnitude of work-related injuries and illnesses in Michigan from a variety of sources. For the first time, this data has been compiled into a single document that is available on the web.

The *Profiles of Occupational Injuries and Diseases in Michigan* report, put together by the Michigan Department of Community Health (MDCH) in collaboration with Michigan State University, presents statistics on the magnitude and trends in work-related injuries and illnesses. It also makes recommendations for actions that would contribute to reducing the burden of these conditions in the future. The report identifies and evaluates the various federal and state data sources upon which these statistics are based.

Work-related topics addressed in the report include: fatal and non-fatal injuries, musculoskeletal disorders, asthma, pneumoconiosis, communicable disease, lead poisoning, pesticide poisoning, noise-induced hearing loss, cancer, and skin diseases.

Findings & Recommendations

Some notable findings include:

- In 2001, on average, one worker died nearly every two days of an acute, work-related injury.

- The fatal work-related injury rate for Michigan was lower than the national rate for the preceding 10 years.

- Although Michigan's non-fatal injury rate declined 32 percent between 1992 and 2001, it exceeded the national rate throughout this timeframe.

- Seventy percent of interviewed adults with elevated blood lead levels experienced symptoms at blood lead levels allowed by

the current workplace safety regulations.

- Michigan is the only state in the U.S. with a system to track occupational noise-induced hearing loss. The Michigan work-related noise-induced hearing loss surveillance system, established in 1992, identified 20,731 cases through 2001.

The *Profiles* report goes on to make specific recommendations based on the data presented, such as:

- Recommending the development of a strategic plan to address noise-induced hearing loss;

- Establishment of mandatory reporting requirements for cadmium, mercury and arsenic blood/urine test results; and

- Reassessment of the MIOSHA health standards for lead.

It also points out the need for further investigation into the reasons for Michigan's elevated injury rate and, specifically, the rate for disorders due to repeated trauma.

The MIOSHA program uses surveillance data to target specific high-hazard industries for compliance and outreach activities. MIOSHA also uses surveillance data to evaluate program interventions. The report's findings highlight the importance of utilizing the preventive resources MIOSHA has to offer.

Report on the Web

To view the *Profiles* report, go to www.michigan.gov/mdch-toxics and click on "Reports and Publications." For more information, contact **Martha Stanbury** at MDCH's Division of Environmental and Occupational Epidemiology at 517.335.8350. ■



Prevention is the key to reducing work-related injuries and illnesses.

CET Grants

Cont. from Page 9

firefighters. They will also provide a 16-hour firefighter survival course. The project secures abandoned homes and businesses to conduct the hands-on training.

Michigan Urban Search and Rescue Training Foundation (MUSAR) will provide safety training to contractors engaged in trenching excavation, to construction workers involved in this type of work, and to fire services who may be called upon to provide rescue services during trenching excavation. Besides posing a danger to construction workers, excavation work is hazardous to emergency response personnel.

Parents for Student Safety Employment Standards (PASSES) will work with the Michigan Construction Teachers Association and other construction trade schools, such as Taylor Career Technical Center, to provide training for construction technical students in the classroom. They will also deliver a web-based training program using the PASSES Edge curriculum and offer it to technical schools.

Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union (RWDSU) Michigan Joint Council will establish a comprehensive workplace health and safety program concentrated at 13 food processing and distribution facilities around the state. Training will include repetitive motion musculoskeletal injuries, workplace violence, truck driver safety and noise induced hearing loss.

Southeast Michigan Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (SEMCOHS) will provide safety and health training to Spanish-speaking, immigrant workers. The training will focus on: Basic First Aid, Heat Stress, Hearing Protection, PPE, Ergonomics and General Safety. The training will promote healthy and safe worksites for immigrant workers who may not have been exposed to workplace health and safety.

United Auto Workers (UAW) will provide a 5-step training program for small- to medium-sized manufacturing companies. First the program will identify workplaces for training and assistance, second they will conduct a walkthrough of the facility and develop a customized training program, third they will deliver the training program, fourth they will conduct an evaluation, and fifth they will provide technical assistance.

University Of Michigan will provide on-site customized introductory ergonomics seminars, ergonomics job analysis, follow-up activities to document workplace changes and development of ergonomic programs to 10 small- and medium-sized Michigan companies.

Warren Conner Development Coalition will provide a workplace violence prevention program that will target owners, operators, managers, and supervisors of small service-sector businesses, retail establishments, and food service establishments located on the eastside of Detroit and employing less than 100 people. ■

CET Awards

MIOSHA recognizes the safety and health achievements of Michigan employers and employees through CET Awards, which are based on excellent safety and health performance.



All Northern Concrete Pipe Bay City employees were treated to a luncheon, in honor of their achieving the CET Silver Award, in recognition of an outstanding safety and health record.

