



News from Region IV
Serving the Southeast

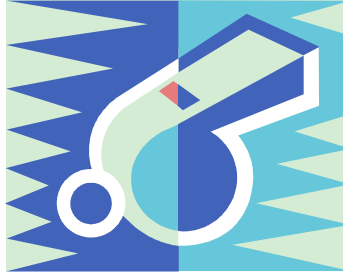


Whistleblower Protection Programs Investigated By Federal OSHA

Since its inception, OSHA has had authority to investigate complaints by employees who have been discriminated against for involvement in protected activity, i.e., filing a complaint with OSHA, participating in OSHA investigations, providing information to OSHA investigators, etc., as covered in Section 11(c). However, over the past years, OSHA has been delegated statutory authority to investigate other types of whistleblower activity including:

- Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) {49 U.S.C. 31105}**
- Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) {15 U.S.C.S. 2651}**
- International Safe Container Act (ISCA) {46 App. U.S.C.A. 1506}**
- Safe Drinking Water Act (SEWA) {42 U.S.C. 1997}**
- Federal Water Pollution Control Act - "Clean Water Act" (WPCA)
{33 U.S.C.S. 1367}**
- Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA) {15 U.S.C.S. 2622}**
- Clean Air Act (CAA) {42 U.S.C.S. 7622}**
- Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980
(CIRCLA) {42 U.S.C.S. 9610}**
- Energy Reorganization Act of 1974 (ERA) {42 U.S.C. 5851}**
- Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century
(FAA - "AIR21") {49 U.S.C. 42121}**
- 18 U.S.C. Section 1514A of Sarbanes-Oxley (Corporate and Criminal Fraud
Accountability Act of 2002)**
- Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002**
- Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA)**

With an investigative staff of 14 field and two supervisory investigators, Region IV handles over 20% of the total complaints filed nationally. In FY 2003, these investigators processed 426 complaints, 154 of which were non-OSHA cases. Of those cases investigated and completed, more than \$700,000 was collected from employers for back wages due employees because of discriminatory activity.



All of the various statutes have different filing periods and appeal processes.

Section 11(c) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970

“No person shall discharge or in any matter discriminate against any employee because such employee has filed any complaint or caused to be instituted any proceedings under or related to the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, or has testified or is about to testify in any such proceedings or because of the exercise by such employee on behalf of himself or others of any right afforded by these Acts.

Coverage Under OSHA

Employees of employers; employees controlled by other employers.

Filing Period Under OSHA

Within **30 days** of learning of the adverse action.

Who May File

- Employees
- Authorized Representatives
- Postal Employees

Protected Activities

Filing or making complaints concerning safety and/or health working conditions.

Refusal of Work Permitted When:

- **Reasonable apprehension of death or serious physical injury**
 - **Refuses in Good Faith**
 - **No reasonable alternative**
- **Insufficient time to eliminate condition through regular statutory enforcement channels and**
- **Employee, where possible, must have sought from his employer, and been unable to obtain, a correction of the dangerous condition**

How to File

- In Person
- By Telephone
- By Letter
- By Fax
- By E-mail

United States Postal Service - OSHA Jurisdiction

Covered Only By:

Federal OSHA 11(c)
No Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) coverage
Contractors for USPS Covered

Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA)

“A person may not discharge an employee, or discipline or discriminate against an employee regarding pay, terms, or privileges of employment, because the employee, or another person at the employee's request, has filed a complaint or begun a proceeding related to a violation of a commercial motor vehicle safety regulation, standard, or order, or has testified or will testify in such a proceeding; or the employee refuses to operate a vehicle because the operation violates a regulation, standard, or order of the United States related to commercial motor vehicle safety or health; or the employee has a reasonable apprehension of serious injury to the employee or the public because of the vehicle's unsafe condition.”

STAA Hazardous Materials Coverage

Any Vehicle used to transport hazardous cargo sufficient for placarding in accordance with the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act, 49 CFR 1801. (List of hazardous materials found in 49 CFR Part 170-189)

Filing Period Under STAA

Within **180 days** of learning of the adverse action.

