



**SUMMIT COUNTY
SAFETY COUNCIL**

SCSC Newsletter

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OSHA's Tips for Working in Hot Weather

Those hot, hazy days of summer are finally here!

The heat can be especially harmful for those who work outdoors in direct sunlight or in hot environments, making them susceptible to heat-induced illnesses such as heat stress, heat exhaustion or the more serious heat stroke.

It is important for workers and their employers to minimize the chances of heat-induced illnesses, and imperative that they recognize the signs of heat stress and take proper precautions to reduce the chances of illness or death."

High temperature and humidity, physical exertion and lack of sufficient water intake can lead to heat-related stress. Symptoms of heat exhaustion or heat stroke include confusion, irrational behavior, loss of consciousness, abnormally high

body temperature and hot, dry skin.

OSHA advises workers to take preventive measures such as reducing physical exertion and wearing light, loose-fitting clothing. The agency advises employers to provide workers with water and regular rest periods in a cool recovery area.

"Protecting Workers from the Effects of Heat" and "Working Outdoors in Warm Climates" are OSHA fact sheets that explain heat stress and provide recommendations to protect workers from exposure to ultraviolet radiation. Employers and workers will find more practical tips for guarding against UV radiation in "Protecting Yourself in the Sun," a pocket-sized card addressing various forms of skin cancer. These publications are free and can be downloaded from OSHA's Publications page.

Hazard Communication Guidance for Combustible Dust

OSHA published a new document titled "Hazard Communication Guidance for Combustible Dusts" that helps chemical manufacturers and importers recognize the potential for dust explosions, identify appropriate protective measures, and ful-

fill the requirements for disseminating this information on material safety data sheets and labels. This document can be found under "OSHA News" on OSHA's Home Page.

Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

11:30 a.m.

Regular meeting at Tangier

Bruce Hennes

Hennes Communications,

LLC

Crises Communications

August Featured Program

Crisis Communications

One of your employees has been accused of sexual harassment...reports surface alleging computer & database misuse ...you're under fire for a piece of equipment that may be causing injury or death...there's been an incident of workplace violence...a local resident is asserting slow response time...the Beacon Journal wants a quote about a rumor damaging to your company or municipality...The New York Times is calling and you don't know why... the Fox 8 I-Team is at the door...Mike Wallace from 60 Minutes is at the desk waiting for you...

What happens when the media is interested in your business? Or when an "investigative journalist" bursts into your office with cameras blazing and a microphone in your face? Do you have any rights? Is there any way to control the situation?

They say it takes a lifetime to build a reputation and only a few seconds to destroy one. In a split second you could find yourself in a position where you need to know how to handle the media or be a public spokesperson. Would you know what to do or how to respond?

Bruce M. Hennes is the Managing Partner of Hennes Communications, a crisis communications, media training and media relations consulting firm based in Cleveland. Serving corporations, government agencies, nonprofits and individuals who are "on trial" in the court of public opinion, Hennes Communications also offers litigation communication support and public relations services to clients. The firm is a coalition member of ProtectingAmerica.org and National Preparedness Month (US Dept. of Homeland Security).



Hennes has more than 30 years experience working in politics, having managed or served as a senior Campaign consultant and fundraiser for scores of campaigns at the local, state and federal levels. Hennes also served three years as Executive Director for The Temple on the Heights in Pepper Pike, Ohio, and three years doing government and public relations in the Haslett, handling government relations, public relations, community relations and media training, in 1989, leaving in 2002 to form Hennes Communications.

As one of Cleveland's best-known crisis communication specialists and media trainers, Hennes is also an in-demand speaker before bar and trade associations on the subject of crisis communications and how the media manipulate the news. Under the auspices of The American Red Cross-Greater Cleveland Chapter, he frequently speaks to mayors, police, fire, education and other government officials on the subject of "Extreme Crisis Communications" (i.e. how to handle mass casualty incidents and other "extreme" situations involving threats to life & limb).

Upcoming Events & Reminders



August 19, 2009

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Bruce Hennes
Hennes Communications,
LLC
Crisis Communications



September 16, 2009

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Phil Canfora,
Mark Beauchamp and
Ozzie
Chase Protective Corp.
Drugs in the Workplace



October 15, 2009

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Cuyahoga Falls Fire Dept.
Fire Safety Month



November 18, 2009

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Steve Uzelac
Safety, Wellness, and Prevention

Current News from BWC

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) Board of Directors continues to enhance the agency's rate reform efforts. Recently the Board voted to further strengthen the requirements for group sponsors, those associations that provide services to employers who qualify for group discounts. The new requirements will give BWC greater opportunities to ensure sponsor associations and their affiliates are marketing their services accurately and responsibly.