Northern Concrete Pipe - Bay City

On July 13th, Northern Concrete Pipe Inc. of Bay City received the **CET Silver Award** for an outstanding safety and health record. MIOSHA Deputy Director **Martha Yoder** presented the award to **William Washabaugh Sr.**, president, and **Tim Phillips**, director of safety.

“We work in an industry that is very hazardous due to the size of our equipment and products. Our company is committed to safety and will continue to make it our number-one concern for our employees,” Washabaugh said.

Their outstanding safety and health record came from several areas, including significant employer commitment, an active safety and health committee, job safety analysis (JSA) to identify hazards, near-miss hazard reports, and regular safety and health training.

In February they received the highest safety award for their industry from the American Concrete Pipe Association.

Since 1958, Northern Concrete Pipe Inc. has been a leader in the precast concrete industry. They manufacture precast reinforced pipe, manholes, catch basins, gate wells, box culverts and other products.

Unistrut - Wayne Manufacturing

On September 13th, Unistrut, Wayne Manufacturing, received the **CET Silver Award** today from for an outstanding safety and health record. Unistrut employees worked almost two years without a lost time accident.

CET Supervisor **Ruth Hindman** and CET Safety Consultant **Linda Long** presented the award to Plant Manager **Charles O. Nehls**; Environmental, Health & Safety Manager **Debbie Zawol**; and Unistrut’s 160 employees. Employees are represented by Iron Workers Local 831.

“Our work is medium- to high-tonnage automatic stamping, along with some secondary operations. We are honored to receive this award, particularly since much of our work is inherently dangerous,” said Nehls.

Unistrut Corporation made employee safety one of its tenets for business operations many years ago. Since their acquisition by Tyco International, an even higher emphasis has been placed on safety through corporate safety standard mandates. Operating units are held strictly accountable for the safety of their employees.

Unistrut products have been helping to build a better world since 1924 and have been used extensively in industrial and commercial construction markets.



MIOSHA staff join Unistrut employees and management to celebrate the CET Silver Award presentation, which recognizes their achievement of two years without a lost time accident.

Webasto Roof Systems - Livonia

On September 27th, Webasto Roof Systems Inc.’s (WRSI) Livonia plant received the **CET Bronze Award** which recognizes leadership and commitment to workplace safety and health resulting in significant improvement of their MIOSHA record.

MIOSHA Director **Doug Kalinowski** presented the award to Michigan Operations General Manager **Jeff Stecher**, Assistant General Manager **John Wilder**, and the **Webasto Health, Safety & Ergonomics Committee**.

“Safety is the ultimate priority for our company. We have diligent programs in place that encourage our colleagues to achieve this result,” said **Fred Olson**, president & CEO, WRSI North America.

The Livonia plant employs 248 workers, and through the strong commitment of management and employees, has concentrated its improvement efforts in: ergonomic assessments and implementation; accident investigations and implemented corrective actions; ongoing safety training and monthly health and safety audits.

In 1974, Germany-based sunroof giant Webasto AG established a small subsidiary company in Rochester Hills. Today Webasto Roof Systems Inc. is a dominant force in the expanding sunroof market.



Webasto employees and management celebrated their CET Bronze Award, which recognizes leadership and commitment to workplace safety and health resulting in significant improvement of their MIOSHA record.

Education & Training Calendar

Date	Course Location	MIOSHA Trainer Contact	Phone
December			
1	Confined Space Entry Workshop Gaylord	Doug Kimmel Evelyn Schenk	989.275.5000
1	Asbestos Awareness Training Workshop Grand Rapids	Mike Mealy Elleena Chrzan	616.234.3382
2	Supervisor's Role in Safety and Health Livonia	Jennifer Clark-Denson Sonya McDowell	734.487.2259
2	Overhead and Gantry Crane Seminar Holland	Rob Stacy Brian Cole	616.331.7180
7	Recordkeeping of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses Shelby Township	Lee Jay Kueppers Kathy Ashely	586.731.3476
7 - 8	MIOSHA 10-Hour for Construction Midland	Tom Swindlehurst Maria Sandow	989.496.9415
7 - 8	MIOSHA 10-Hour for Construction Southfield	Pat Sullivan Ed Ratzenberger	248.557.7010
8	Ergonomics - A Practical Approach Lansing	Debra Gundry Sandy Long	517.394.4614
9	Lockout/Tagout: The Control of Hazardous Energy Sources Cadillac	Anthony Neroni Shelly Hyatt	231.546.7264
9	Excavations and Mobile Equipment Hazards Perry	Tom Swindlehurst Lynn Coleman	517.625.4919
10	Asbestos Awareness Training Workshop Schoolcraft	Mike Mealy Tom Willson	269.657.2570
15	Recordkeeping of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Battle Creek	Quenten Yoder Connie Dawe	269.965.4134
15	Health Issues in Construction Holland	Dave Humenick Brian Cole	616.331.7180
January			
5	MVPP and MSHARP Application Workshop Traverse City	Doug Kimmel Shelly Hyatt	231.546.7264
11	Guarding for Manufacturing Shelby Township	Lee Jay Kueppers Kathy Ashely	586.731.3476
12	Supervisor's Role in Safety & Health Monroe	Jennifer Clark-Denson Vicki Sherman	734.384.4127
12	Guarding for Manufacturing Harrison	Bob Carrier Karen Kleinhardt	989.386.6629
13	Recordkeeping of Occupational Injuries & Illnesses Bay City	Lee Jay Kueppers Dee Warren	989.892.8601
13	Recordkeeping of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses Lansing	Debra Gundry Sandy Long	517.394.4614
18-19	Two Day Mechanical Power Press Seminar Clarkston	Richard Zdeb Peggy Desrosier	248.620.2534
18-19	MIOSHA 10-Hour for Construction Grand Rapids	Debra Johnson Mary Hofstra	616.234.3382

