

Volume 1, Issue 3

January, 2009

Summit County Safety Council Newsletter

One Cascade Plaza, Akron, OH 44308 — Phone 330-806-1676 — Fax 330-376-3852 — scocx@neo.rr.com

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

January 21, 2009

11:30 a.m.

Regular Meeting at Tangier

Holly Harlan

Entrepreneurs for

Sustainability

How is your Company's Safety Attitude for 2009?

Your workers have been receiving your safety messages for a while now. As the new year begins perhaps it's a good time to see how, or whether, the messages are sinking in.

You have been providing advice about safety for years. Your employees have been listened to it, reading it, but probably never thought about it much. They might even think, "Accidents can't happen to me."

EXAMPLE

An employee who is in a hurry to get off work, loses her leg in an injury. That type of accident impacts everyone. Your employees can see what it means to your injured employee - physical pain, emotional shock and lost time. She will probably have to train for a new job, if she ever returns to work. Things will be tough for quite awhile. Physical therapy and rehabilitation are long and usually painful procedures with this type of injury.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Stay alert to possible hazards. Listen to suggestions that might protect you. The elements of a good safety attitude include the following:

Focus

If you have other things on your mind, you may be distracted. If you are bored, an accidental slip is easy.

Strength

This means the strength of character to do the right thing, even when under pressure to take shortcuts -- the strength to stick with the procedures.

Time

Take the time to do the job correctly and use the correct personal protective equipment. Saving a few minutes isn't worth a lifelong injury.

Responsibility

Care enough about yourself and your co-workers to take responsibility even when a task "isn't my job." Think of yourself as part of the team.

Weighing risks

A good safety attitude means being smart and avoiding taking unnecessary risks.

FINAL WORD

Making a good safety attitude a habit affects everyone around you. Your home life and working relations are positively influenced. We can always think of excuses why we do not act with safety in mind. In order to conserve our lives and our resources, it makes a lot more sense to maintain a good safety attitude.

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OK, so it's a new year....

Before OSHA comes knocking at your door, make sure you have these programs in place:

- Written Emergency Action Plan
- Written Emergency Fire Prevention Plan
- Hearing Conservation Program if needed
- Hazard Communication Program: Written program, MSDS sheets, Training, Chemical inventory list
- First Aid/Medical Response Program
- Blood borne Pathogens Program
- Personal Protective Equipment Program: Along with training in any PPE employees need to use
- Lockout Tagout Program: Written step by step program on how to lockout each piece of equipment and conduct an annual audit of your written program, along with training.
- Fork Truck Training
- Electric Safety Related Work Practice Program: For all employees And an Arc Flash Program
- OSHA 300 log for the last two years minimum and your total man hours of exposures
- Post your 300 A Summary Feb. 1st till April 30th

ONE SAFE ACT CAN LEAD TO ANOTHER

This month's winner of the Safety Slogan Contest is Patti Miller of Eberhard Manufacturing. Patti's slogan "**ONE SAFE ACT CAN LEAD TO ANOTHER**" was selected by the Executive Committee. Patti will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate for her winning slogan. Congratulations Patti!

Please continue to submit your safety slogans to Sally Cox at scox@neo.rr.com. Each month's winner will receive a \$25.00 gift certificate. The winning slogan will be printed in the newsletter and projected at the monthly meeting. Slogans are selected one month prior to announcement. If your slogan is not selected it remains in the pool for future consideration.

News From BWC

BWC Board of Directors Approves Payment Relief For Many Employers

The Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation's (BWC) Board of Directors took action to provide many Ohio employers more time to pay premiums, and allow employers conducting business outside of the state to reduce their workers' compensation insurance premiums. A report to the BWC Board of Directors on the agency's investments also revealed improved performance of its investment portfolio.

The board approved a rule change for the 50/50 payment program, which enables Ohio businesses that pay online to split their yearly premiums into two payments. The change allows businesses to pay only 50 percent of their premium costs by February 28 and pay the remaining 50 percent by **June 1**. Second payments were previously due by May 1. 17,000 employers currently participate in the program.

The board also approved rule changes related to Senate Bill 334, which went into effect in September, and allows businesses to avoid premium payment to BWC for work done in other states and covered by another state's policy. Generally, the law also requires out-of-state employers, with employees working in Ohio, to provide workers' compensation coverage for their workers when they come into Ohio to perform their duties.

As a result of the rule changes, Ohio employers must report to BWC the payroll reported to the other state's insurer, however, they are not required to pay BWC premium on the other state's payroll. BWC will also now recognize the coverage of an out-of-state employer working in Ohio to the extent that state will honor the BWC coverage for Ohio employers temporarily working in their state. Out-of state coverage will be honored for a period of up to 90 days.

Once employers notify BWC of their Other States coverage, they can take advantage of this law change when they file their payroll report and pay their premiums for the Jan. 1 to June 30, 2009 payroll reporting period.

In other business, board members discussed the performance of BWC's investment portfolio in the past month following recent challenges to the investment markets. Unaudited figures for all BWC invested funds reflect a portfolio appreciation of 8.2% for the month of December through yesterday. As a result of strong performance of the bond portfolio, the BWC's entire investment portfolio has increased in value approximately 13% since the end of October. Calendar year to date unaudited performance return of BWC's investments is approximately -2%.

March 31 to April 2 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center

Saving lives ... Saving money

Focus on Safety in Today's Economy

Join 5,000 safety-minded individuals at Ohio's largest and most established occupational safety and health event. Your competition will be there, and here's why you should, too.