Certification requirements will apply to the marketing methodologies of all sponsoring associations and their affiliates. Actions that could lead to revocation of certification include:

- Instructing prospective employers to provide false information on forms;
- Claiming the sponsoring association, affiliation or representative is endorsed by BWC; or
- Offering discounts or refunds that are unattainable.

BWC may apply the following sanctions if these rules are violated:

- Revoke certification of a sponsoring association; and/or
- Prohibit the addition of new participants to the sponsor's group.

Additionally, the Board has announced its next public forum will be held on Thursday, Aug. 27, 2009. The forum will provide injured workers, business owners, medical providers, stakeholders and other interested parties with the opportunity to address members of the board of directors on any issue. Participants are encouraged to address issues related to: claim management; cost avoidance/cost reduction opportunities; suggestions for more responsive customer service; or resources we should provide for better service.

The forum will be held from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 27, 2009 in the auditorium of the William Green Building, located at 30 W. Spring St., Columbus.

Those interested in addressing the board at the public forum are encouraged to pre-register by 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 17. Registration forms are available online at ohiobwc.com. On-site registration will also be accepted. Speakers will be registered on a first-come, first-served basis.

Safety Intervention Grant\$ Phase VI Starts July 1, 2009

The Safety Intervention Grant\$ Program is available to any Ohio state-fund or public employer who wishes to purchase equipment to substantially reduce or eliminate injuries and illnesses associated with a particular task or operation.

To participate in the program an employer must pay into the Ohio State Insurance Fund, maintain active coverage, be current on all monies owed BWC and demonstrate the need for a safety intervention. An employer also must allow BWC staff access to the work site prior to submitting the grant application to perform a comprehensive safety assessment of the organization. The purpose of the overall safety assessment is to provide BWC a more comprehensive

look at the applicant's overall safety practices which could help assess the cost effectiveness of providing a safety grant.

The requirement involving a claim in the area of intervention has been REMOVED! Any employer meeting the above criteria is eligible for money!

With the safety intervention grant, private and public employers are eligible for a 2-to-1 matching grant, up to a maximum of \$40,000, meaning a total of \$60,000 — \$20,000 from the employer and \$40,000 from BWC.

Contact your local BWC Service Office at 330-471-0937 for grant assistance.

SCSC

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Visit us on the web
www.thesummitcountysafetycouncil.org

Did you notice SCSC's new logo on the front page of this newsletter? Special thanks to **Jennifer Albert of The Ad Lab** for donating her time and talents to create this logo for SCSC!



www.labertising.com

FY10 Rebate Program Requirements

Enroll in local safety council by July 31, 2009

Attend 10 meetings or events between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010

- At least eight of the 10 meetings must be safety council meetings. Up to two of the 10 can be external educational options outlined below, but all 10 can be safety council meetings.
- A person can represent only one policy number with their attendance at a meeting.
- Employer has the option to gain credit for up to two meetings through attendance at BWC's Division of Safety & Hygiene (DSH) safety training courses or industry-specific training.
- DSH safety training credit is available for training conducted at the Ohio Center for Occupational Safety and Health (OCOSH) in Pickerington or one of its branches.
- No matter the duration of the training or special event, attendance applies toward only one meeting credit.
- Safety training conducted at the employers' workplace, online or required Drug-Free Workplace training does not qualify for the safety council rebate program eligibility.
- It is the employer's responsibility to submit documentation to his or her safety council by June 30, 2010, for attendance at non-safety council training or events to qualify.

- Documentation must be an official certificate of attendance or transcript.
- CEO must attend any one safety council sponsored function or meeting**
- CEO attendance counts as credit toward one of the 10 required meetings.
 - If a CEO is representing multiple policy numbers, his/her attendance fulfills the CEO attendance requirement for all policies, but counts as meeting credit for only one policy number.

Submit semiannual reports for the 2009 calendar year

2-percent premium rebate

- Employers meeting these participation eligibility requirements will receive a rebate of 2 percent of their annual premium.
- The rebate offer excludes self-insuring employers, state agencies and employers participating in BWC's group-rating or group-retrospective programs. However, BWC encourages everyone to become active safety members.
- Employers must have active coverage status and no outstanding BWC balance to qualify.
- Employers who meet the participation requirements will be eligible for a 2-percent performance bonus rebate.
- BWC will calculate the performance bonus based on claims data.

Mission Statement

To promote safety/accident prevention in the workplace by offering informational and educational opportunities to both the private and public sectors within the community.