Co-sponsors of CET seminars may charge a nominal fee to cover the costs of equipment rental, room rental, and lunch/refreshment charges. For the latest seminar information check our website, which is updated the first of every month: www.michigan.gov/miosha.

Construction Safety Standards Commission

Labor

- Mr. Tom Boensch**
- Mr. Daniel Corbat
- Mr. Andrew Lang
- Mr. Larry Redfearn

Management

- Mr. Peter Strazdas*
- Ms. Cheryl Hughes
- Mr. Edward Tanzini
- Mr. Timothy Wise

Public Member

- Dr. Kris Mattila

General Industry Safety Standards Commission

Labor

- Mr. James Baker
- Dr. Tycho Fredericks
- Mr. John Pettinga
- Vacant

Management

- Mr. Timothy J. Koury*
- Mr. Thomas Pytlik**
- Mr. Michael L. Eckert
- Mr. George A. Reamer

Public Member

- Ms. Geri Johnson

Occupational Health Standards Commission

Labor

- Ms. Margaret Vissman*
- Dr. G. Robert DeYoung
- Ms. Cynthia Holland
- Mr. Michael McCabe

Management

- Mr. Richard Olson**
- Mr. Robert DeBruyn
- Mr. Michael Lucas
- Mr. Douglas Williams

Public Member

- Dr. Darryl Lesoski

*Chair **Vice Chair

Standards Update

Status of Federal OSHA Rule-Making

While the MIOSHA Standards Section oversees and manages the progress of improving Michigan worker safety and health standards, federal OSHA has their own agenda for standards rule-making. The following is a partial list of finished rules or rules that are in line for changes as published in the June 28, 2004, Federal Register as the **Semiannual Regulatory Agenda**.

Michigan and all state-plan states keep a close eye on what is on OSHA's docket in order to be able to correlate our agenda, if necessary, and respond as efficiently as possible. This material can be read in full in the archives of the Federal Register at the OSHA website: www.osha.gov.

Rule Stage	Started	Final Date
Final Rules		
Commercial Diving Operations	2001	Final 02/17/04
REDON Fit Test Protocol	1982	Final 08/04/04
Final Rule Stage		
Assigned Protection Factors for Respirators	1998	12/00/04
Payment of Personal Protective Equipment	1999	Undetermined
Proposed Rule Stage		
Hexavalent Chromium (Court Order)	1993	01/01/06
Walking Surfaced and Fall Protection	1990	Undetermined
Updating National Consensus Standards	2003	Undetermined
Confined Space in Construction	1996	Undetermined
Updating Electrical Standards, Subpart S	2004	Undetermined
Electrical Power Transmission	1999	Undetermined
Pre-Rule Stage		
Beryllium	2002	Undetermined
Silica	2001	Undetermined

Both MIOSHA and federal OSHA have a number of projects underway that you may want to follow or provide input during the process. The Federal Register will outline the time and means for making comments and it lists a contact person for each project. Additionally, you can contact the local OSHA District Office, at 517-327-0904.

Construction Safety Standards Commission

On August 12th, the Construction Safety Standards Commission held its public commission meeting at Shanty Creek, in Bellaire. The **Michigan Road Builders Association** hosted the meeting, during their 51st Annual Summer Conference.



The Construction Safety Standards Commission meeting at the MRBA conference at Shanty Creek, in Bellaire.

MIOSHA occasionally schedules commission meetings across the state, to make it convenient for the public to attend and bring their comments or concerns to commissioners.

For a schedule of upcoming commission meeting for all three standards commissions, please check the MIOSHA website at www.michigan.gov/mioshastandards.

To contact any of the Commissioners or the Standards Section, please call 517.322.1845.

