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## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### MIOSHA History At A Glance

MIOSHA is celebrating its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary! See how the agency has changed over the years.

[MIOSHA Timeline: 40 Years of Keeping Michigan Workers Safe and Healthy](#)

### MIOSHA on the Move

MIOSHA is moving from the General Office Building in Dimondale, to the Stevens T. Mason Building in downtown Lansing. The move is tentatively scheduled for July 2015. More information will be posted as it becomes available.

### New Local Emphasis Program: Merchant Wholesalers

For the FY 2009-2013 MIOSHA strategic plan, merchant wholesalers, non-durable goods (NAICS 424) was targeted as one of the 13 high-hazard industries for injury and illness rate reduction. The industry was selected due to its elevated injury and illness rate in Michigan, a set of MIOSHA rules applicable to the industry's hazards, and a significant number of employees in the state. While the industry has experienced some recent declines in its rate, it continues to have an above-average injury and illness frequency. In 2012, the year with the latest available statistics, the merchant wholesalers, non-durable goods industry had an average total recordable case rate of 6.1 injuries and illnesses per 100 workers, compared to the state average of 4.1. Although this industry is not included in the current plan, MIOSHA is instituting a local emphasis program (LEP) for the merchant wholesalers, non-durable goods industry, in an effort to reduce their rate.

As part of this LEP, MIOSHA will conduct at least ten (10) programmed inspections within the merchant wholesalers, non-durable goods industry during FY 2015. The establishments will be selected at random from a list of companies compiled from publicly available databases and other sources. Establishments that have had an inspection between FY 2011 and the present will be excluded from the pool; the purpose of this LEP is to reach establishments that have not received an enforcement inspection during that time. The LEP will also focus on employers with greater than ten (10) employees.

The programmed inspections under the LEP will be comprehensive. Typical safety issues include powered industrial trucks, conveyors, electrical safety, guards for power transmission, lockout/tagout, floor and wall openings, stairways, stacking of materials, portable fire extinguishers, fire exits, personal protective equipment (e.g., fall protection, hand protection, foot protection, cold weather gear in refrigerated buildings), and hazard communication.

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Typical health issues may include heat stress (e.g., in an un-air-conditioned warehouse in the summer); high levels of noise, carbon monoxide, or other air contaminants; process safety management of highly hazardous chemicals (e.g., if a distribution center is refrigerated with anhydrous ammonia); and ergonomics (e.g., from product or package lifting).

Prior to inspections being conducted, letters were sent to establishments selected for inspection offering Consultation Services. Merchant Wholesalers are encouraged to review their workplaces for potential hazards. Assistance is available through the Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division at 517-322-1809, or at [www.michigan.gov/cetrca](http://www.michigan.gov/cetrca).

## AGENCY INSTRUCTIONS/MEMOS ISSUED

**January 29, 2015** – [Submission of Bulk Samples to the Laboratory and Equipment Services Section \(LESS\)](#)

## MEDIA

**February 17, 2015** – [Employers and Workers have 'Coffee with MIOSHA' in Okemos to Discuss Benefits of Workplace Safety and Health](#)

**February 23, 2015** – [Christman Company, Daniels Building Co., Inc. and MIOSHA Sign Partnership to Protect Workers During State Emergency Operations Center Project](#)

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, Variations (R408.22201 to 408.22251). MIOSHA variations 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](#)

[DVD/Video Library Service](#)

[Laboratory & Equipment Services](#)

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[MIOSHA FOIA Request Form](#)

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