

FALL PROTECTION - IT'S A SNAP! ELECTROCUTIONS - DON'T GET ZAPPED!

Region VII

Vol. 1, Issue 5

PROGRESS - by Marcia Drumm

Region 7 is in its third year of the "Falls - It's a Snap!" Program and its second year of Electro-
cutions - Don't Get Zapped!" Initiative. How are we doing? See for yourself in the chart below:

		CY 1998	CY 1999	CY 2000 to present (4/6/00)
Falls	Baseline (CY95/96/97) 13 / 8 / 14	11	9	2
OHPL Electro- cutions	Baseline (CY96/97/98) 4 / 5 / 5	---	4	3

The first fall fatality of the year occurred when an employee fell approximately 14 feet from the first floor to the basement through an open stairwell. The second fatality occurred when an employee fell 10 feet while rigging a bridge crane car; he had stepped from a manlift onto the bridge crane car during the rigging process. The electrocution that we have had this year occurred when an employee engaged in replacing a power line was tying a new line into an insulator.

The first electrocution of the year occurred when an employee engaged in replacing a power line was tying a new line into an insulator. The second accident involved a double fatality and occurred when 2 employees were in the process of placing a signal light pole next to the street when the pole arm got caught in the 3 phase power lines; they were lifting the pole with a small crane during windy conditions.

If the year continues with its current rate of fatalities, we will have 8 fatalities from falls (a modest reduction) and 6 fatalities from electro-

cutions due to contact with overhead lines (an increase). *We'd like to do better than this— train now!*

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE CY 2000 PROGRAMS FOR FALLS AND OVERHEAD POWER LINES

- by Marcia Drumm

Extensive outreach is scheduled this year for May to raise awareness of hazards associated with electrocutions from overhead power lines and July for fall hazards. Training materials for both employers and employees are located at (**Falls Employer Kit:**

<http://www.osha-slc.gov/Region7/fallprotection/> and

Overhead Power Lines Employer Kit:

<http://www.osha-slc.gov/Region7/overheadpowerlines/>). A limited number of hard copies of these materials are available at the Area Offices listed at the end of this newsletter. Additionally, posters, laminated employee cards, pocket guides and Compact Discs are available at your local OSHA Area Office. The employee laminated card on electrocutions and the pocket guide for falls are also available in Spanish.

August and October are targeted to determine whether employers have voluntarily complied with OSHA standards related to these hazards. Compliance Officers will be looking for fall and electrocution from overhead power line hazards, and if they determine the site is in compliance with relevant standards, the inspection will be concluded, unless other serious hazards in plain view are observed. If any serious hazards are observed, a focused inspection will be conducted.

Nothing would make us happier than to find 100% of employers in compliance with fall and electrical standards. In fact, a goal of these programs is to increase our compliance rates, particularly during the targeted months which have historically been "high fatality months" for falls and electrocutions

from contact with overhead power lines. Please contact us if we can be of any assistance.

FALLS AND OVERHEAD POWER LINES CD-ROM - by Doug Schneider

The Falls and Overhead Power Lines (OHPL) Region VII task force is at it again. Since the program's inception, the overall fatality rate for Falls in Missouri, Kansas, and Nebraska has been on the decline. This decline may be attributed to better training on the part of the employer and more self-awareness on the part of the employee.

Incidents involving falls, both fatalities and injuries, have been highly publicized through newsletters, Disaster Facts, and outreach sessions conducted by each office. In 1999, a Falls/OHPL training CD-ROM was developed and distributed throughout the Region VII area. This CD-ROM contains information on fall and overhead power line hazards and references standards applicable to the hazard in the picture. This year, a new CD-ROM has been developed. The new CD-ROM will pertain only to overhead power lines.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of either CD-ROM, please contact your local Area Office. Any other information or questions can be handled through your local Area Office.

THE MISSOURI OVERHEAD POWER LINE SAFETY ACT - by Brian Drake

In the State of Missouri it's the law to stay back ten feet (10') from overhead power lines rated at 600 volts or more, unless otherwise guarded. Statute 319.080 "...no person, individually or through an agent or an employee, shall store, operate, erect maintain, move or transport any tools, machinery, equipment, supplies, or materials or any other device that conducts electricity, within ten feet of any high voltage overhead line, or perform or require any other person to perform any function or activity upon any land,

building, highway or other premises, if at any time during the performance thereof it could reasonably be expected that the person performing the function or activity could move or be placed within ten feet of any high voltage overhead line." Violation of this law is a class B misdemeanor. The controlling power company should be contacted to arrange for appropriate guarding prior to start of work.

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY COUNCIL - by Doug Schneider

The Construction Safety Council is located in Illinois. This not-for-profit organization is dedicated to eliminating accidents in the construction industry and is an excellent resource for educational and training material that takes the unique nature of the construction industry into account.