Status of Michigan Standards Promulgation

(As of October 10, 2004)

Occupational Safety Standards

General Industry

Part 08.	Portable Fire Extinguishers	Approved by Commission for review
Part 17.	Refuse Packer Units	Approved by Commission for review
Part 18.	Overhead & Gantry Cranes	Advisory Committee open for review
Part 19.	Crawler, Locomotive, & Truck Cranes	Approved by Commission for review
Part 20.	Underhung Cranes & Monorail Systems	Approved by Commission for review
Part 58.	Vehicle Mounted Elevating & Rotating Platforms (Joint w/CS 32)	Approved by Commission for review
Part 62.	Plastic Molding	Approved by Commission for review
Part 79.	Diving Operations	Approved by Commission for review
Pending	Ergonomics (Joint)	Advisory Committee open for review

Construction

Part 01.	General Rules	Approved by Commission for review
Part 07.	Welding & Cutting	Formal rules submitted to LSB
Part 08.	Handling & Storage of Materials	LSB formal certification
Part 12.	Scaffolds & Scaffold Platforms	Approved by Commission for review
Part 14.	Tunnels, Shafts, Caissons & Cofferdams	Final, effective 02/27/03
Part 16.	Power Transmission & Distribution	Approved by Commission for review
Part 25.	Concrete Construction	Final, effective 12/19/03
Part 26.	Steel Erection	Informal approval by ORR
Part 30.	Telecommunications	Approved by Commission for review
Part 31.	Diving Operations	Approved by Commission for review
Part 32.	Aerial Work Platforms (Joint w/GI 58)	Approved by Commission for review
Pending	Communication Tower Erection	Approved by Commission for review

Occupational Health Standards

General Industry

Part 431.	Hazardous Work in Laboratories	Final, effective 08/05/03
Part 504.	Diving Operations	Approved by Commission for review
Part 525.	Grinding, Polishing & Buffing	Final, effective 04/01/03
Part 665.	Underground Construction	Formal rules submitted to LSB
Part 700.	Agriculture	Final, effective 08/19/03
Pending	Diisocyanates	Advisory Committee open for review
Pending	Ergonomics (Joint)	Advisory Committee open for review
Pending	Latex	Approved by Commission for review

Construction

None

The MIOSHA Standards Section assists in the promulgation of Michigan occupational safety and health standards. To receive a copy of the MIOSHA Standards Index (updated June 2004) or for single copies and sets of safety and health standards, please contact the Standards Section at 517.322.1845, or at www.michigan.gov/mioshastandards.

RFR Request for Rulemaking
 ORR Office of Regulatory Reform
 LSB Legislative Services Bureau
 JCAR Joint Committee on Administrative Rules

Variations

Published October 30, 2004

Following are requests for variances and variances granted from occupational safety standards in accordance with rules of the Department of Labor & Economic Growth, Part 12, Variances (R408.22201 to 408.22251).

Variances Requested Construction

Part number and rule number from which variance is requested

Part 32 - Aerial Lift Platforms: Rule R408.43209, Rule 3209, 3209 (8) (b), 3209 (8)(b & c), 3209 (c), and 3209 (9)

Summary of employer's request for variance

To allow employer to firmly secure a scaffold plank to the top of the intermediate rail of the guardrail system of an aerial lift for limited use as a work platform, provided certain stipulations are adhered to.

Name and address of employer

Ford Motor Company

Location for which variance is requested

Ford Land Site Management Operations, Dearborn

Name and address of employer

J. C. Jimenez Construction

Location for which variance is requested

Sinai Educational Campus, Detroit

Name and address of employer

Midwest Steel, Inc.

Location for which variance is requested

Ford Motor Company, Wayne

Name and address of employer

Power Process Piping, Inc.

Location for which variance is requested

General Motors Paint Facility, Delta Township

Name and address of employer

Wayne ISA Plant, Wayne

Variances Granted Construction

Part number and rule number from which variance is requested

Part 10 - Lifting & Digging Equipment: Rule R408.41075a, Rule 1075a (2)

Summary of employer's request for variance

To allow employer to use endless belt-type manlifts to access to upper levels when stairways are not available for use, provided certain stipulations are adhered to.

Name and address of employer

Specialty Industries, Inc.

Location for which variance is requested

King Milling Co., Lowell

Part number and rule number from which variance is requested

Part 32 - Aerial Lift Platforms: Rule R408.43209, Rule 3209 (8) (c)

Summary of employer's request for variance

To allow employer to firmly secure a scaffold plank to the top of the intermediate rail of the guardrail system of an aerial lift for limited use as a work platform provided certain stipulations are adhered to.

Name and address of employer

Denn-Co Construction, Inc.

Location for which variance is requested

Detroit Newspaper, Sterling Heights

Name and address of employer

Midwest Steel, Inc.

Location for which variance is requested

General Motors Paint Facility, Delta Township

Name and address of employer

Scheck Industries

Location for which variance is requested

General Motors Paint Facility, Delta Township

Variances Revoked General Industry

As part of a records update, the **General Industry Safety & Health Division** has sent letters to employees who have obtained variances since 1975. If no response was received to the initial letter, a second letter was sent telling the employer that their variance would be revoked unless they responded.

