



STARK COUNTY

SAFETY COUNCIL

A committee of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce

news

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StarkCountySafetyCouncil.com

OSHA WITHDRAWS FARM INSPECTION MEMO RE: GRAIN HANDLING

By Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell, Esq.

A June 2011 guidance memo allowing the Occupational Safety & Health Administration compliance officers to inspect grain handling operations on small farms has been withdrawn in order for the Department of Labor to complete a review of the policy. OSHA announced this decision in a February 10, 2014, letter to several senators and other congressmen, signed by Brian Kennedy, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Congressional and Intergovernmental Affairs.

This move was welcomed by members of the House who had challenged the OSHA policy at a February 4, 2014, hearing, and also stating that OSHA's family-farming guidance was flawed and legally suspect.

The February 10, 2014, letters by the Assistant Secretary of Labor advised that the June 2011 guidance memo had been removed from OSHA's website and that the Department of Labor will issue new guidance following consultations with the Department of Agriculture and farm organizations. Until a new guidance letter is issued, OSHA field offices will consult with OSHA headquarters when there is uncertainty about the legality of inspecting a family farm.

For more information please contact Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell of Krugliak, Wilkins, Griffiths & Dougherty Co., L.P.A. at: 330-244-2864 or jcaldwell@kwgd.com.

NOTE: This general summary of the law should not be used to solve individual problems since slight changes in the fact situation may require a material variance in the applicable legal advice.

March 13, 2014



Can Your Company Afford Not to Participate!

Lorrie Goodnight, Ohio BWC, Business Consultant will explain each program under *Destination: Excellence* and the potential savings that your company could (and should) be taking advantage of!

Destination: Excellence is designed to help Ohio employers focus on safety, accident prevention and return-to-work opportunities to bring injured workers back to work sooner. The plan offers a package of BWC programs that allow employers to customize their own risk-management plan and rewards their investments in accident prevention, cost control and policy management.

March Spotlight Company:

Stauffer Glove and Safety

Stauffer Glove and Safety was originally started in 1907 by 2 Stauffer brothers under the name of Acorn Glove Company. Our company manufactured a basic line of leather and cotton industrial gloves. In the early 1960's they grew into a company that not only sold gloves but distributed other PPE equipment as well. With over 100 years' experience, 230,000 square feet of total warehouse space, and over 180 qualified personnel, Stauffer has the necessary capabilities to service your Personal Protective Equipment requirements. Yes! We now have another generation of the Stauffer family capably moving us forward.

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Stark County Safety Council Mission Statement: To provide a forum for safety and health information, education and networking in Stark County, through leadership, innovation, facilitation, program, and support, in partnership with other public and private organizations.

ROBIN'S CORNER

By Robin Watson, Ohio BWC Representative

Q. Does the new Hazard Communication 2012 standard require piping systems within the company to be labeled?

A: No. However, they must make provisions in the written program as to how they will inform the employees of the hazards associated with the chemicals contained in the unlabeled pipes in their work areas.

29 CFR 1910.1200 - Hazard Communication 2012

(e) Written hazard communication program.

(e)(1) Employers shall develop, implement, and maintain at each workplace, a written hazard communication program which at least describes how the criteria specified in paragraphs (f), (g), and (h) of this section for labels and other forms of warning, safety data sheets, and employee information and training will be met, and which also includes the following:

(i) A list of the hazardous chemicals known to be present using a product identifier that is referenced on the appropriate safety data sheet (the list may be compiled for the workplace as a whole or for individual work areas); and,

(ii) The methods the employer will use to inform employees of the hazards of non-routine tasks (for example, the cleaning of reactor vessels), and the hazards associated with chemicals contained in unlabeled pipes in their work areas.

Coming Next Month

April 10, 2014

Workplace Injuries—All is Not Lost

Attorney Gust Callas, Black, McCuskey,
Souers & Arbaugh, LPA

Gust Callas will present on a variety of strategies that are outside of the box regarding cost avoidance and cost containment measures when your employees are injured; Safety first. Gust will have an informative talk on new ideas and strategies, including ways to reduce your liability exposure, as well as have the State of Ohio help reduce your workplace costs.

SPOTLIGHT
COMPANY:



UPCOMING SCSC EVENTS & DATES

March 25-27 Annual Safety Congress at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

April 16—Safety Awards Banquet – Skyland Pines cash bar 5:00 to 6:00 p.m.; dinner 6:00 p.m.
Speaker: David Baker, new President/Executive Director, Pro Football Hall of Fame. Cost: \$35

April 17— *The Safe Handling and Use of Chemicals in the Workplace.* 7:30 a.m.; Meyers Lake Ballroom. Sponsored by LEPC and SCSC. Register online at StarkCountySafetyCouncil.org.

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How Fast Does a Workers' Comp Claim Need to be Reported?



*Submitted By: Deb Schlach, Account Coordinator- AultComp MCO
Chairman, Stark County Safety Council*

Is the timely reporting of worker's compensation claims really that important? Absolutely! The smallest claim can turn into a 6 figure nightmare merely by not being reported promptly. A delay of just a few days can alter the outcome of a claim and raise the associated claim dollars through the roof!

Having trouble believing this? Well, here are some reasons: First and foremost is treatment for the injury. We have seen many "sore shoulders" go unattended only to end up with the employee seeking treatment in the middle of the night at the local Emergency Department. The charges for Emergency Room visits are easily 3 times those of an Occupational Health Clinic, so the medical costs of this incident just tripled. Emergency room providers are great at what they handle - emergencies! But they tend to handle the work related injury by automatically keeping the employee out of work an average of 3-5 days.....another increase to the cost of the claim!

Those same shoulder and soft tissue injuries that went untreated for several days, can eventually become major surgery issues, lost time claims with substantial permanency ratings, and in many cases full and final settlements. By reporting the claim immediately, the employer can and should direct the injured worker to the local occupational health clinic thus hopefully mitigating the overall cost of the claim.

Your company should have an established relationship with one of our several excellent Occupational Health Clinics right here in Stark County.

Hopefully these are reasons enough for you to encourage your employees to report all incidents immediately and for you to report the incident to your MCO the same day. This quick response can help contain your claim dollars as well as keep your experience modifier and premium low.

More News

Only 3 more luncheons left in this program year..... Is Your Company on Track to Receive Your Safety Council Participation Rebate \$\$\$\$

The 2013-2014 Safety Council Rebate program year comes to an end on June 30th. If your company is eligible, you must attend a minimum of 10 events, with your company's CEO or a senior level manager attending one of these 10, and submit two semi-annual reports. See BWC website for complete rebate details.

SCSC Annual Food Drive coming in April- Start Stocking Up Now!

The Stark County Safety Council will again be filling the truck. With your overwhelming generosity, last year we donated over 1200 pounds of food & raised over \$2000.00 in monetary donations which equaled 9460 meals. We want to top those numbers this year with a goal of 1500 pounds of food and \$2500.00 in monetary donations. Get your employers, employees and co-workers involved to help those in need.

