



**SUMMIT COUNTY
SAFETY COUNCIL**

SCSC NEWSLETTER

PACE OF OSHA INSPECTIONS, CITATIONS IS HIGHEST EVER SO FAR IN FISCAL YEAR 2010

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration in fiscal year 2010 is on track to significantly outpace its enforcement performance in previous years across a range of measures, Richard Fairfax, deputy assistant administrator of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, said during an April 28 panel discussion at the National Labor College in Silver Spring, Md.

Roughly halfway through the fiscal year, OSHA has performed 21,522 inspections, putting it on pace to best the 39,004 inspections conducted in fiscal 2009, which was the most inspections OSHA had ever performed, Fairfax said.

OSHA is also "way ahead of where we've ever been" in total violations cited midway through fiscal 2010, with 52,350, putting the agency on pace to exceed 100,000 by the end of the fiscal year, Fairfax said. OSHA's previous record was 87,663, set in fiscal 2009, Fairfax said.

The rate of in-compliance inspections OSHA had conducted was at 19 percent midway through fiscal 2010, the lowest it had ever been, Fairfax said. In fiscal 2009 the rate was 25 percent. A low in-compliance rate means OSHA is properly directing its enforcement resources at workplaces that are violating some part of the OSH Act or regulations, according to Fairfax.

Eighty-two percent of the violations cited so far in fiscal 2010 were serious, willful, or repeat, which also is the highest rate for those types of violations in agency history, Fairfax said. In fiscal 2009, the rate for the year was 81 percent.

High Number of Significant Cases

OSHA handled 75 "significant" enforcement cases halfway through fiscal 2010, Fairfax

said, putting it on track for a total of more than 150 by the end of the fiscal year. Significant cases are those with penalties exceeding \$100,000, Fairfax said. In fiscal 2009, OSHA had handled 120 significant cases.

So far in fiscal 2010, the agency has issued nine egregious citations after issuing just four in all of 2009, Fairfax said. In both 1987 and 1988, however, OSHA issued 30 egregious citations. OSHA cites an employer for each instance of a violation, or for each employee affected, under its egregious penalty policy.

The number of fatality investigations was sharply down midway through fiscal 2010, at just 335, compared to the 797 in fiscal 2009 and 937 in fiscal 2008. But Fairfax stopped short of hailing a significant advance in worker safety, saying the economic recession could have contributed to the decline in fatalities.

The most-cited standard in fiscal 2010 was scaffolding, Fairfax said. It was followed by fall protection, hazard communication, respiratory protection, ladders, lockout/tagout, electrical and wiring, powered industrial trucks, general electrical requirements, and process safety management.

Future Focus on Recordkeeping

In a ceremony honoring fallen workers after the panel discussion, OSHA administrator David Michaels repeated his support for the Protecting America's Workers Act (H.R. 2067, S. 1580), which would raise penalties for violations of the OSH Act.

Michaels also said OSHA compliance officers would begin to take a new, harder look at company records in future inspections. "We're going to be looking at the books, and they had better be accurate," Michaels said.

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Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday,

May 19, 2010

11:30 a.m.

Regular Meeting —Tangier

Dr. Walter Fluharty

Norandex

Assessment the Prescription
for Success



Calling all CEOs ...

*Have you met your
attendance*

*requirement for
this year's Safety
Council Rebate
Program? May and
June's regular
meetings are the
last opportunities
to get this credit.*

MAY'S FEATURED PROGRAM

“Assessment the Prescription for Success”

Dr. Walter Fluharty

An interactive and lively presentation designed to demonstrate the difference between an audit and an assessment and how a properly conducted assessment will allow safety professionals to evaluate the effectiveness of their organization's safety efforts. Attendees will leave with a basic understanding of how the employee perceptions can be captured and used by organizations to make informed decisions on where to place resources to obtain optimum results, visibility and worker buy-in.

Dr. Walter C. Fluharty has recently returned to NE Ohio to be near family, including two new grandchildren, and joined Norandex as the Health, Safety and Environmental Manager. Walter brings with him a wealth of experience in developing world class safety cultures in a host of organizations. His Health, Safety and Environmental (HS&E) career spans over 30 years, beginning as a Wastewater Chemist with Stauffer Chemical Company in WV.

Before managing HS&E for several local companies, including Norton Chemical Process Products and GOJO Industries, he gained rule making experience as an Industrial Hygienist with the ICWU, where he participated in authoring several OSHA standards including, the Process Safety Management of Highly Hazardous Chemicals and Cadmium standards. He was introduced to Behavioral Based Safety while working as a Trainer and Consultant with Behavioral Science Technology

Most recently, Walter managed HS&E for Roche Pharmaceuticals in Pleasanton, CA. Walter's specialty is gaining the involvement and participation of all levels of the organization while creating and sustaining Behavior Based Safety processes with proven improvements in safety performance.

Walter holds a M.S. in Safety Management from Marshall University, Huntington, WV and a Psy.D. from Southern California University for Professional Studies, Santa Ana, CA. He has maintained his certification as a Certified Ergonomic Evaluation Specialist since 1998. In addition, he has published numerous HS&E articles in various professional safety management publications and presented at number of national and international HS&E professional symposiums.