The General Industry Safety Division is revoking variances for the following establishments because we have not received responses from them.

Bill Thomas Foods, Inc.

Traverse City

Caro IGA Foodliner

Caro

Carpenter Enterprises, LTD.

Fenton

Chatman Food Centers

Warren

Chrysler Corporation

Detroit

Delphi Saginaw Steering Systems (Plant #2)

Saginaw

Dickinson, Wright, McKean, Cudlip and Moon

Detroit

Dow Chemical USA

Ludington

Dow Chemical USA

Midland

Draw-Tite Company

Canton

Evert Products Company

Evert

Grand Haven Brass Foundry

Grand Haven

Harbison Walker Refractories

Ludington

Hastings Aluminum Products

Hastings

Karmazin Products Corporation

Wyandotte

Kroupa's Inc.

Traverse City

Mann Metal Finishing, Inc.

Lawrence

McLouth Steel Corporation

Detroit

Melchecks, Inc.

Reese

Midwest Foundry Company

Coldwater

Midwest Rubber

Sandusky

Muskegon Piston Ring Company, Inc.

Muskegon

Norwood Precision Products-Textron

Melvindale

Pennwalt Corporation

Wyandotte

PK & A Foundry Inc.

Milan

Port Huron Brass Foundry Co.

Marysville

Port Huron Paper Company

Port Huron

Rockford Chain Company

Utica

Rockwell International

Allegan

Ron Smith & Son

Hillman

Scio Plastics Incorporated

Milan

Scott Aviation

South Haven

Sea Ray Boats, Inc.

Oxford

Service Sales Gasket Company

Detroit

Shelby Sawmill

Shelby

Simpson-Plainwell Paper Company

Plainwell

St Joseph Hospital

Flint

Sundstrand -Heat Transfer, Inc.

Dowagiac

Trans Matic Manufacturing Co. Inc.

Holland

Unit FTT

Flint

Universal Tube, Inc.

Sterling Heights

Watervleit Paper Company, Inc.

Watervleit

WEH Inc.

Oxford

West Leonard Upholstering Co.

Grand Rapids

White Pine Copper Co.

White Pine

Will-Flow Corp.

Charlevoix

Wolverine Press, Inc.

Kalamazoo

Wyman-Gordan Company

Jackson

Zeeland Farmers Co-Op Inc.

Zeeland

MIOSHA News Quiz

Topic: Machine Guarding

By: **Kenneth Pung, Supervisor**
General Industry Safety and Health Division

Questions

- When guarding a manual fed roll form machine, which of the following is acceptable?
 - A guard adjusted to 1/8 inch of the material on the out feed side.
 - An emergency stop device, which can be body activated to stop the rolls.
 - Standard barriers guarding the sides and out feed side.
 - All of the above.
- An operator exposed to the hazard of an automatic powered clamping device must have which of the following guarding methods?
 - Two hand trips for at least one operator.
 - Provide a single button control within 18 inches of the clamp.
 - A properly adjusted light curtain that will prevent the clamps from closing if the beam is interrupted.
 - None of the above.
- While operating a squaring shear, the operator must be guarded in which of the following methods?
 - A self-adjusting barrier with a limit of not more than 1/4 inch above the table or material.
 - Automatic clamps that must self adjust within 3/4 of an inch above the material or table.
 - A foot pedal, which is guarded against accidental activation.
 - None of the above.
- When using two hand restraints as your primary means of guarding on a mechanical power press, the restraints must do which of the following:
 - Be adjusted so that the operator can't reach into a pinch point or point of operation.
 - Be anchored to the slide.
 - Be capable of withstanding a force of 200 pounds in any direction.
 - All of the above.
- When operating a mechanical power press, a brake monitor is required:
 - When using two hand controls with properly adjusted pullbacks.
 - When using two hand controls with no hands in the die or between pinch points.

- When a die enclosure or fixed barrier guarding is the primary means of guarding.
 - None of the above.
- To remove a stuck part or scrap pieces from the point of operation on a power press, the operator may:
 - Use his/her hand, provided the part is loose.
 - Use a screwdriver to remove the part.
 - Use a hand tool that does not require the operator to place his/her hand into the point of operation.
 - Any of the above.