Who May File

29 CFR 1978.100 Provides employees protection from discrimination for complaining about commercial motor vehicle safety and

health regulations and establishes investigation and resolution complaint procedures.

Protected Activities

- Provides protection for commercial carrier employees
 - 10,001 GVW or GVWR
 - 10 Passengers, including driver
- Employees who call on DOT Hotline
- Doesn't include USPS employees

How to File

May file verbally or in writing
1-800-DOT-SAFT
1-202-693-1717
1-800-321-OSHA

Nuclear and Environmental Acts

Statutes Included in Section 211 of the Energy Reorganization Act

Energy Reorganization Act (ERA), Section 211

Under Section 211, any employee who believes he or she has been discriminated against in retaliation for "blowing the whistle" on a safety problem or environmental violation, or for engaging in other activity protected under the law, may file a discrimination charge. Almost any adverse change in the whistleblower's terms and conditions of employment is prohibited by Section 211. This includes reprimands, poor performance appraisals, and other unfair treatment.

ERA Coverage

Nuclear Regulatory Commission or Department of Energy-regulated licensees, utilities, contractors, subcontractors, agents or other employers are subject to the protections of Section 211 of the Energy Reorganization Act. Section 211 is "codified" or collected with other similar laws passed by Congress in the United States Code of laws, at 42 U.S.C. § 5851.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Protected Activities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Raising allegations of violations of the Atomic Energy Act of 1954 (AEA)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work refusals (limitations)• Testifying in Proceedings Initiating or participating in proceedings <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who May File</u></p> <p>Almost any employee, or their representative, working at a nuclear site or with nuclear materials, whether employed in the private sector or by a local, state or federal government agency, is covered by these laws, i.e., Employees of NRC licensees (including federal and state employees) and employees of licensee contractors, and subcontractors.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Filing Period Under ERA</u></p> <p>180 Days from date of occurrence</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>How to File</u></p> <p>These laws are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). Complaints must be filed in writing and should be filed with the local OSHA Office of the DOL and/or mailed to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Spear Director, Office of Investigative Assistance 200 Constitution Ave., NW Rm. N3610 Washington, DC 20210</p>
--	--

<u>Safe Drinking Water Act</u>	
<p>Under SDWA, EPA sets standards for drinking water quality and oversees the states, localities, and water suppliers who implement those standards.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Coverage Under SDWA</u></p> <p>Provides protection of the public water supply and systems.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who is Covered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Federal and state employees• Employee representatives. <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Filing Period Under SDWA</u></p> <p>Within 30 days after the violation occurs.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who May File</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees• Representatives of employees <p style="text-align: center;"><u>How To File</u></p> <p>These laws are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). Complaints must be filed in writing and should be filed with the local OSHA Office of the DOL and/or mailed to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Spear Director, Office of Investigative Assistance 200 Constitution Ave., NW Rm. N3610 Washington, DC 20210</p>

[Federal Water Pollution Control Act](#)

“No person shall fire, or in any other way discriminate against, or cause to be fined or discriminated against, any employee or any authorized representative of employees by reason of the fact that such employee or representative has filed, instituted, or caused to be filed or instituted any proceeding under this chapter, or has testified or is about to testify in any proceeding resulting from the administration or enforcement of the provisions of this chapter.”

[FWPA Coverage](#)

Growing public awareness and concern for controlling water pollution led to enactment of The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972. As amended in 1977, this law became commonly known as the Clean Water Act. The Act established the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States. It gave EPA the authority to implement pollution control programs such as setting wastewater standards for industry. The Clean Water Act also continued requirements to set water quality standards for all contaminants in surface waters. The Act made it unlawful for any person to discharge any pollutant from a point source into navigable waters, unless a permit was obtained under its provisions. It also funded the construction of sewage treatment plants under the construction grants program and recognized the need for planning to address the critical problems posed by nonpoint source pollution.

[Filing Period Under FWPA](#)

Within 30 days from alleged violation occurrence.

