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WHAT'S HAPPENING

Michigan Worker Deaths of 2015

The 20th, 21st, 22nd, and 23rd Michigan worker deaths of 2015 occurred on August 25, April 4, August 31, and August 28, 2015. Employers and employees are urged to use extreme care and safety diligence in all work activities.

Summary of incident #20: On August 25, 2015, at approximately 1:51 p.m., a 55-year-old grounds person and the crew boss were trimming trees on a golf course from a recent storm. The employees were in the process of removing an 8-12 inch diameter limb from the tree. They attached a chain to the tree limb and to the bucket of a front end loader. The crew boss was operating the loader with the grounds person standing in the bucket. The crew boss backed up the loader and the tree branch broke and came back towards the grounds person in the bucket, pinning him against the bucket. He was transported to the hospital where he was later pronounced dead.

Summary of incident #21: On March 17, 2015, a 56-year-old line leader was operating a powered industrial truck to flip over a fabricated metal automotive rack. While the rack was raised the line leader backed up, the top tray flipped open, striking the line leader in the back. The line leader did not seek medical attention until two days after the incident, when he was then admitted to the hospital. Over the course of the next two weeks his condition deteriorated and he died on April 4, 2015. MIOSHA was notified on September 1, 2015.


Summary of incident #22: On August 31, 2015, at approximately 6:00 p.m., a 23-year-old truck driver was driving a dump truck that was being loaded with rocks. Another employee was operating an excavator and loading rocks from a farm field into the dump truck. The vehicle was traveling uphill when it slipped out of gear. It rolled backward and turned to avoid an impact with something. Then the truck turned completely over trapping the truck driver in the cab of the truck under the truck and the load of rocks. The truck driver suffered fatal crushing injuries.

Summary of incident #23: On August 13, 2015, a 30-year-old welder's helper was replacing a section of a pipeline that contained a petroleum product. When the replacement section was being welded into place, an explosion occurred. The welder's helper received severe burns over 50% of his body. He was transported to the hospital but died of his injuries on August 28, 2015.

There were 37 MIOSHA-related deaths in 2014. 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 & Training (CET) Division provides

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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!

New on OSHA's Website: Significant Case Data

Federal OSHA has announced new information on significant penalties on its website. The new table provides federal and state plan case information where total penalties equal or exceed \$40,000. This information is now available on OSHA's public webpage at <http://www.osha.gov/topcases/bystate.html>. Data is available by state, so federal and state plan inspections are co-mingled, wherever applicable.

MIOSHA/Ford Partnership

MIOSHA, OSHA, Ford Motor Company, and the UAW have had a partnership agreement for more than 13 years. The ground work for the partnership was established in 2000. Since then, the agreement has been extended three times – 2003, 2007, and 2011.

At the beginning, a partnership steering committee comprised of members from Ford, the UAW, and OSHA/MIOSHA was established. The purpose of the steering committee was to develop a partnership implementation plan, review data and reports, and meet as appropriate to resolve any issues that could arise during the course of the partnership. The steering committee would also be involved in the coordination of partnership verification site visits and monitoring inspections.

The purpose of the partnership was to improve worker safety and health and to leverage resources of all parties involved to anticipate, identify, evaluate, and control health and safety hazards at Ford, and thereby continuously reduce potentially fatal events and worker injuries and illnesses.

The primary goal of this partnership was and continues to be, to reduce potentially fatal events, injuries and illnesses year-over-year from baseline (2002) OSHA log summary data at all Ford Motor Company locations. This is accomplished through the creation of a pro-active health and safety culture, implementation of the elements of a health and safety management system, and compliance to Ford's Safety Operating System (SOS). The parties have established a cooperative non-adversarial relationship that optimizes the resources of all parties to create a health and safety excellence partnership. Performance metrics used to monitor and track health and safety process performance includes the Total Case Incident Rates (TCIR) and Days Away, Restricted and Job Transfer (DART) rates. The OSHA-MIOSHA day visits afford opportunity for the partnership participants to present and discuss information regarding progress toward achieving the goals of the partnership.

From 2002 through 2013, the partnership plants have succeeded in overall reductions of occupational injury and illness rates. These reductions were as follows:

1. Vehicle Operations experienced rate reductions of 69% TCIR and 89% DART.
2. Power Train had rate reductions of 66% TCIR and 79% DART.
3. Parts Distribution Centers had rate reductions of 70% TCIR and 79% DART.

A cooperative professional relationship has been developed between all partners, and as a result, MIOSHA, Ford Motor Company, and the UAW will renew the partnership agreement with a new Michigan specific focus. Visit our [website](#) for more information on partnerships.

Severe Injury/Illness Reporting

Effective September 1, 2015, MIOSHA Information Systems Section (MISS) staff began

accepting information from employers responding to a new severe injury/illness reporting requirement. The new reporting requirement is part of the updated recordkeeping standard that federal OSHA put in effect at the beginning of the year. Michigan employers are required to report any amputation, loss of an eye, or hospitalization of an employee resulting from a workplace incident.

MISS is responsible for the intake of the injury information and turning it over to the enforcement divisions for review and possible action. The enforcement divisions may pass it to the Consultation Education and Training Division for potential outreach.

Employers can report via telephone by calling 844-464-6742, or by filling out an [online form](#) located on the MIOSHA Recordkeeping and Statistics [webpage](#). Whether received by phone or online, MISS staff input the data into the MIOSHA Injury and Illness Database and generate reports that are delivered to the enforcement divisions.

AGENCY INSTRUCTIONS/MEMOS ISSUED

August 18, 2015 – [Injury and Illness \(I&I\) Report Processing](#)

September 2, 2015 – [Partnerships for Worker Safety and Health](#)

September 14, 2015 - [Construction Inspection Targeting](#)

September 17, 2015 - [Siding, Structural Steel, and Pre-Cast Concrete Construction – Local Emphasis Program \(LEP\)](#)

MEDIA

September 3, 2015 – [MIOSHA Receives Customer Service Award for Investing More Than \\$1 Million in Worker Safety and Health](#)

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/mioshavariances.

QUICK LINKS

[Asbestos Program](#)

[Ask MIOSHA](#)

[CET Request for Consultative Assistance Services](#)

[CET Training Calendar](#)

[MIOSHA FOIA Request Form](#)

[MIOSHA Publications](#)

[MIOSHA Standards](#)

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

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