Answers

1. B - Part 26 Metalworking Machinery R 408.12641 (2) states that a manual fed roll form machine may be guarded one of two ways, as stated in R 408.12637. One way is the body activated emergency stop device.
 - Part 26 Metalworking Machinery R 408.12646 (d) requires: "A means which would prevent the clamping device from closing while the employee is in the point of operation or pinch point." A properly adjusted light curtain would fulfill the requirement.
 - A - A squaring shear has a number of ways to protect the operator. The response noted in (A) can be found in Part 26 Metalworking Machinery R 408.12631 (c) which states: "A self adjusting barrier with a limit of not more than 1/4 of an inch above the table or material."
 - A - Restraints, which are a point of operation device, are required to be adjusted when there is a change in tooling or operators, so that there is no contact with a pinch point or point of operations. This is noted in Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12463 (1)(c) and R 408.12463 (6).
 - D - In these cases, the operator isn't exposed to a pinch point or a point of operation hazard. Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12461 (2) outlines when a brake monitor is needed.
 - C - Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12471 (b) states: "The employer shall furnish, and enforce the use of a hand tool for freeing and removing stuck work or scrap pieces from the die so that the employee need not reach into the point of operation for such purpose."
2. C - Part 26 Metalworking Machinery R 408.12641 (2) states that a manual fed roll form machine may be guarded one of two ways, as stated in R 408.12637. One way is the body activated emergency stop device.
 - Part 26 Metalworking Machinery R 408.12646 (d) requires: "A means which would prevent the clamping device from closing while the employee is in the point of operation or pinch point." A properly adjusted light curtain would fulfill the requirement.
 - A - A squaring shear has a number of ways to protect the operator. The response noted in (A) can be found in Part 26 Metalworking Machinery R 408.12631 (c) which states: "A self adjusting barrier with a limit of not more than 1/4 of an inch above the table or material."
 - A - Restraints, which are a point of operation device, are required to be adjusted when there is a change in tooling or operators, so that there is no contact with a pinch point or point of operations. This is noted in Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12463 (1)(c) and R 408.12463 (6).
 - D - In these cases, the operator isn't exposed to a pinch point or a point of operation hazard. Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12461 (2) outlines when a brake monitor is needed.
 - C - Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12471 (b) states: "The employer shall furnish, and enforce the use of a hand tool for freeing and removing stuck work or scrap pieces from the die so that the employee need not reach into the point of operation for such purpose."
3. A - A squaring shear has a number of ways to protect the operator. The response noted in (A) can be found in Part 26 Metalworking Machinery R 408.12631 (c) which states: "A self adjusting barrier with a limit of not more than 1/4 of an inch above the table or material."
4. A - Restraints, which are a point of operation device, are required to be adjusted when there is a change in tooling or operators, so that there is no contact with a pinch point or point of operations. This is noted in Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12463 (1)(c) and R 408.12463 (6).
5. D - In these cases, the operator isn't exposed to a pinch point or a point of operation hazard. Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12461 (2) outlines when a brake monitor is needed.
6. C - Part 24 Mechanical Power Press R 408.12471 (b) states: "The employer shall furnish, and enforce the use of a hand tool for freeing and removing stuck work or scrap pieces from the die so that the employee need not reach into the point of operation for such purpose."

Excavation Penalties

Cont. from Page 3

crete, asphalt and trolley tracks; and no traffic protection.

MIOSHA Inspection

MIOSHA received a complaint that workers at this site were in serious danger. When MIOSHA arrived at the excavation site, the compliance officer contacted the safety director for Lanzo/D' Alessandro and alerted him of the imminent danger. When the safety director arrived on the scene, he removed the workers from the trench and stated he would shore the excavation before work continued.

MIOSHA conducted an inspection of the excavation site from June 25 to July 20, 2004. Conditions found during the inspection revealed very dangerous exposures, similar to those documented at previous inspections of Lanzo Construction excavation sites. Employers in the excavation business have a duty to know and abide by all legal requirements involving excavating and trenching.

"What's most troubling about this case is that the company continues to place its workers in harm's way," said MIOSHA Director Doug Kalinowski. "MIOSHA holds employers accountable for providing their workers with a safe work environment."

Trench sloping and support systems are required by MIOSHA standard Part 9., Excavation, Trenching, and Shoring. This standard covers the digging of excavations and trenches which an employee is required to enter and the supporting systems used on construction operations. MIOSHA developed its own excavation standard in 1979, which was last amended in 1996.

Underground utility construction work can be extremely hazardous. In Michigan, only a small percentage of construction employees are engaged in underground work, but a disproportionate number of these workers are killed in trench cave-in accidents. Since 1994, 19 Michigan workers have died as a direct result of trench collapse accidents.

Excavation Citations & Penalties

The company received three alleged willful violations, with a proposed penalty of \$210,000; five alleged serious violations, with a proposed penalty of \$4,000; and five alleged other-than-serious violations, with no monetary penalty; for a total proposed penalty of \$214,000.

A willful violation represents an intentional disregard of the requirements of MIOSHA regulations, or plain indifference to employee safety and health. A serious violation exists where there is a substantial probability that serious physical harm or death can result to an employee.

Under the MIOSH Act, the company has 15 working days from receipt of the citations to comply or contest the violations and penalties. ■

Joint Inspections

Cont. from Page 1

employers to provide fall protection systems when employees are exposed to a fall distance of six feet or more. The MIOSHA Strategic Plan also addresses fall hazards in the construction industry and has placed jobsites with serious fall potential as a priority for compliance inspections.