[Who May File](#)

- Employees
- Representatives of employees
- Federal and state employees

[How to File](#)

These laws are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). **Complaints must be filed in writing** and should be filed with the local OSHA Office of the DOL and/or mailed to:

John Spear
Director, Office of Investigative
Assistance
200 Constitution Ave., NW
Rm. N3610
Washington, DC 20210

Clean Air Act (CAA)

“No employer may discharge any employee or otherwise discriminate against any employee with respect to his compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because the employee (or any person acting pursuant to a request of the employee) - commenced, caused to be commenced, or is about to commence or cause to be commenced a proceeding under this chapter or a proceeding for the administration or enforcement of any requirement imposed under this chapter or under any applicable implementation plan, testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding, or assisted or participated or is about to assist or participate in any manner in such a proceeding or in any other action to carry out the purposes of this chapter.”

CAA Coverage

Covers air pollution as it relates to the general public (ambient air).

Filing Period Under CAA

Within 30 days after occurrence of alleged discrimination

Who May File

- Employees
- Representatives of employees
- Federal and state employees

How to File

These laws are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).

Complaints must be filed in writing and should be filed with the local OSHA Office of the DOL and/or mailed to:

John Spear
Director, Office of Investigative Assistance
200 Constitution Ave., NW
Rm. N3610
Washington, DC 20210

Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)

“No employer may discharge any employee or otherwise discriminate against any employee with respect to the employee's compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because the employee (or any person acting pursuant to a request of the employee) has - commenced, caused to be commenced, or is about to commence or cause to be commenced a proceeding under this chapter; testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding; or assisted or participated or is about to assist or participate in any manner in such a proceeding or in any other action to carry out the purposes of this chapter.”

TSCA Coverage

Regulates the manufacture, distribution in commerce and use and disposal of certain chemical substances (organic and inorganic) of a particular molecular identity.

Filing Period Under CAA

Within 30 days from alleged violation occurrence.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who May File</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees• Employee Representatives <p style="text-align: center;"><u>How to File</u></p> <p>These laws are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL).</p>	<p>Complaints must be filed in writing and should be filed with the local OSHA Office of the DOL and/or mailed to:</p> <p>John Spear Director, Office of Investigative Assistance 200 Constitution Ave., NW Rm. N3610 Washington, DC 20210</p>
---	---

<p><u>Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA)</u></p>	
<p>“No employer may discharge any employee or otherwise discriminate against any employee with respect to the employee’s compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because the employee (or any person acting pursuant to a request of the employee) has - commenced, caused to be commenced, or is about to commence or cause to be commenced a proceeding under this chapter; testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding; or assisted or participated or is about to assist or participate in any manner in such a proceeding or in any other action to carry out the purposes of this chapter.”</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Filing Period Under CERCLA</u></p> <p>Within 30 days from alleged violation occurrence.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Coverage Under CERCLA</u></p> <p>Governs the notification and clean up of spills or releases of hazardous substances into the environment (Superfund Sites).</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who is Covered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees• Representatives of employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Federal and state employees <p style="text-align: center;"><u>How to File</u></p> <p>These laws are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). Complaints must be filed in writing and should be filed with the local OSHA Office of the DOL and/or mailed to:</p> <p>John Spear Office of Investigative Assistance 200 Constitution Ave., NW Rm. N3610 Washington, DC 20210</p>

Solid Waste Disposal Act (SWDA)

“No employer may discharge any employee or otherwise discriminate against any employee with respect to the employee's compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment because the employee (or any person acting pursuant to a request of the employee) has - commenced, caused to be commenced, or is about to commence or cause to be commenced a proceeding under this chapter; testified or is about to testify in any such proceeding; or assisted or participated or is about to assist or participate in any manner in such a proceeding or in any other action to carry out the purposes of this chapter.”

Coverage Under SWDA

Nearly everything we do leaves behind some kind of waste. Households create ordinary garbage. Industrial and manufacturing processes create solid and hazardous waste. The Office of Solid Waste (OSW) regulates all this waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

Filing Period Under SWDA

Within 30 days of alleged discrimination

Who May File

- Employees
- Representatives of employees

- Federal and state employees

How to File

Must be in writing.
Contact Local OSHA Office
1-800-321-OSHA

Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA)

Section 211 of AHERA provides: "*(a) No State or local educational agency may discriminate against a person in any way, including firing a person who is an employee, because the person provided information relating to a potential violation of this title to any other person, including a State or the Federal Government. (b) Any public or private employee or representative of employees who believes he or she has been fired or otherwise discriminated against in violation of subsection (a) may within 90 days after the alleged violation occurs apply to the Secretary of Labor for a review of the firing or alleged discrimination. The review shall be conducted in accordance with section 11(c) of the Occupational Safety and Health Act*

Filing Period Under AHERA

Within 90 days from alleged violation occurrence.

