



# MIOSHA NEWS

Vol. 11, No. 4

Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA)

Fall 2007

## From the MIOSHA Director's Desk

### The MIOSHA News is changing!

MIOSHA readers are undoubtedly aware of the difficulties with the overall state budget in Michigan. The MIOSHA program is facing a budget shortfall for the current fiscal year mostly due to stagnant federal funding over the past seven years. MIOSHA is primarily funded by 50 percent federal and 50 percent state monies.

During the past few months, we have put together a sound, realistic spending plan for the 2008 fiscal year (FY) that began October 1st. We are not allowed to operate with a deficit budget; therefore, a plan was developed to address the shortfall.

Developing the spending plan has been a challenge. However, we have cut spending during these difficult times without compromising the mission of the program. The projected FY 2008 budget requires reductions in many areas, including printing and mailing costs.

This two-page issue is your notice that the MIOSHA News will have a new format, starting with the Winter 2008 issue. We estimate that the new format will generate a 65 percent savings, and will be supported by increased information on our website.

**We want to hear from you!** Please feel free to contact Judith Shane, Editor of the MIOSHA News at [shanej1@michigan.gov](mailto:shanej1@michigan.gov) and let us know what information you find most useful to help you provide a safe and healthy workplace.

With the dedicated support and efforts of all MIOSHA employees, we will continue to operate an effective program that meets our mission of protecting Michigan's workers.

Working together we can "Make a Difference!"

*Douglas J. Kalinowski*

## Earn Safety & Health Certification

In March 2007, the Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division launched a new certification program with CET cosponsors in collaboration with the MIOSHA Training Institute (MTI) at Macomb College M-TEC. The MTI is part of the MIOSHA Alliance with Macomb College M-TEC.

Beginning in October 2007, CET seminars offered through the MTI will provide participants the opportunity to achieve a Level One – General Safety and Health certificate. Certification is available in two tracks: General Industry Safety and Health, or Construction Safety and Health.

Safety and health directors, safety coordinators, and safety committee members, among others, can attend a series of courses that will help them develop the knowledge and skills to improve their company's safety and health management systems.

The MTI courses contain objectives, course outlines, and other relevant course design information that will: increase consistency in training; provide for hands on demonstrations of machinery and equipment, when feasible; and include an assessment component to evaluate participant knowledge.

Courses are offered throughout the state at various M-TEC facilities, community colleges, and other safety organizations. Level Two – Advanced certification programs will be added to the MTI in 2008.



MTI training at the Macomb M-TEC.

## Connecting MIOSHA to Industry

By: Martha Yoder, MIOSHA Deputy Director

*Connecting MIOSHA to Industry* refers to a variety of current initiatives and extends into the future.

The goal is to merge traditional program responsibilities with progressive outreach measures emphasizing practical education and useful information. The focus is to reduce injuries, illnesses, and fatalities; to promote safer workplaces; and to strengthen public confidence.

*Connecting MIOSHA to Industry* evolved from a Future Search Conference in 2000 where about 80 key stakeholders developed a collective vision for MIOSHA. Since then, MIOSHA has proactively addressed issues of consistency, culture, useful information, and outreach.

In 2005, MIOSHA created "Take a Stand Day," an annual opportunity for employers to have a MIOSHA representative from enforcement or consultation provide a visit without citations or penalties. MIOSHA

also hosted Governor's Workplace Safety and Health Forums for general industry and construction featuring best practice information.

In 2006, MIOSHA contracted a consultant to help the agency better understand the business needs of clients and how to share our common vision.

Our efforts are producing positive results. Customer comment cards provide ongoing feedback. A few recent examples are:

- We were very happy with our experience. Compliance officer was great to work with.
- Compliance officer is great explaining the laws.
- Consultant is very knowledgeable.
- I found the on-site consultation useful—helped identify areas of concern and solutions. This helped our company save a substantial amount of money.

Suggestions for improvement are solicited and appreciated. Recent suggestions include more information on the agency website, increase marketing of consultation services, and posting downloadable versions of posters, forms and programs.



Burroughs Inc., Kalamazoo, requested a "Take a Stand Day" visit to check their safety and health system.

## MIOSHA Awards & Partnerships

- 10/26/07 – Liqui-Force Services USA – Romulus – SHARP Award
- 10/23/07 – Alfe Heat Treating – Saginaw – Ergonomic Innovation Award
- 10/05/07 – The Sherwin-Williams Company – Holland – MVPP Award
- 09/21/07 – Steel Industries Inc. – Redford – Two SHARP Awards
- 09/17/07 – DTE Energy Power Plant – Monroe – Partnership
- 09/05/07 – Barton Malow/Skanska – Troy – Partnership
- 08/29/07 – Terex Simplicity – Durand – Silver Award
- 08/14/07 – Georgia-Pacific Chemical – Grayling – MVPP Award
- 08/03/07 – Utility Lines Construction – Belleville – Gold Award
- 07/18/07 – Northern Concrete Pipe – Lansing – Gold Award
- 07/16/07 – Northern Concrete Pipe – Bay City – Gold Award
- 07/12/07 – Aleris International Inc. – Saginaw – SHARP Award
- 05/18/07 – ABC Southeastern Michigan Chapter – Alliance

The press releases above are available on our website: [www.michigan.gov/miosha](http://www.michigan.gov/miosha). On the home page, click on “Publications, Forms & Media,” and then click on “Press Releases.”

The CET Division recognizes the safety achievements of Michigan employers and employees through various awards, based on excellent safety and health performance. For more information, visit our website or contact the CET Division at 517.322.1809.

## How To Contact MIOSHA

**MIOSHA Information** 800.866.4674  
**Fatality/Catastrophe Hotline** 800.858.0397

**Director** 517.322.1817 **Doug Kalinowski**  
**Deputy Director** 517.322.1817 **Martha Yoder**

| DIVISION                          | PHONE        | DIRECTOR       |
|-----------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| Appeals                           | 517.322.1297 | Jim Gordon     |
| Construction Safety & Health      | 517.322.1856 | Bob Pawlowski  |
| Consultation Education & Training | 517.322.1809 | Connie O’Neill |
| General Industry Safety & Health  | 517.322.1831 | John Brennan   |
| Management & Technical Services   | 517.322.1851 | John Peck      |

The Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth is an equal opportunity employer/program. This newsletter will be made available in alternate formats on request.



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 and Health Administration  
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## Variations

Requests for variances and variances granted from occupational safety standards must be made available to the public in accordance with rules of the Department of Labor & Economic Growth, Part 12, Variations (R408.22201 to 408.22251).

All MIOSHA variances are now published in the MIOSHA News on the MIOSHA website at:

[www.michigan.gov/mioshavariances](http://www.michigan.gov/mioshavariances)

Please contact the following MIOSHA compliance divisions if you have any questions regarding variances:

Construction - 517.322.1856

General Industry - 517.322.1832

## Ventilation Conference

February 11-14, 2008

MSU Kellogg Center

East Lansing, Michigan

Early Registration: \$700.00

(Before 1/12/08)

Information: 517.322.6560

The *Michigan Industrial Ventilation Conference (IVC)* brings together industrial ventilation experts from across the U.S. and Canada to provide instruction and lectures on the design, construction, use, and testing of ventilation systems.

Sponsored by MIOSHA, the conference includes more than 20 hours of classroom experience with the opportunity to work out actual design problems.

The 2008 brochure, along with registration information, is available on the IVC web site, [www.michiganivc.org](http://www.michiganivc.org).

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