Turner Construction was issued five serious violations addressing several instances of hazards related to MIOSHA Part 45, Fall Protection.

- Employees working near sides and edges more than six feet above a lower level were not provided appropriate fall arrest systems, guard-rail systems or safety net systems.

- Employees were working in areas where they could be struck by falling objects from above. The safety officer documented inadequate toe-boards, screens, guard-rails or canopies to prevent such occurrence.

- Improperly installed and tested guard-rail systems were identified.

Part 8, Handling and Storage of Materials

One serious violation of MIOSHA Part 8, Handling and Storage of Materials, was issued to Turner for failing to determine safe load limits for stacking of materials on floors or roofs.

Heating Devices

Two serious violations were issued to Turner related to heating devices.

- Heating devices were not located at a distance sufficient to prevent ignition of surrounding materials.

- The employer did not properly protect a rubber hose temporarily supplying natural gas to heating devices. The rubber hose was running through a doorway being used for access by employees.

Serious Health Hazards

Bulk and wipe samples were taken during the investigation of old paint on the walls, doorframes, windows, demolition debris, etc., in various buildings and were analyzed by the MIOSHA lab for metals. The lab results showed several samples contained lead and cadmium. Turner Construction Company employees who were performing site supervision, labor, clean up and occasional demolition in these buildings had a reasonably anticipated exposure to these materials.

The investigation resulted in a review of compliance with MIOSHA Act 154, Part 603, Lead Exposure in Construction, and Part 309, the Cadmium standard. The following violations were issued.

MIOSHA Act 154

Section 11(a) of the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Act (MIOSH Act), Act 154 of 1974 as amended, requires an employer to furnish to each employee employment and a place of employment, which is free from recognized hazards that are causing, or are likely to cause, death or serious physical harm.

During the investigation the MIOSHA inspector obtained documentation indicating that Turner Construction Company had knowledge about lead-

containing material being present at the “Lofts of Merchants Row” worksite. Turner Construction Company, as the controlling general contractor, did not notify its immediate employees or the 20 affected sub-contractors working at the site about the potential exposure to lead. A willful/serious citation was issued for this condition.

Part 603. Lead Exposure in Construction

Two serious violations were issued to Turner related to protecting employees from exposures to lead.

- An employer who has a workplace or operation covered by Part 603 must perform an exposure assessment to determine if any employee is exposed to lead at or above the action level of 30 micrograms per cubic meter of air ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). The employer had not conducted initial monitoring where lead was determined to be present.

- Part 603 requires that until an employer performs an employee exposure assessment to determine actual employee exposure, the employer must provide interim protection for employees based on the task they are performing. Interim protection includes; respiratory protection, personal protective clothing and equipment, change areas, washing facilities, biological monitoring and training. Interim protection was not provided where lead was present.

Part 309. Cadmium

Four serious violations were issued to Turner related to employee exposure to cadmium.

- The Cadmium standard requires that where employees are potentially exposed to cadmium, the employer must designate a “competent person” to determine the applicability of the rules by determining whether cadmium is present in the workplace and whether there is the possibility that employee exposures will be at or above the action level of 2.5 micrograms per cubic meter of air ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$). The employer had not assigned a competent person.

- The employer had not performed an initial determination to ascertain if employees were exposed to cadmium above the action level.

- The employer had not instituted a medical surveillance program for all employees performing wrecking and demolition operations where cadmium is present.

- The employer had not instituted a cadmium training program, before or at the time of initial assign-

ment, for all employees who are potentially exposed to cadmium.

In addition to the serious citation issues listed above, the investigation also resulted in the issuance of 11 alleged other-than-serious citation items to Turner. Under the MIOSH Act, an employer has the right to appeal a citation within 15 working days of receipt of the citation. The Turner Construction case is currently under appeal.

Increased MIOSHA Effectiveness

Prior to the MIOSHA reorganization in September 2003, the former Occupational Health Division (OHD) conducted health inspections of construction sites. The OHD also conducted inspections in general industry worksites where resources were primarily focused on conducting complaint inspections. Unfortunately, this did not leave sufficient resources to focus on health hazards at construction sites outside of the complaint process.

With the reorganization and creation of the Construction Safety and Health Division (CSHD), MIOSHA now has the opportunity to focus greater resources on health hazards in construction such as exposure to silica, lead, carbon monoxide, noise, and metals related to welding and torch cutting operations.

The CSHD currently has seven field compliance industrial hygienists who focus on the construction industry. Four of them work in the CSHD Asbestos Program and conduct inspections mainly related to MIOSHA asbestos exposure standards, and licensing and certification of asbestos abatement contractors and workers. The other three conduct inspections at construction worksites to address all aspects of health hazards at construction sites.