AHERA Coverage

Complaints about asbestos exposure by employees of nonprofit elementary and secondary school systems.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who is Covered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Employees• Representatives of employees• Federal and state employees	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>How to File</u></p> <p>These laws are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). Complaints must be filed in writing and should be filed with the local OSHA Office of the DOL and/or mailed to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Spear Director, Office of Investigative Assistance 200 Constitution Ave., NW Rm. N3610 Washington, DC 20210</p>
---	--

[Other Acts](#)

<p><u>International Safe Container Act (ISCA)</u></p>	
<p>Section 7(a) of ISCA provides: "<i>No person shall discharge or in any manner discriminate against an employee because the employee has reported the existence of an unsafe container or reported a violation of this chapter to the Secretary or his agents.</i>"</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Coverage Under ISCA</u></p> <p>Covers complaints of unsafe intermodal containers designed to be transported by sea and land carriers, and moving in, or designed to move in international trade.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Filing Period Under ISCA</u></p> <p>Must be filed within 30 days of the alleged discrimination.</p>	<p>May be filed verbally.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Who May File</u></p> <p>Federal, state, local government Railroad and Maritime employees</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>How To File</u></p> <p>Contact Local OSHA Office 1-800-321-OSHA</p>

<p><u>Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century - "Air 21"</u></p>	
<p><u>Coverage Under "Air 21"</u></p>	
<p>Provides protection to airline industry employees . No air carrier or contractor or subcontractor of an air carrier may discriminate against an employee because the employee engaged in protected activity.</p>	
<p><u>Filing Period Under "Air 21"</u></p> <p>Must be filed in writing within 90 days of alleged discrimination.</p>	

<u>Who May File</u>	Employees of commercial air carriers, their contractors and subcontractors
<u>How To File</u>	
Must be filed in writing. Contact Local OSHA Office 1-800-321-OSHA	

<u>Pipeline Safety Improvement Act of 2002 (PSIA)</u>	
Employees are protected from discrimination if they provide to the employer or the federal government information relating to any violation or alleged violation of federal law relating to pipeline safety; refuse to engage in any practice made unlawful relating to pipeline safety, if the employee has identified the alleged illegality to the employer.	
<u>Coverage Under PSIA</u>	<u>Who May File</u>
Provides protection from retaliation by employers to employees provide who provide safety information to authorities.	Employees of pipeline installation companies along with city, county and state employees. Employees of contractors and subcontractors of “a person owning or operating a pipeline facility”. Federal employees are NOT covered.
<u>Filing Period Under PSIA</u>	<u>How To File</u>
Must be filed within 180 days of the alleged discrimination	Must be filed in writing. Contact Local OSHA Office 1-800-321-OSHA

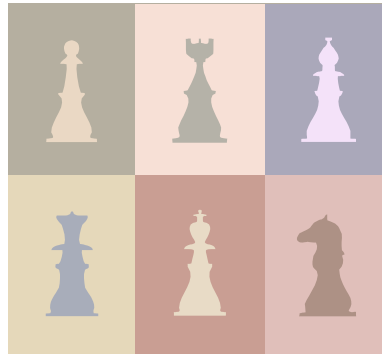
<u>Corporate and Criminal Fraud Accountability Act of 2002 (CCFAA)</u>	
“Employees who provide information or otherwise assist in an investigation regarding any conduct which the employee reasonably believes constitute certain criminal violations, any rule or regulation of the Securities and Exchange Commission, or any provision of federal law relating to fraud against shareholders.	
<u>Coverage Under CCFAA</u>	<u>Filing Period Under CCFAA</u>
Whistleblower protection for employees of publicly traded companies.	Must be filed in writing within 90 days of the alleged discrimination

Who May File

Employees of publicly traded companies,
contractor and subcontractor employees.