A catalog identifying the products, services, training classes, and other safety-related items can be obtained by calling the Construction Safety Council at (800) 552-7744.

The Construction Safety Council also has a web site which offers printable hazard alerts, links to safety websites, a Bilingual Safety Training Resource Center, and other information. This site can be reached at <http://www.buildsafe.org>.

Please check into what this organization has to offer. We think you will be impressed with the quality of their material and the assistance they will provide to you.

NEBRASKA'S FATALITY ASSESSMENT CONTROL EVALUATION (FACE) PROGRAM - by Peggy Taylor

The Nebraska FACE Program, which is funded through a cooperative agreement between the Nebraska Department of Labor and the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), focuses on identifying factors that increase the risk of work-related fatal injuries.

The FACE Facts Newsletters contain summaries of the events leading to an employee's death and include recommendations on how to prevent similar fatalities from occurring. FACE Facts, on a variety of topics, are available from a drop-down list located at the bottom of their [web page](http://www.dol.state.ne.us/safety/face.htm) : <http://www.dol.state.ne.us/safety/face.htm>.

For more information about the Nebraska FACE Program or the FACE Facts Newsletters, contact William Hetzler, Program Manager, at (402) 595-2960 or (800) 627-3611. Mr. Hetzler's mailing address is: Nebraska Department of Labor - FACE Program, 1313 Farnam, Third Floor, Omaha, NE 68102-1898.

POWER LINE HAZARD AWARENESS VIDEO - by Peggy Taylor

The Construction Safety Council has developed a video entitled "Power Line Hazard Awareness" to aid in keeping you alive while working near power lines.

Electrocutions are the leading cause of death in the construction industry. Among electrocutions, power line contacts are the number one killer! Over 90 percent of contacts involve overhead power lines, and most contacts are made by cranes.

Material handling at the construction site is the second largest cause of power line contact.

The video describes the types of equipment and materials that have the potential to come into contact with overhead power lines and what can be done by employers and employees to eliminate the hazard. Information is provided on what to do if your crane or other equipment comes into contact with power lines. You're also instructed not to store materials in areas under power lines and to always use non-conductive materials when working around power lines.

If you're aren't sure about the power line you are working around, ask your supervisor. The supervisor must meet with the power company representative to verify that the power lines are dead and to provide the power company representative the opportunity to communicate any restrictions.

This 17:36 minute video is available for check-out from any of the offices listed in this newsletter.

You can also contact the Construction Safety Council at (800) 552-7744 or visit their website at <http://www.buildsafe.org>.

REGION VII OFFICES

KANSAS

271 W. 3rd Street North, Room 400
Wichita, KS 67202
(316) 269-6644; fax: (316) 269-6185
Toll-free: 1-(800) 362-2896 (Kansas only)

MISSOURI (WESTERN)

6200 Connecticut Avenue, Suite 100
Kansas City, MO 64120
(816) 483-9531; fax: (816) 483-5167
Toll-free: 1-(800) 892-2674 (Missouri only)

MISSOURI (EASTERN)

911 Washington Avenue, Room 420
St. Louis, MO 63101
(314) 425-4249; fax: (314) 425-4289
Toll-free: 1-(800) 392-7743 (Missouri only)

NEBRASKA

Overland - Wolf Building, Room 100
6910 Pacific Street
Omaha, NE 68106
(402) 221-3182; fax: (402) 221-3188
Toll-free: 1-(800) 642-8963 (Nebraska only)

REGIONAL OFFICE

1100 Main Street, Suite 800
Kansas City, MO 64105
(816) 426-5861; fax: (816) 426-2750

GET ON THE E-MAIL LIST!

This newsletter is published in the OSHA Regional Office at 1100 Main Street, Suite 800, Kansas City, MO 64105, (816) 426-5861.

If you would like to receive previously published copies of newsletters or Disaster Facts, please contact Peggy Taylor. Please let her know if your mailing address or e-mail address changes so that you can continue to receive our publications.

If you would like to receive this newsletter and the Disaster Facts via e-mail, contact Peggy Taylor at taylor-peggy@dol.gov.

If you do not have access to E-mail or would prefer to receive these documents as a paper copy, please return the following:

OSHA Region 7 Falls/OHPL Newsletter & Disaster Facts Mailing List
Name: _____ Company: _____ _____
Address: _____ _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____ _____
Telephone No.: _____
Fax: _____
E-Mail Address: _____
Return to: USDOL - OSHA Attn: Peggy Taylor 1100 Main Street, Suite 800 Kansas City, MO 64105 Phone: (816) 426-5861 Fax: (816) 426-2750