CHEMICAL EXPOSURE HEALTH DATA

OSHA makes data on toxic chemical exposure available online. In keeping with the President's memorandum on open government, OSHA has released 15 years of data detailing workplace exposures to toxic chemicals. The data, available on OSHA's Web site, is comprised of measurements taken during the course of inspections, including exposure levels to the hazardous chemicals asbestos, benzene, beryllium, cadmium, lead, nickel, silica, and others. It can offer insights into the levels of toxic chemicals commonly found in workplaces, as well as how exposures to specific chemicals are distributed across industries, geographical areas and time.

Reminder

**2010 MCO
Open enrollment is
May 3 to May 28,
2010**

*Choosing a Managed
Care Organization that
meets the needs of your
business and your
workers is an
important decision.*

*A strong MCO-
employer partnership
helps injured workers
receive the treatment
they need to get back to
work as safely and
quickly as possible,
resulting in reduced
claim costs.*

*Log on to ohiobwc.com
for MCO Selection
Guide, MCO
Report Card and other
Important Open
Enrollment details.*

2009 SAFETY AWARDS TO BE PRESENTED AT SAFETY COUNCIL MEETING MAY 19, 2010

Together with BWC's Division of Safety & Hygiene, SCSC will present awards on May 19th for outstanding safety performance during 2009 in the following categories:

100% – To each member that worked the entire calendar year without an injury or illness resulting in a day away from work

Achievement – To each member that decreased its incident rate by at least 25% from the previous year

Group – To the member with the lowest incident rate in each group

Special – To each member that accumulated at least 500,000 hours and at least six months without an injury or illness resulting in a day away from work

Awards are based on data taken from 2009 Semi-Annual Reports and contingent upon timely filing of reports.

BEAT THAT STRESS

Here's a two step formula for handling stress. Step number one: Don't sweat the small stuff. Step number two: Remember, it's all small stuff.—Anthony Robbins

Stressed spelled backwards is desserts.—Barbara Enberg

Adopting the right attitude can convert a negative stress into a positive one.—Hans Selye

Stress: The confusion created when one's mind overrides the body's basic desire to choke the living daylights out of some jerk who desperately deserves it.—Anonymous

In times of great stress or adversity, it's always best to keep busy, to plow your anger and your energy into something positive.—Lee Iacocca

There must be quite a few things that a hot bath won't cure, but I don't know many of them.—Sylvia Plath

The time to relax is when you don't have time for it.—Jim Goodwin

Slow down and everything you are chasing will come around and catch you.—John De Paola

Relaxation means releasing all concern and tension and letting the natural order of life flow through one's being.—Donald Curtis

Stress is an ignorant state. It believes that everything is an emergency. Nothing is that important.—Natalie Goldberg

Learning to ignore things is one of the great paths to inner peace.—Robert J. Sawyer

SCSC

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**The winner of \$51.00
from
April's 50/50
raffle was
Dan Gleghorn of
American Safety &
Health Management
Consultants.
Thank you for
supporting SCSC!
SCSC Subsidized
\$763.90 of the
total costs (\$1723.90)
of last month's
First Aid/CPR class.**

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.**

**Co-sponsored by the Ohio
Bureau of Workers'
Compensation (BWC)**

TRIVIA QUIZ: SUMMER SAFETY

Question 1: About how long should it take to eat at a picnic or barbecue to make sure the food is safe and sanitary?

- A: As quickly as possible
- B: Within one hour
- C: Within two hours
- D: There should be no rush

Question 2: Which of these should you NOT do if you're trying to avoid driving fatigue?

- A: Keep the air conditioner on
- B: Wait until later in the day to drive
- C: Stop every few hours
- D: Use cruise control

Question 3: Which of these should you NOT do to treat a burn?

- A: Run cool water over it
- B: Rub butter on it
- C: Remove any clothing from around it
- D: Call for medical attention if it is serious

Question 4: Which of these is a good way to avoid motion sickness?

- A: Only eat light food like crackers and fruit beforehand
- B: Sit in the back seat
- C: Keep your eyes closed
- D: Distract yourself with a book or video game

Question 5: If you need to refuel your car on a hot day with no wind, what should you do to avoid ground-level ozone?

- A: Refuel after dark
- B: Only fill up the tank halfway
- C: Use the highest-priced gas
- D: There is no way to avoid it

Question 6: What is the most important thing you should do before surfing, water skiing, boating, or any other such activity?

- A: Buy a life jacket
- B: Don't eat for an hour beforehand
- C: Bring a family member
- D: Learn to swim

Question 7: Where should you never use a charcoal grill?

- A: In an enclosed area
- B: In a forest
- C: Near a car or truck
- D: Near children

Question 8: What is the safest surface for a playground?

- A: Concrete
- B: Asphalt
- C: Wood chips
- D: Packed dirt

Question 9: When you find a tick, which of these is not necessary?

- A: Remove the tick immediately
- B: Put it in a plastic bag before you throw it away
- C: Save the tick to show the doctor
- D: Treat the bite with antiseptic

Question 10: How should you remove a bee stinger?

- A: Scrape it off sideways
- B: Use tweezers
- C: Pull it directly out vertically
- D: Pull it out away from yourself

1: C, 2: D, 3: B, 4: A, 5: A, 6: D,
7: A, 8: C, 9: C, 10: A