How To File

Must be filed in writing.
Contact Local OSHA Office
1-800-321-OSHA



*Focus on Fatalities
Struck By*

Even though the number of fatalities decreased last year, the number of workers killed in “struck-by” incidents dramatically increased from 88 in 2002 to 105 in 2003. Several initiatives will be launched this year in an effort to reduce these types of worker deaths. The most prevalent causes of struck by fatalities involve:

- 1) being struck by moving equipment (excavator buckets and similar equipment);
- 2) being struck by construction equipment and motor vehicles during road, highway or bridge construction; and,
- 3) being struck by motor vehicles, including the collection vehicle, during waste management collection.

The Statistics

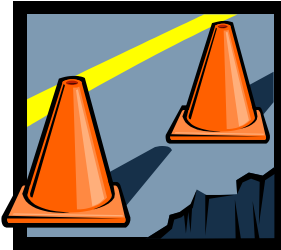
During 2003, a total of 43 struck by fatalities occurred in the construction industry. Four of those involved general building contractors (SIC 1521 – 1542), 24 involved heavy construction (SIC 1611 – 1629); and, 15 involved specialty building contractors (SIC 1711-1799). The majority of the 43 fatalities occurred in SIC 1611. Six of the 43 fatalities were the result of workers being struck by excavator buckets or similar equipment.

Waste management activities have resulted in 10 fatalities during the past two years. Seven of those fatalities were the result of being struck by vehicles, many of which were the waste collection vehicle. The remaining three fatalities occurred when workers fell from the platform on which they were riding during movement of the garbage truck.

Strategies

The Construction Industry

All offices will be trained in the application of the current edition of the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). A bi-fold approach will be used to reduce and deter similar fatalities in the coming year. The two approaches are the development of compliance assistance tools and the enforcement of the MUTCD requirements during inspections.



Waste Management

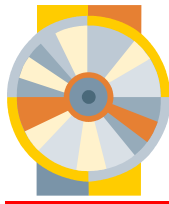
Garbage collection isn't a glorified job, but a necessary one in our society. When you hear the term "waste management", do you mentally picture tidy bundles of trash waiting to be picked up on the street curb? To the workers, it's a whole different picture.

The term "waste management" doesn't begin to reflect the hazards faced by workers in this industry on a daily basis. These workers are exposed to a variety of serious hazards including falling from riding platforms, being struck by oncoming vehicles, or being struck by the garbage collection vehicle itself.

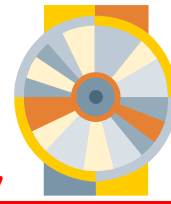
Six workers lost their lives during FY 2002 due to these hazards. Three of the six workers killed fell from garbage trucks; two were struck by passing vehicles and one was struck by the garbage truck while it was backing. In 2003 three more workers died when struck by garbage trucks and another killed during maintenance of the truck (the hydraulic system was not locked out and the worker was crushed).

Industry employers and associations will be contacted in an effort to work collaboratively through a region wide alliance to develop and implement outreach and training tools for workers.



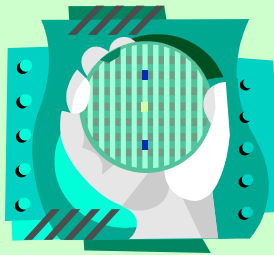


NEW OUTREACH CD COMING SOON!



A new outreach CD is being developed that focuses on the hazards of working with various material handling equipment (powered industrial trucks, etc.) and personnel lifts (aerial baskets, scissor lifts, etc.). Because of their widespread use and the number of fatalities that have occurred while using these types of equipment, this CD will make available applicable standards, photographs of hazards and recommended corrected actions.

