HOW DO CONSTRUCTION COMPANIES COMPLY WITH CRANE SAFETY STANDARDS NEAR POWER LINES?

By Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell, Esq.

The issue is that since 2010, construction companies have been required to use proximity alarms and insulating links/devices that meet Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory Standards with cranes/derricks while engaged in construction activities near power lines. However, while non-approved proximity alarms and insulating links exist, no such approved equipment exists. In fact, no Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory is even recognized by OSHA to perform the required of the devices at issue.

To deal with this issue, OSHA has adopted a new “temporary” enforcement policy that took effect on April 30, 2014. A “proximity alarm” warns workers that a crane is too close to power lines. An “insulating link/device” is usually attached to a crane’s hook and prevents an electrical current from reaching the boom if the crane’s metal cables or load contact a power line.

Under the new policy, an employer “may not rely solely” on using a non-laboratory approved proximity alarm comply with the standard.” Instead, the new temporary policy states that employers may comply with the current standards by using a non-laboratory approved proximity alarm in conjunction with an additional appropriate “measure,” such as a “dedicated spotter” or “range control warning device,” that alerts the operator when the crane is extended too far. Likewise, the policy provides that an employer may not rely solely on a non-approved insulating link/device to comply, but also may comply by using a non-approved link/device in conjunction with an additional appropriate “measure,” again, such as a “dedicated spotter” or “range control warning device.”

Construction contractors that use cranes/derricks in proximity with power lines should review and comply with this new temporary policy.

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

June 12, 2014

Heroin is NOT a Superhero!
Learn What it is and How to Deal with It!

George Maier, Stark County Sheriff and Lt. John Oliver, Agent in Charge Stark County Metropolitan Narcotics Unit

The Stark County Sheriff’s Metropolitan Narcotics Unit is a multi-jurisdictional task force and one of the oldest existing Drug Units in Ohio, which started in 1969. Their mission is to identify, investigate and take enforcement action against illegal narcotic trafficking and related criminal activity in conjunction with, but not in place of, local, state and federal enforcement efforts.

May Spotlight Company:

Pathway Caring for Children’s mission is to empower children and families to achieve the possibilities of their lives through innovative mental health, foster care, independent living and adoption services. Pathway was founded in 1973 by Jim and Velma Bridges. The staff, volunteers and foster parents of Pathway Caring for Children seek to carry out seven basic ideals with the youth who come to us. Most important, we love and care for each youth individually. We recognize them as persons and teach them to respect themselves and others; provide them with the security of knowing we are there for them; help them find paths of success in school, work and social relationships; encourage them in the assumption of responsibility for themselves and their actions; and become personally involved with them in their struggle for meaning and purpose in life.

Please join us for a one-hour Quick Stop tour of our mission the third Wednesday of each month. There is a lunch tour at noon and another tour at 5 p.m. The next tour dates are June 18 and July 16. RSVP to Heather at hreda@pathwaycfc.org or 330-818-0656.

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.

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:** What training requirements are required for Lockout/Tagout?

**A:** Although the OSHA standard (29CFR1910.147) does not require “annual” refresher training or a set training frequency for lockout/tagout it does require training under specific circumstances. Those specific circumstances are:

1) Employer must provide initial training before service or maintenance activities begin
2) Periodic inspection of energy control procedures reveals deviations from written procedures
3) Employer has reason to believe there are inadequacies in the employees knowledge of the energy control procedure
4) There is a change in job assignments
5) There is a change in energy control procedures
6) Changes in machinery, equipment or processes present a new hazard

Also remember that training certification records are required for all initial and retraining and must include employees names and dates of training according to 1910.147(c)(7)(iv).

**UPCOMING SCSC EVENTS & DATES**

June 19—Emotional Intelligence in Safety—8-10 a.m.; 7:30 a.m. registration at Stark State College, N. Canton. Fee. To register starkcountysafetycouncil.org.

**STARK COUNTY SAFETY COUNCIL FY15 season passes are now available!** Purchase your season pass ticket book(s) today! Cost per book is $160. Individual luncheon cost is $16 per month. You get 12 luncheon tickets for the price of 10. Passes are good for the regular monthly luncheons only. Season pass holders do not need to register for monthly luncheon meetings unless they are sending additional people.

Monthly luncheon tickets are transferrable to any employee within your company. We encourage you to purchase multiple books and send more than one employee each month.

Purchase your season passes online at www.starkcountysafetycouncil.org. Tickets will be mailed out the last week of June.

**Coming Next Month**

**July 10, 2014**

**The Path to Prevention... The Road to Recovery!**

*Part 2 of our series on drug usage in our community*

Moderator: Common Pleas Judge & SCSC Steering Committee Member Curt Werren
The panel for July includes:
- Jackie Pollard, Director of Clinical Services, Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Stark County
- Fran Gerbig, Prevention Coordinator, Stark Mental Health and Recovery Services Board
- Keith Hochadel, President & CEO, Quest Recovery and Prevention Services

**SPOTLIGHT COMPANY:**

**Safety Resources Company of Ohio, Inc.**

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Heroin

Submitted By: Colleen Maurer, Past Chairman and Member, Stark County Safety Council Steering Committee

Raising children safely…..making our Companies successful…..Experiencing new adventures

These are just a few of our personal mission statements. Now it seems as though our world is being filled with hospital visits to overdosed friends and relatives or worse yet …funerals. Our community is being overwhelmed with drug issues on a daily basis. The current drug of choice is heroin..ie smack, brown sugar, horse or white china.

Heroin is not in the big cities anymore…it is here – from Minerva to Sandy Valley. Lives have been affected by this drug.

Heroin enters the brain quickly by either injectioning, snorting, or smoking. It is highly addictive both mentally and physically.

Heroin also suppresses breathing which is one important risk when finding a victim of heroin overdose. The heroin along with the additional additives will not dissolve in the blood stream causing blood clots.

Talk to your children …talk to your employees…They see and know more about this drug than we do. Get involved…There are organizations available that are more than willing to give to support to parents, employers, but most importantly the individual.

This isn’t an issue we can handle alone in our individual silos. We need to come together and support each other to overcome this problem.