- Reduce training costs for you and your employees at 150 educational sessions.
- Earn free CEUs for accreditation and BWC discount programs.
- Streamline your product purchases at the Expo Marketplace.
- Solve problems with peers at roundtable discussions.
- Discover solutions to real-life safety scenarios.
- Save on registration fees and out-of-state travel expenses.
- Fewer injuries mean lower workers' compensation costs.


Free registration begins Jan. 1

Save the date. Save the money. It's worth your time.

Ohjobwc.com 800-OHIOBWC

OSC | 09

Ohio Safety Congress & Expo



DON'T FORGET TO POST YOUR OSHA 300-A SUMMARY OF WORK-RELATED INJURIES AND ILLNESSES IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 1ST, AND THRU APRIL 30, 2009

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Semi-Annual Reports for the period 7/1/08 to 12/31/08 will be due on January 15, 2009. The report and instructions for completion can be found on pages 5 and 6 of this newsletter. Please email the report to scox@neo.rr.com or fax to 330-376-3852. The report may also be submitted online via the SCSC website. **Failure to submit this report timely will adversely affect your eligibility for participation in BWC's FY09 Safety Council Discount Program.** These Accident statistics are used for the purpose of determining eligibility for safety awards and are **not** reported to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration or any other enforcement agency.



SCSC will soon have a totally redesigned website. The new site is currently in the design/implementation process. The site will be up and running after the current semi-annual reporting period ends. Due to a large amount of automated spam currently coming thru the semi-annual report form, the new site will require a login and password for filing of Semi-Annual Reports only. More details soon...

Upcoming Events & Reminders

January 15, 2009

Semi-Annual Report for 7/1/08 to 12/31/08 due

January 21, 2009

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Holly Harlan
Sustainability

February 18, 2009

Regular Meeting—Tangier
Tanya Weiker, PT, CPT
Spherica

Healthy Backs: Back to Basics

March 18, 2009

Timothy Campbell
Hanna, Campbell & Powell, LLP
Effective Claims Management

March 31, 2009

PDP+ & DFWP Reports for 7/1/08 program period are due to BWC
Fax to 1-877-721-9420

March 31—April 2, 2009

Ohio Safety Congress & Expo
Greater Columbus Convention Center

**Instructions for completing the
BWC's Division of Safety & Hygiene semi-annual report form**

(1) Date of Most Recent Lost-Time Injury or Illness

This is the date of the most recent injury that resulted in an employee missing **at least one full day of work**. The date does not necessarily have to be during this reporting period. If no injuries have ever occurred, you may leave the date blank.

(2) And (3) Average Number of Employees/Total Hours Worked

Multiply the average number of employees x the average number of hours worked per week x the number of weeks in the six-month period. (i.e. 725 employees x 40 hours = 29,000 hours x 26 weeks in the six month period = 754,000 hours)

(4) Deaths

Taken from OSHA 300 Log column G, the number of deaths that resulted from an occupational accident during this six-month period.

(5) Number of Injuries/Number of Workdays Lost

Taken from OSHA 300 Log column H, the number of occupational injuries or illnesses resulting in days away from work.

(6) Number of Workdays Lost

Taken from OSHA 300 Log column K, the total number of days away from work as a result of occupational accidents during the six-month period. NOTE: If the days away from work resulted from an accident which occurred in a previous six-month period, please report the additional workdays missed.

IMPORTANT:

If the date of last injury or illness resulting in days away from work (1) was during the current six-month period within which you are reporting, there should be at least a 1 for (5) the number of injuries or illnesses, and (6) the number of days away from work.

If the date of last injury or illness resulting in days away from work was during a previous six-month period, (5) and (6) should be 0 unless an employee is still having lost days as a result of a previous injury (then there may be a number on line 6).

SUMMIT COUNTY SAFETY COUNCIL
Co-sponsored by BWC's Division of Safety and Hygiene

Semi-Annual Report

1st [] due by July 15, 2008
(for current period January 1 – June 30, 2008)

2nd [] due by January 15, 2009
(for current period July 1 – December 31, 2008)

Safety Council Account Number _____ / _____ / _____ / _____

Company Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Fax _____

City / State / Zip _____

Submitted By _____ Date _____

Please check here if information provided above has been updated on this report.

1.) DATE OF MOST RECENT INJURY OR ILLNESS RESULTING IN DAY(S) AWAY FROM WORK

____ / ____ / ____
Month Day Year

Report All Information Below For **CURRENT SIX MONTH PERIOD ONLY** (corresponds with period identified above)

2.) Average Number of Employees..... _____

3.) Total Hours Worked (entire six month period, all employees) _____

Items 4, 5 and 6 are based on the Recordkeeping Requirements under the Occupational Safety & Health Act of 1970 (rev. 1/1/02). The columns listed below correspond to the columns in the OSHA 300 Log.

4.) Number of Deaths . . (column G in OSHA 300 Log)..... _____

5.) Number of occupational injuries and/or illnesses resulting in days away from work
(column H in the OSHA 300 Log) _____

6.) Number of days away from work as a result of occupational injuries and/or illnesses
(column K in the OSHA 300 Log)..... _____

Note: If you report a death, injury or illness resulting in days away from work in the current six month period (item 4 or 5), the most recent date of death, injury or illness must correspond with item 1.

Please return this form to:

****Summit County Safety Council**
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