Regulatory News



Glycol Ethers

The agency recently announced the withdrawal of glycol ethers. A decline in both the production and use of ethylene glycol ethers and their acetates prompted the agency to terminate proposed rulemaking. OSHA proposed the rule in 1993 which would have required reduced permissible exposure limits for two ethylene glycol ethers (2-Methoxyethanol {2-ME} and 2-Ethoxyethanol {2-EE}, and their acetates {2-MEA, 2-EEA}). These substances have been commonly used in the automobile refinishing industry, as well as in construction paints, surface coatings, printing inks, and the semiconductor industry. At the time of the proposal, OSHA estimated that 46,000 workers were potentially exposed to the ethers and the associated risk of adverse reproductive and developmental health effects. The agency reopened the record in August 2002 seeking comment on how the substances were being used in the workplace, including their level of production, and the industries and processes in which they were used. It was determined that a major decline in the production of the substances was apparent and that their use in several key industry sectors was eliminated or in the process of being phased out. Additionally, it was shown that limited production of the substances were in “closed systems”, where employees not only have little opportunity for exposure, but those exposures more than 10 years ago were already at or below the permissible exposure limit in the proposal



Tuberculosis (TB)

OSHA recently withdrew its 1997 proposal on occupational exposure to tuberculosis, citing that it is extending the same high level of respiratory protection to workers that is provided to workers throughout general industry – i.e., workers potentially exposed to tuberculosis will be required to wear protection required in the current general industry respirator standards.

Tuberculosis cases have declined 40% since 1993, due largely in part to the guidelines issued by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

OSHA published a proposed standard in 1997 to control occupational exposure to TB. Estimates at the time indicated that 5.3 million workers were potentially exposed to TB in more than 100,000 hospitals, nursing homes, hospices, correctional facilities, homeless shelters and other work settings. Since the proposal, however, a number of factors have emerged that alleviate the necessity of developing a TB specific regulation.

OSHA has determined that the risk is lower than originally thought because of implementation of TB controls and compliance with CDC's guidelines.

With the withdrawal of the TB proposal, application of the general industry respiratory protection standard will go into effect for those potentially/exposed to the disease. This requires affected employers to update the facility's respirator program, complying with amended medical evaluation requirements, annual fit testing of respirators, and some training and recordkeeping provisions.

***Safety and Health Add Value:
To Your Business
To Your Workplace
To Your Life***

Equipment Hazard Alert

The Underwriters Laboratories, Inc (UL), is notifying consumers, electricians, contractors and manufacturers that a Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter (GFCI) currently being marketed does not meet current UL requirements and may pose a fire or electric shock hazard to users. UL is encouraging users to stop using the GFCI immediately and return it to the place of purchase.

- ❖ **Product Name:** Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter – GFCI; Rating 15 or 20 Amps, 125 Volts
- ❖ **Manufacturer:** Shanghai Meihao Electric, Inc. of Shanghai China; also sold under the name of The Designers Edge, Preferred Industries and USI Electric, Inc.
- ❖ **Date of Manufacture:** January 2003 to present
- ❖ **Hazard:** The GFCI may not trip when a ground fault is present, resulting in a risk of electric shock. The GFCI may pose a fire hazard when subjected to a voltage surge commonly associated with a lightning strike. For more information, contact UL <http://www.ul.com/>.

OSHA STRATEGIC PLAN

After one year into its five year strategic plan, OSHA continues to focus its resources on serious hazards and dangerous workplaces. The plan includes strategies that emphasizes strong, fair and effective enforcement; an expansion of partnerships and voluntary programs and outreach, education and compliance assistance. Reducing fatalities in construction and general industry is a major performance goal, with a total reduction goal of 15% by 2008. Another performance goal is the reduction of injury and illness rates by 20% by the same time frame. To that end, the agency has identified target areas for both direct intervention activities (enforcement), compliance assistance activities, cooperative programs (partnerships and alliances) and strong leadership. The following chart indicates the various targeted areas of these focuses:

Area of Emphasis	Reduction Goal
Total Reduction in Injury and Illness	4%
Construction	4%
General Industry	4%
High Incident/High Severity industries	
Landscaping/Horticultural Services	4%
Oil and Gas Field Services	4%
Preserve Fruits and Vegetables	4%
Concrete and Concrete Products	4%
Blast Furnace and Basic Steel Products	4%
Ship and Boat Building and Repair	4%
Public Warehousing and Storage	4%
Amputations in Mfg. & Construction	3%
Ergonomics	4%
Blood Lead Levels	5%
Silica Related Disease	N/A

