

**NACOSH**  
**June 20, 2012**

# **OSHA Update**

**David Michaels, PhD, MPH**  
**Assistant Secretary of Labor**  
**for Occupational Safety and Health**



# **New NACOSH Members**

- **Dr. Jacqueline Agnew**  
**Health Representative**
- **Mark Carleson**  
**Public Representative**
- **Anne Soiza**  
**Public Representative**



# Reappointed NACOSH Members

- **Dr. Linda Rae Murray**  
**Chair and Public Representative**
- **Dr. Joseph Van Houten**  
**Management Representative**
- **William Borwegen**  
**Labor Representative**
- **Margaret “Peg” Seminario**  
**Labor Representative**
- **Peter Dooley**  
**Safety Representative**



# Current NACOSH Members

- **Dr. William Bunn**  
Health Representative
- **James Johnson**  
Management Representative
- **Rixio Medina**  
Safety Representative
- **Dr. Lida Orta-Anès**  
Public Representative



# Honoring Tony Mazzocchi



- Few have had a greater impact on the safety and health of American workers
- Labor leader in NYC, eventually became Legislative Director and then Vice-President of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union (now part of the United Steelworkers)
- Recognized dangers of repeated exposure to toxic chemicals
- His tireless advocacy played a major role in convincing Congress to pass the OSH Act of 1970



**Cindy Coe, CIH**

OSHA Region IV  
Administrator



American Industrial  
Hygiene Association

**2012**  
**Alice Hamilton**  
**Award**

Honors an outstanding woman  
who has made significant  
achievements in occupational  
and environmental hygiene





**American Conference of  
Governmental Industrial  
Hygienists**

**2012**

# **William Steiger Memorial Award**

**Honors those who have  
contributed to advancements  
in occupational safety  
and health**



**Richard Fairfax, CIH**

**OSHA Deputy Assistant  
Secretary**

Saturday  
Gazette-Mail

## Fallen workers are remembered at Capitol



CHARLESTON environment and labor laws were called for by policymakers from the state AFL-CIO. "Workers are not just numbers but the companies that employ them," said I state AFL-CIO.

JOURNAL & COURIER

## Workers Memorial Day rem for local workplace fatalities



Jill Rhodes and her daughter, Elizabeth, 2, participate Friday in a candlelight vigil during the Workers Memorial Day gathering at Rhetie Plaza in Lafayette. Photo: Chronicle - 2011's Associated and Elizabeth's father, 2011

The message presented at the Memorial Day ceremony held evening in Lafayette hit very hard for a few of the people who attended.

"Nobody goes to work to die. When it happens, the family is pretty devastated," said Charlie Cox, AFL-CIO Community Liaison and organizer of the event. "The ceremony attracted more than 50 people to Rhetie Plaza for speeches, music and a candlelight vigil. 'Every worker has the right to go to work and be safe on the job.'"

Cox cited a report from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics that show 4,547 workers were killed by traumatic injuries in America's workplaces in 2010 and an estimated 50,000 to 60,000 died from occupational diseases.

# Workers' Memorial Day April 28, 2012

globegazette.com

## Workers killed on job recognized

By PEGGY SENZARNO, peggy.senzarno@globegazette.com | Posted: Saturday, April 28, 2012 7:01 pm | 0 Comments

Recommend One person recommends this.



Jake Rajewski/The Globe Gazette  
Charlie Wishman, secretary-treasurer of Iowa Federation of Labor, speaks Saturday at the North Iowa Nine Labor Council AFL-CIO's memorial ceremony for those injured or killed on the job Saturday at the VFW Post No. 733 in Mason City.

MASON CITY — Community members, and local city and labor officials gathered at the VFW Post 733 in Mason City Saturday to recognize Workers Memorial Day remembering those who have been killed and injured while working in North Iowa.

Three North Iowans were killed on the job in 2011:

- Dennis Joseph Knecht, 60, died Sept. 17, 2011, at Charles City, in a farm construction accident.
- U.S. Navy SEAL and Rockford native Jon Tumilson was killed in Afghanistan on Aug. 6, 2011 when his helicopter was shot down en route to a combat mission.
- Self-employed contractor Robert C. Wilman, 30, Mason City, died Nov. 7, 2011, in Franklin County following a motor vehicle accident on his way home from work.

