SAFETY TOPIC



COVID Update OSHA'S National Emphasis Program on Heat Illness Update GAWDA's Safety Committee & Best Safety Practices 2022

COVID Update

August 11, 2022 OSHA revised their guidance on COVID Exposure and Infection. A <u>Safety Alert:</u> <u>Coronavirus Response Protocol</u>, OSHA basically removed all mention of quarantine; isolation for a minimum of 5 days is the recommended protocol for COVID positive cases, regardless of the presentation of symptoms. A person who is exposed should test 5 days after exposure. Masking is listed for anyone who has been exposed or infected with COVID.

OSHA'S National Emphasis Program on Heat Illness Update

The National Emphasis Program – Outdoor and Indoor Heat-Related Hazards is an expansion of the "enforcement initiative to prevent and protect employees from serious heat-related illnesses and deaths while working in hazardous hot indoor or outdoor environments," (A. Evans, Asst. Deputy. Secr. OSHA). The agency has specific NAICS codes they are focusing on, including:

3251 Basic Chemical Manufacturing 4246 Chemical and Allied Products Merchant Wholesalers

Recently, I was sent the chart of Heat Related Illnesses from the Dallas County Health and Human Services (see below). The hospitals are required to track the number of patients and type of heat related illnesses; this information is available to OSHA and may be used to narrow the scope of inspections, either by industry or location. If your facility has sent an employee to the hospital for treatment, even if it was for a sunburn, OSHA may have access to that information and may potentially trigger a Heat-related inspection.

Dallas Cou Heat-Rela											
			Weel	k 31 en	ding A	ugust 6	, 2022				
	F	igure 1	Repor	ted Hea	at-Relat	ted Illne	ess (HR	l) by Ty	pe		
Week Ending MMWR Week	6/11 23	6/18 24	6/25 25	7/2 26	7/9 27	7/16 28	7/23 29	7/30 30	8/6 31	8/13* 32	Total YTD
Sunburn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heat Cramps	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0	1	0	5
Heat Exhaustion	5	5	16	3	6	4	11	7	3	0	66
Heat Stroke	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Other HRI**	6	5	6	4	12	14	11	3	8	4	79
Deaths ⁺	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	2
	11	11	22	7	22	18	23	11	12	5	154

GAWDA Safety Committee & Best Safety Practices 2022

If you're not familiar with the Members only page on the GAWDA website, you're missing out on many great resources. One of those resources is Best Safety Practices created by the GAWDA Safety Committee. Jim Herring and Bill Woods chair the committee of 22 members.

The best practices are meant to provide guidance, not requirements, to help you run a safe business. The committee ensures the best practices on the Members Only page are current and accurate. They also create new best practices about issues pertinent to them and other GAWDA members. This year the GAWDA Safety Committee has reviewed and created the following documents to help you in your business.

New Sample Safety Practices

- Insect Bites and Stings Prevention
- Heat Related Illness Prevention

Reviewed, Revised and Reformatted Sample Safety Practices

- Active Shooter Emergency Preparedness
- Backing and Parking
- Bloodborne Pathogen Program
- Canine Bites, Awareness and Mitigation
- Contractor Safety Requirements Agreement
- Customer Safety at Member Sites
- Cylinder Connection at Customer Sites

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- Cylinder Loading Dock Safety
- Cylinder Deliveries at Customers with Stairs and Ramps
- Cylinders Guidelines for Leaking Cylinders at Customer Locations
- Cylinders Safe Handling of
- Delivery Survey

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- Docking Ramps Selection and Use of
- Driver Distractions Personal Communication Devices
- Dry Ice Sample Safety Practice End User Guide
- Earthquake Emergency Preparedness
- Electronic Submission of Injury and Illness Records to OSHA
- Emergency Preparedness
- Ergonomics in the Workplace
- Facility Securement
- Fall Protection
- Fill Plant PPE
- Fire Emergency Preparedness
- Flood Emergency Preparedness
- Forklift Cylinder Safety
- Load Securement
- LPG Vendor Audit Checklist
- Mechanical Lifting Devices
- Regulatory Agency Visit Guideline
- Slips, Trips, and Falls Guidelines
- Tornado Emergency Preparedness
- Transport of Pressurized Cryogenic Liquid Containers in an Elevator
- Vehicular Accident/ Incident Considerations
- Walking Working Surfaces

Pick a subject that is pertinent to your location and use it for your monthly safety training. May I suggest Slips, Trips and Falls.

If you need assistance accessing the documents, please contact Andrea Levy at <u>alevy@gawda.org</u>. If you have any questions regarding the safety practices please contact me.

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