Region IV Alliance Update

See more about Alliances on OSHA's website:

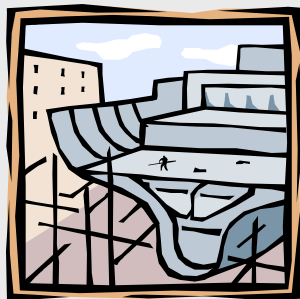
http://omds.osha.gov/dcsp/LAP/dcsp/compliance_assistance/index.html

OSHA and Florida Community College Alliance



In the front row seated are James Borders, Area Director; and Dr. Carol S. Spalding, Campus President. Standing from left to right are Dr. Bruce H. Brunson, Executive Director of Military Education and Corporate College; Susan Huggins, Project Coordinator Workforce Development; Alton Scott Program Facilitator Institute of Occupational Health & Safety; Herbert Babin, Program Manager Military Education Institute Navy Homeport Training; and Joseph Roesler, Compliance Assistance Specialist.

The Florida Community College and OSHA signed an Alliance January 9, 2004, to provide the Florida Community College students and business partnerships with information, guidance, and access to training resources that will help them protect employee's health and safety, particularly in reducing and preventing exposure to prevalent workplace hazards in the shipbuilding and repair, landscaping and horticultural services industries.



OSHA and Sunshine Safety Council Alliance



Seated left to right: Mr. Luis Santiago, Area Director - Ft. Lauderdale Area Office; Mr. Monty Mountcastle, CEO - Sunshine Safety Council and Mr. Joseph Roesler, Compliance Assistant Specialist - Jacksonville Area Office

OSHA and members of the Sunshine Safety Council, based in Daytona Beach, FL signed an Alliance on December 11 to work together to reduce work-zone traffic accidents. Twelve workers died as a result of “struck by” injuries during fiscal year 2002 (October 1, 2001 to September 30, 2002), making these types of fatalities the third most prevalent in the state. The Alliance will share information, guidance and training resources in an effort to reduce fatalities of this type.



OSHA and the Florida East Coast Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. (ABC) Alliance

On January 19, 2004 the Florida East Coast Chapter of ABC and OSHA signed an Alliance focused on reduction of injuries, illnesses and fatalities in the construction industry. Construction activity remains one of the focuses of OSHA’s strategic plan due to the high number of injuries and fatalities. Members of this chapter of ABC will benefit from safety and health training and information that will be supported by OSHA staff in the Ft. Lauderdale and Tampa Area Offices.

Compliance Assistance At Work
Coastal Empire Federal Safety and Health Council Formed



Bill Grimes, Assistant Regional Administrator for Cooperative Programs, OSHA, Region IV speaks to newly recruited Federal Safety and Health Council members. Federal Safety and Health Councils work to provide information, training and outreach to federal sector employers. Associate memberships are available to members of the private sector. For more information concerning Federal Safety and Health Councils contact your local area OSHA Office or Tony Reyes, Atlanta Regional Office 404-562-2257



The elected officers are Brenda Sherrod, US Army, Secretary ; Kathie Morgan, Dept. of Homeland Security, Vice-chairperson and Michael Olin, US Army, Chairperson.

Homebuilders Trained in Florida



Vergie Bain, Compliance Assistance Specialist, Ft. Lauderdale Area OSHA Office provides training to area homebuilders at the Palm Beach County Safety Council.

On the Horizon

Alabama

Central Gulf Coast Safety and Health Seminar and Exposition – EXPO 2004

March 15 – 16, 2004
Mobile Convention Center
One South Water Street
Mobile, AL

For more information see:
www.safety-expo.com

Annual Alabama Construction Safety Conference

February 3, 2004
Pelham Civic Center Complex
Pelham, AL

For more information contact:
Johnny Ward
Alabama Chapter National Safety Council
205-328-7233
2168 Greensprings Highway
Birmingham, AL 35205

16th Annual Alabama Governor's Safety and Health Conference

August 29 – 31, 2004
Perdido Beach Resort
Orange Beach, AL

For more information concerning registration or becoming an exhibitor contact:
ddaniels@ccs.ua.edu Phone: 205-348-4585