Since implementation nearly 30 years ago, the MIOSHA program goal has been to reduce or eliminate health and safety hazards in the Michigan workplace. The agency strives to continually seek methods and strategies, such as the joint inspections, to improve overall program effectiveness. ■



Turner Construction Company exposed their workers to serious lead hazards during abrasive blasting to remove old paint.

Hazard Communication

Cont. from Page 6

example, many questions have been asked regarding when a substance is considered a "consumer product" and exempt from the provisions of the standard.

The Appendix provides the following clarification: "Ordinarily, MIOSHA will not cite for employee use of consumer products. A substance is considered a consumer product if it is: 1) defined as such under the Consumer Products Safety Act; 2) used in the workplace as intended by the manufacturer; and 3) used with the same frequency and duration of exposure expected of a typical consumer."

The appendix also provides examples to help make the point. Regarding the above, the instruction explains, "windshield wiper fluid, which contains methanol, is meant to be used in a closed system and sprayed onto the windshield for cleaning. An employee using windshield-wiper fluid on a daily basis to clean windows or other glass surfaces would be covered by the standard, as use of this fluid differs from the intended purpose, and the frequency and duration of exposure is significantly greater than that of a normal consumer."

Appendix D may also be useful to employers as they review incoming MSDSs. The appendix can be used as a checklist for reviewing an MSDS for completeness. This tool can help determine whether information provided with the purchase of a substance is adequate and complete.

Website Availability

The Application of the Hazard Communication Standard instruction has been added to the MIOSHA website, and its use is encouraged. Instructions related to a specific standard are linked on the standard page, as well as listed under policies and procedures.

The addition of detailed instruction for rule application provides much needed information to both MIOSHA staff and the employers and employees served by the program. We hope that you will use these instructions as a reliable reference when questions occur. Updates on additional instructions developed and added to the MIOSHA website will be provided periodically in the MIOSHA News.

As always, we welcome your feedback on the useful of this document and your suggestions on how this can be made even more valuable to you.

To view the Application of the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS), Agency Instruction, STD 04-1, visit www.michigan.gov/miosha. Select "Compliance," and then select "Policies and Procedures." ■

Fleet Safety

Cont. from Page 8

- Ensure that employees are properly licensed and trained to operate the vehicle they are assigned.

- Implement a vehicle maintenance program that includes pre-trip inspections, immediate withdrawal from service of any vehicle with mechanical defects, and regularly scheduled withdrawal of vehicles for comprehensive inspection and maintenance.

Content of employee training programs should be guided by the organization's safety performance, type of vehicles driven, frequency and intensity of employee driving, and driving environment. Routine tracking of near misses, crashes, injuries, moving violations, and infringements of company policies is the most effective means of ensuring that safety interventions, including training, address the problems at hand.

Some suggestions for training programs include:

- Initial orientation at the time of hire for all employees who drive on company business;

- Periodic and regularly scheduled training to update and refine driving skills using effective and practical methods such as classroom, behind-the-wheel and one-on-one training techniques;

- Immediate remedial training for drivers who have accumulated a company-determined level of moving violations or crashes; and

- Routine communication of safety information and crash results to all drivers.

Fleet Safety Resources

The **Office of Highway Safety Planning** works with community groups to promote traffic safety through enforcement of the state's safety belt law, zeroing in on drunk drivers and supporting traffic safety education programs for Michigan residents, including the elderly and youth. Their website is: www.michigan.gov/ohsp.

Michigan NETS (Network of Employers for Traffic Safety) provides information, products and services that improve the safe driving behavior of all employees. Michigan NETS was created in 1994 by the Office of Highway Safety Planning (OHSP) to bring together private- and public-sector officials interested in reducing loss of life and the economic costs of on-and-off-the-job crashes. Their website is: www.michigan.gov/michnets.

The **National Highway Safety Planning Administration** (NHTSA). NHTSA is responsible for reducing deaths, injuries and economic losses resulting from motor vehicle crashes. This is accomplished by setting and enforcing safety performance standards for motor vehicles and motor vehicle equipment, and through grants to state and local governments to enable them to conduct effective local highway safety programs. Their website is: www.nhtsa.dot.gov.

The **MIOSHA Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division** offers employers and employees a variety of workplace safety and health outreach services. For more information call the CET Division at 517.322.1809, or visit the MIOSHA website: www.michigan.gov/miosha. ■

54th Annual Industrial Ventilation Conference

February 7 - 10, 2005
Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center
Michigan State University
East Lansing Michigan

Conference Course Fee
Four Days: \$599.00

Conference Information
517.322.6560

Website Information
www.michiganivc.org

Conference Registration
517.394.4614 or 866.423.7233

More than 25 industrial ventilation experts from across the U.S. and Canada will provide instruction and lectures on the design, construction, use, and testing of ventilation systems. The conference has an introductory course and two advanced courses of instruction.

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General Information 517.322.1814
Free Safety/Health Consultation 517.322.1809

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Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Director: Douglas J. Kalinowski

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