OSHA ISSUES NEW FATALITY/OTHER ACCIDENT REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

By Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell, Esq.

As of January 1, 2015, the OSHA rules change on when an employer needs to pick up the phone (or otherwise report) and call OSHA about a fatality or other work-related incident. Effective January 1, 2015, OSHA will require each employer to make the following reports to OSHA:

1. What must be reported?
   - All work-related fatalities (occurring within 30 days of the work-related incident);
   - All work-related “in-patient” hospitalizations of one or more employees;
   - All work-related amputations; and
   - All work-related losses of an eye.

2. When must the employer make the report?
   - Employers must report any work-related fatality within 8 hours of finding out about it.
   - For any in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or eye loss, employers must report the incident within 24 hours of learning about it. ¹

3. How must the employer report?
   - By telephone to the nearest OSHA area office during normal business hours;
   - By telephone to the 24-hour OSHA hotline (1-800-321-OSHA, or 1 800 321 6742); or
   - Through a website that OSHA is currently developing.

4. What must be reported when reporting to OSHA?
   - The employer’s name;
   - The location of the reportable event;
   - The time of the reportable event;
   - The type of reportable event (fatality, hospitalization, amputation, eye loss);
   - The number of employees affected by a reportable event;
   - The names of all employees affected by a reportable event;
   - The employer’s contact person and his/her phone number; and
   - Brief description of work-related incident.

The revised OSHA reporting requirements also contain a definition of “in-patient hospitalization” and “amputations.” The revised recordkeeping rule includes other revisions in addition to those set forth above.

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

¹ Reporting of in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye must be reported only if they occur within 24 hours of the work related incident.

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.

October’s Spotlight Company, U.S. HealthWorks has been providing occupational medicine to Stark County employers for over 25 years. We specialize in helping employers control work-related injury costs through quality medical care while effectively managing claims, returning employees to work and preventing lost time. We are a single source provider with the capability to provide employers with a full spectrum of services ranging from non-injury services to injury treatment and return to work programs. Our staff is dedicated to providing quality care and services to you and your employees. Please contact us to get more information on how we can be of service to you and your employees. Contact Rob Serena at 330-453-6050 or rob.serena@ushworks.com, or visit www.ushworks.com

Like us on Facebook-www.starkcountysafetycouncil.org.
**ROBIN’S CORNER**
*By Robin Watson, Ohio BWC Representative*

**Q: What is Grounding and Bonding?**
Grounding and Bonding is a process used when dispensing flammable liquids that provides an electrically conductive path between a dispensing container, receiving container, and an earth ground.

**A: Why do I need to ground and bond when dispensing flammable liquids?**
Static electricity can build up from everyday movement and without grounding and bonding the vapors from dispensing can explode from the static charges. Grounding and bonding provides a path to dissipate the static charge to the ground.

A typical grounding and bonding is shown in the drawing below:

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**Coming Next Month**
**November 13, 2014**

**OSHA Enforcement Update**
**Speaker: Howie Eberts**
*OSHA’s Area Director, Cleveland*

This session will: explain what OSHA looks for and how employers should prepare for OSHA inspection; cover OSHA inspection statistics and results; review Top Ten Citations from last year; present OSHA’s enforcement plans and initiatives for the upcoming year.

**November’s meeting includes the SCSC Hat & Mitten Drive!**

**Spotlight Company:**

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**Christmas will be here before you know it!** The Stark County Safety Council will once again be collecting new, unwrapped toys at the December 11th safety council luncheon. Over the years our members have joined forces with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program to provide children less fortunate experience the joy of Christmas. We encourage you to get all of your employees and co-workers involved in this extremely worthy cause.

*Let’s fill this year’s truck again!*

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**Apply Now for Your 2014 SCSC Grant**
The Stark County Safety Council is once again pleased to offer our members an opportunity to apply for a SCSC Grant. The awarded grant monies will then be used towards the purchase of a piece of equipment to reduce or eliminate injury and/or hazards in the workplace. The award of any safety grant is at the sole discretion of the Stark County Safety Council. Winners will be announced at the January 8th luncheon.