Georgia

Construction Safety Training in Spanish

February 13, 2004
Latin American Association
Free of Charge – Lunch Provided
Limited Space
For more information contact: 404-638-1800

Georgia Tech

2004 Schedule of Training Available at www.oshainfo.gatech.edu

Green Industry Safety and Job Fair

March 27, 2004
Calvary Christian Fellowship
3116 Main Street
Duluth, GA 30096

Free of Charge

For more information contact:
770-623-4285

Small Business Development Center OSHA Seminar

Augusta, GA

For more information visit: www.sbdc.uga.edu

Georgia Branch Associated General Contractors

“Super Friday”

March 27, 2004
Macon, GA

For more information visit: www.agcga.org
678-298-4104
1-800-203-4629

Florida

The National Marina & Boatyard Conference

February 4 – 7, 2004
Broward County Convention Center
Ft. Lauderdale, FL
For more information contact: Mari Lou Livingood
202-721-1630

OTI 502 - Update for Construction Industry Outreach Trainers

April 20 – 22, 2004
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

OTI Update 503 – Update for General Industry Outreach Trainers

March 23 – 25, 2004
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

OTI 511 – Occupational Safety and Health Standards for General Industry

March 8 – 12, 2004

Ft. Lauderdale, FL

For more information on OTI Courses
contact Georgia Tech or visit www.oshainfo.gatech.edu

Hispanic Family Safety and Health Fair

March 27, 2004

Milander Park

Hialeah, FL

For more registration or exhibitor information contact:

Charlene Vespi

USF Safety Florida

813-927-5347

cvespi4090@aol.com

Kentucky

2004 Kentucky Governor's Safety and Health Conference and Trade Show

May 5 – 7, 2004

Galt House East Hotel & Convention Center

Louisville, KY

For more information contact: Ron McGill

502-227-7024

mcgill.ron@dol.gov

Two New Online Compliance Assistance Tools Now Available

*Two new online compliance assistance tools are now available to the public – **Quick Start** and **MyOSHA**. **Quick Start** is a step-by-step guide to help users identify major OSHA requirements and guidance materials, and **MyOSHA** is a tool to create a personalized web page of links to OSHA online resources. **Quick Start** is a new tool designed to help businesses get started learning about OSHA's standards and compliance assistance resources. The tool provides step by step guidance on how to identify OSHA requirements and guidance materials that may apply to specific workplaces. Visitors to OSHA's homepage can visit the new MyOSHA web personalization feature and sign up to create a personalized web page of links to OSHA online resources. Users can customize the content of their personalized pages by choosing links to categories that include Industry, Safety & Health Topics, What's New, etc.*

*Both **Quick Start** and **MyOSHA** are featured in the "In Focus" box on the OSHA Homepage.*

National Work Zone Awareness Week

April 4 – 10, 2004

***Website links: National Work Zone Information Clearing House
<http://wzsafety.tamu.edu>
Federal Highway Administration “Making Work Zones Work Better”
<http://ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/index/asp>***

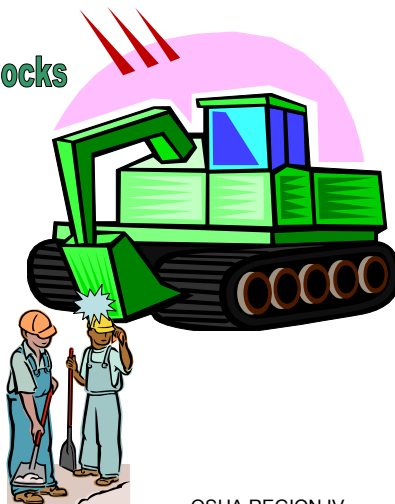


**Curb Your Need to Speed!
Workers are People Too!**



OSHA REGION IV
ATLANTA, GA

**The School of Hard Knocks
Can Be Deadly!
Watch Out for
Equipment
Movement!**



OSHA REGION IV
ATLANTA, GA

Contents and Graphics Created by: Lana Graves, Regional Compliance Assistance Liaison