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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Michigan Worker Deaths of 2014

The 31st, 32nd, 33rd, and 34th Michigan worker deaths of 2014 occurred on November 1st, 4th, 17th, and October 28th. Employers and employees are urged to use extreme care and safety diligence in all work activities.

Summary of 31st incident: On November 1, 2014, a 54-year-old truck driver was standing on the passenger side of a semi-tractor between the cab and the rear double set of tires at the back of the tractor. When the other truck driver pulled the tractor forward, he did not see the deceased and accidentally ran over him.

Summary of 32nd incident: On November 4, 2014, a prototype fuel tank was being pressure tested. It failed the pressure test and exploded. A 34-year-old assembler was killed and two other company employees were injured and hospitalized. A customer was also injured and hospitalized.

Summary of 33rd incident: On November 17, 2014, a 52-year-old sugar beet truck driver was found lying in the field. It appears he was struck-by or caught-between equipment during loading operations.

Summary of 34th incident: On October 14, 2014, a 37-year-old laborer was assisting a coworker to install a chimney liner at a private residence. The coworker left the laborer who was on an extension ladder to go to the basement and receive the liner as it was inserted. Upon hearing a loud noise, the coworker left the basement to investigate and found the laborer lying on the ground. He was transported to a local hospital where he succumbed to his injuries on October 28th.

There were 27 MIOSHA-related deaths in 2013 and 2012. 2009 saw the lowest number with 24.

If you need help or assistance in ensuring your workplace is safe, MIOSHA is here with resources to help. The Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division provides workplace safety and health training and consultations to employers and employees throughout Michigan free of charge. Contact CET today at (800) 866-4674 or submit a request online at www.michigan.gov/cetrca.

Every life is precious. Our mutual goal must be that every employee goes home at the end of their shift every day!

For more frequent updates on MIOSHA activities:

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MIOSHA Awards First of \$500,000 in Matching Grants to Reduce Workplace Hazards

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) announced today the first five small Michigan businesses to receive a matching grant to improve workplace safety and health.

The MIOSHA Safety and Health Improvement Program (MiSHIP) was first announced in early October, offering qualifying employers matching grants of up to \$5,000 to purchase safety and health-related equipment.

The grants are awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

“We are proud to help Michigan’s small businesses advance their safety and health management systems,” said MIOSHA Director Martha Yoder. “And best of all, because MIOSHA is matching the grants, a total of \$1 million is being invested in the state’s workplace safety and health.”

The first five MiSHIP recipients include:

Bouma Corporation: Awarded \$5,000 to be used to purchase additional fall protection harnesses, lanyards and lifelines. Over the past two years, Bouma Corporation has implemented a policy that every employee requiring a harness on a jobsite will have one specifically fitted to them by a qualified person. The grantee’s safety survey found older equipment on some of the jobsites in need of replacement, in addition to the need for more.

“We are excited to have this partnership with MIOSHA and receive this grant,” said Dennis Moomey, Bouma safety director. “The construction industry continues to see a steady increase in workload and this allows us to provide new hires with the safety equipment necessary on the job sites.”

Lenawee Medical Care Facility: Awarded \$4,794 to purchase four additional Vanderlifts to help prevent employee injuries during patient handling and transfers.

“As patients age and become more debilitated it is essential to have the necessary equipment available to adequately meet their needs,” said Julie Porterfield, facility administrator. “These lifts will aid in the safe handling and transferring of patients during personal care and will also assist in preventing employee injuries.”

Davis Construction: Awarded \$5,000 for the purchase of a new horizontal lifeline system that has been designed for use during precast operations, as well as the update of an existing lifeline system. This cost will also include training on the use of these systems.

“The collaboration between Davis Construction and MIOSHA expresses the commitment to the health and safety of our most valued assets, the everyday worker,” said Brian Grammer, Davis safety director.

Stanley Engineered Fastening: Awarded \$5,000 to purchase and install new safety guarding systems for operator protection on production machines. A recent hazard survey identified the need for more effective guarding than what was currently being used. The new guarding will provide enhanced protection for the operators.

“We are committed to investing in the safety of our employees,” said Stanley Compliance Coordinator Tim Hill. “This grant will be used to enhance our machine guarding program and ensure that our employees are able to return home to their families in the same condition that they arrived to work”.

Schnepp Senior Care & Rehab Center: Awarded \$5,000 to purchase one full lift and three sit-to-stand lifts for the facility to ensure each unit has its own lifts to adequately protect residents and staff during patient handling.

“We are very excited to be able to purchase new lifts for each nursing unit, thanks to the MIOSHA grant,” said Jennifer Post, Schnepp assistant administrator. “Not only will this benefit the residents and patients at Schnepp Senior Care & Rehab, but it will help prevent employee injuries during transfers.”

For more information about the MiSHIP and how to apply, please visit our [website](#).

MIOSHA Student Art Contest

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) 40th Anniversary Outreach Committee is pleased to announce the Student Art Contest and Exhibit.

The goals of this contest are to:

- Raise awareness of worker safety within the student population as future workers.
- Create opportunities for conversation between the student and parents/guardians about occupational safety and health.
- Create connections between students and occupational safety and health professionals.

This contest is open to all Michigan elementary, middle and high school students. Please see the MIOSHA webpage: www.michigan.gov/miosha-artcontest for additional information.

AGENCY INSTRUCTIONS/MEMOS ISSUED

November 6, 2014 – [Access to Employee Medical Records](#).

November 25, 2014 – [Merchant Wholesalers, Non-Durable Goods - Local Emphasis Program \(LEP\)](#)

MEDIA

November 19, 2014 – [Columbian Logistics Network Distribution Center in Grand Rapids Receives SHARP Award for Workplace Safety and Health Excellence](#)

All of the MIOSHA Press Releases can be viewed from our [website](#).

VARIANCES

Variances from MIOSHA standards must be made available to the public in accordance with Part 12, Variances (R408.22201 to 408.22251). MIOSHA variances are published on the MIOSHA News website: www.michigan.gov/mioshavariances.

QUICK LINKS

[Asbestos Program](#)

[Ask MIOSHA](#)

[Consultation Education & Training \(CET\) Division](#)

[CET Request for Consultative Assistance Services](#)

[CET Training Calendar](#)

[DVD/Video Library Service](#)

[Laboratory & Equipment Services](#)

[Michigan Alliances](#)

[MIOSHA FOIA Request Form](#)

[MIOSHA Homepage](#)

[MIOSHA News](#)

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[MIOSHA Training Institute \(MTI\)](#)

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