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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### Preventing Backover Injuries and Fatalities – Stakeholder Meetings Announced

A notice of upcoming stakeholder meetings on “Preventing Backover Injuries and Fatalities” has been posted by Federal OSHA on the *Federal Register*. These informal meetings will gather information for evaluating backover risks across various industries. Additionally, the meetings will focus on backover prevention through the use of new methods and technologies, as well as, the overall effectiveness of these measures. View the notice at: <https://federalregister.gov/a/2012-30315>.

### Facts About the Office of Regulatory Reinvention MIOsha Rules Project

MIOsha Standards Section has compiled some interesting statistics on the number of rules and standards sets affected by the recent MIOsha Rules Project.

#### Construction

- 22 construction standards were affected in some fashion by the ORR report,
- 2,238 individual rules, or paragraphs within a rule, were affected in some fashion,
- 693 rules, or paragraphs within a rule, were eliminated.

#### General Industry

- 46 general industry standards were affected in some fashion by the ORR report,
- 4,051 individual rules, or paragraphs within a rule, were affected in some fashion,
- 168 rules, or paragraphs within a rule, were eliminated.

#### Occupational Health

- 39 occupational health standards were affected in some fashion by the ORR report
- 498 individual rules, or paragraphs within a rule, were affected in some fashion.
- 166 rules, or paragraphs within a rule, were eliminated.

In totaling the changes, MIOsha staff from multiple divisions analyzed, and made recommendations for 6,787 individual paragraphs or rules. Staff worked diligently and the project was completed ahead of schedule.

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## Legislation Amends MIOSHA Act

The Workplace Safety Advisory Rules Committee and the ORR recommended four major MIOSHA-related statutory changes. Gov. Snyder recently signed the four bills into law and they are now Public Acts (PA) 415, 416, 447, and 448 of 2012.

PA 415 of 2012 requires that Michigan workplace safety rules will exceed federal standards only when there are circumstances unique to Michigan that require going beyond federal standards, or when a broad consensus of union and non-union employers and employees agree that a standard is necessary.

PAs 416, 447, and 448 of 2012 eliminate the General Industry Safety Standards Commission, the Occupational Health Standards Commission and the Construction Safety Standards Commission. Given that the commissions' rulemaking authority were transferred to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) director in 1996, Gov. Snyder and legislators found that the commissions weren't serving their original purpose and were no longer necessary. MIOSHA will continue to involve stakeholders by convening advisory committees to help with rule adoption and implementation.

## Globally Harmonized System (GHS) Initiative Workshops

The MIOSHA Consultation Education and Training Division (CETD), with co-sponsor The American Society of Safety Engineers-Lansing Chapter, is providing half-day workshops to highlight revisions to the hazard communication standard including new requirements for hazard classification, labeling, safety data sheets, and employee information and training. The dates are:

March 5, 2013 – GOB Lansing (Conference Room A)

9:00 – 11:30 a.m. (Session 1)

1:00 – 3:30 p.m. (Session 2)

**The workshop is a free but ALL attendees must register.** A link to registration information can be found on the [MIOSHA website](#). Additional workshop dates are being scheduled and information will be posted on the MIOSHA website as it becomes available.

## Scholarships are Back

Due to concentrated cost saving efforts MIOSHA is pleased to announce the reinstatement of MIOSHA Training Institute (MTI) scholarships. MTI scholarships will be reinstated effective January 14, 2013. The scholarships cover half the registration costs for any MTI course. Typically students must apply for scholarships within three weeks of the course date. Because of the recent reinstatement, if agreeable with the co-sponsor, scholarships can be requested for courses occurring between January 14 and February 4. All scholarship requests must be made online at [www.michigan.gov/mti](http://www.michigan.gov/mti). If there are any questions, please contact the MIOSHA CET Division at 517-322-1809.

## Take a Stand Day (TASD) 2013

The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual "Take a Stand" Day will be held Wednesday, **August 14, 2013**. Please reserve the date on your calendar. Additional information will be distributed as it comes available. More information on TASD is posted on the MIOSHA website.

## AGENCY INSTRUCTIONS/MEMOS ISSUED

**October 31, 2012** – CET-ADM-07-1R2 – [Michigan Challenge Program \(MCP\)](#)

## MEDIA

**December 6, 2012** – [MIOSHA and Michigan Society for Infection Prevention and Control Sign Alliance to Protect Workers](#)

**December 20, 2012** – [Occidental Chemical Corporation's Ludington Facility Received Renewed MIOSHA Recognition of their Workplace Safety and Health Excellence](#)

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

## VARIANCES

Variations 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/mioshavariations](http://www.michigan.gov/mioshavariations).

## QUICK LINKS

[Agency/Division Instructions/Memorandums](#)

[Asbestos Program](#)

[Ask MIOSHA](#)

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

[CET Request for Consultative Assistance Services](#)

[CET Training Calendar](#)

[Construction Safety & Health Division \(CSHD\)](#)

[DVD/Video Library Service](#)

[Employee Safety, Health and Discrimination Complaint Forms](#)

[General Industry Safety & Health Division \(GISHD\)](#)

[Laboratory & Equipment Services](#)

[Michigan Alliances](#)

[MIOSHA FOIA Request Form](#)

[MIOSHA Homepage](#)

[MIOSHA News](#)

[MIOSHA Publications](#)

[MIOSHA Standards](#)

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

[MIOSHA Variances](#)

[Strategic Plan & Initiatives](#)

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[MIOSHA Standards Updates](#)

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

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For more information about LARA, please visit [www.michigan.gov/lara](http://www.michigan.gov/lara). Follow LARA on Twitter [www.twitter.com/michiganLARA](http://www.twitter.com/michiganLARA), "Like" LARA on Facebook, or find LARA on YouTube [www.youtube.com/michiganLARA](http://www.youtube.com/michiganLARA).

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