Click on the link below to apply:

[http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCSCgrant](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCSCgrant)

**2013 SCSC Grant Recipients:**
American Aluminum Extrusion * Massillon City Schools * Tuslaw Local Schools

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**Safety Council Officers & Contributing Members**
**Chairman:** Deb Schlabach
(dschlabach@aultcompmpco.com)
**Vice Chair:** (Chris Zabel czabel@USSafetyGear.com)
**Newsletter Editor:** Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell
(jcaldwell@kwgd.com)
**Program Manager & Canton Regional Chamber Representative:** Connie Cerny
(conniee@cantonchamber.org)
**Ohio BWC Representatives:** Robin Watson
(robin.w.1@bwc.state.oh.us) and Deb Bailey
(Deborah.b.1@bwc.state.oh.us)
Tough Enough to Wear Pink?

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. Show your support by wearing something Pink to our October 9th Safety Council luncheon!

Hats & Mitten Drive to Keep the Children of Our Community Warm

We invite everyone to participate!

Simply bring in NEW hats, gloves and mittens to the November 14th luncheon. Items donated will be distributed to children in need.

UPCOMING

Nov. 5 - CEO/Senior Management Breakfast; Skyland Pines Golf Club & Event Center; registration 7:30 a.m.; C.H.A.M.P.—The Winning Spirit of Today’s Safety Leaders”; Speaker: Mike Gallina, Director of Outreach and Organizational Development for the AultCare Health Network.

Nov. 30 - Last day to apply for the Stark County Safety Council Business Grant link. www.surveymonkey.com/s/SCSCgrant.
Well folks, according to the calendar and the color of the leaves, it is officially Autumn. Or, in Ohio speak, **PRE-WINTER**. Working, living and existing in this glorious state, we have learned to prepare for the seven or eight months of winter’s fury. With so many things to prepare, let’s take some time to prepare our vehicles for our daily travels through winter’s wonderland.

First, let’s make sure our vehicles are road-worthy. Now is the time to take our vehicles to a trusted mechanic and check/replace items such as windshield washer fluid, windshield wipers, lights, tires, battery, brakes, antifreeze, and the ignition system. Typically, if regular maintenance is performed on your vehicle, this minor expense will greatly outweigh the aggravation of being stranded along the highway as the snow plow buries your vehicle.

Second, let’s take a tip from our friends at the Colorado Department of Transportation and ensure that certain items are kept in our vehicles in the event you are stranded. Since Colorado invented snowy travel, they may know a thing or two about preparedness. CDOT recommends the following items be kept in your vehicle in the event of an emergency:

- Flares/reflectors to signal for help and warn other motorists
- Snow scraper, snow brush, and shovel
- Battery or crank powered weather radio
- Flashlight with extra batteries or a crank powered flashlight
- Survival blanket or sleeping bag
- Chemical hand warmers
- Extra clothing
- Water
- First aid kit with essential medications
- Tire chains and tow strap
- Kitty litter or sand for traction
- Jumper cables
- Extra cloth or paper towels
- Deck of cards or board games for entertainment

Completing a road worthiness check on your vehicle and preparing basic survival items will only take a day or two. However, this preparation will at least save you much aggravation; and possibly save your life in an extreme weather situation.

*Information taken from Colorado DOT website*
The Stark County Safety Council Would Like to “Thank” Our 2014 Safety, Health and Human Resource Fair Exhibitors

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Stone Crossing Care Center
The Reserves Network
United Sales
US Healthworks
US SafetyGear Inc.
Veolia Environmental Services
Western & Southern Financial

We encourage you to support these wonderful vendors by utilizing their services and products!
Visit [www.starkcountysafetycouncil.org](http://www.starkcountysafetycouncil.org) for links to all vendors.

2014 Safety, Health and Human Resource Fair
September 11, 2014