Last year, 4,500 workers nationwide including 55 workers in Iowa lost their lives on the job. Another





# OSHA's Continuing Mission

- **More than 4,000 Americans die from workplace injuries every year.**
- **Perhaps as many as 50,000 workers die from illnesses in which workplace exposures were a contributing factor.**
- **More than 3 million cases of non-fatal workplace injuries and illnesses annually.**
- **The annual cost of occupational injuries and illnesses totals more than \$170 billion.**

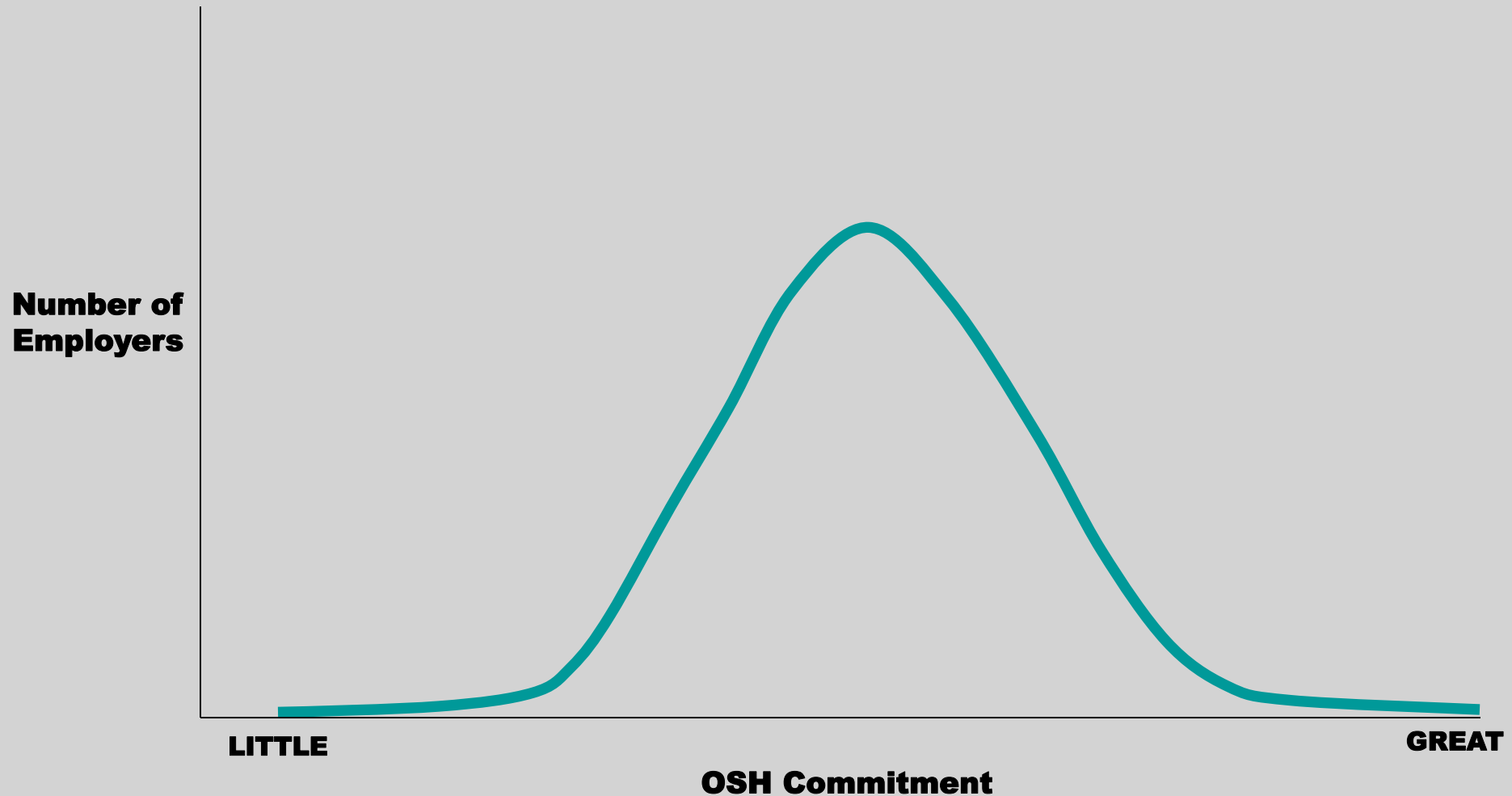


# Leveling the Playing Field

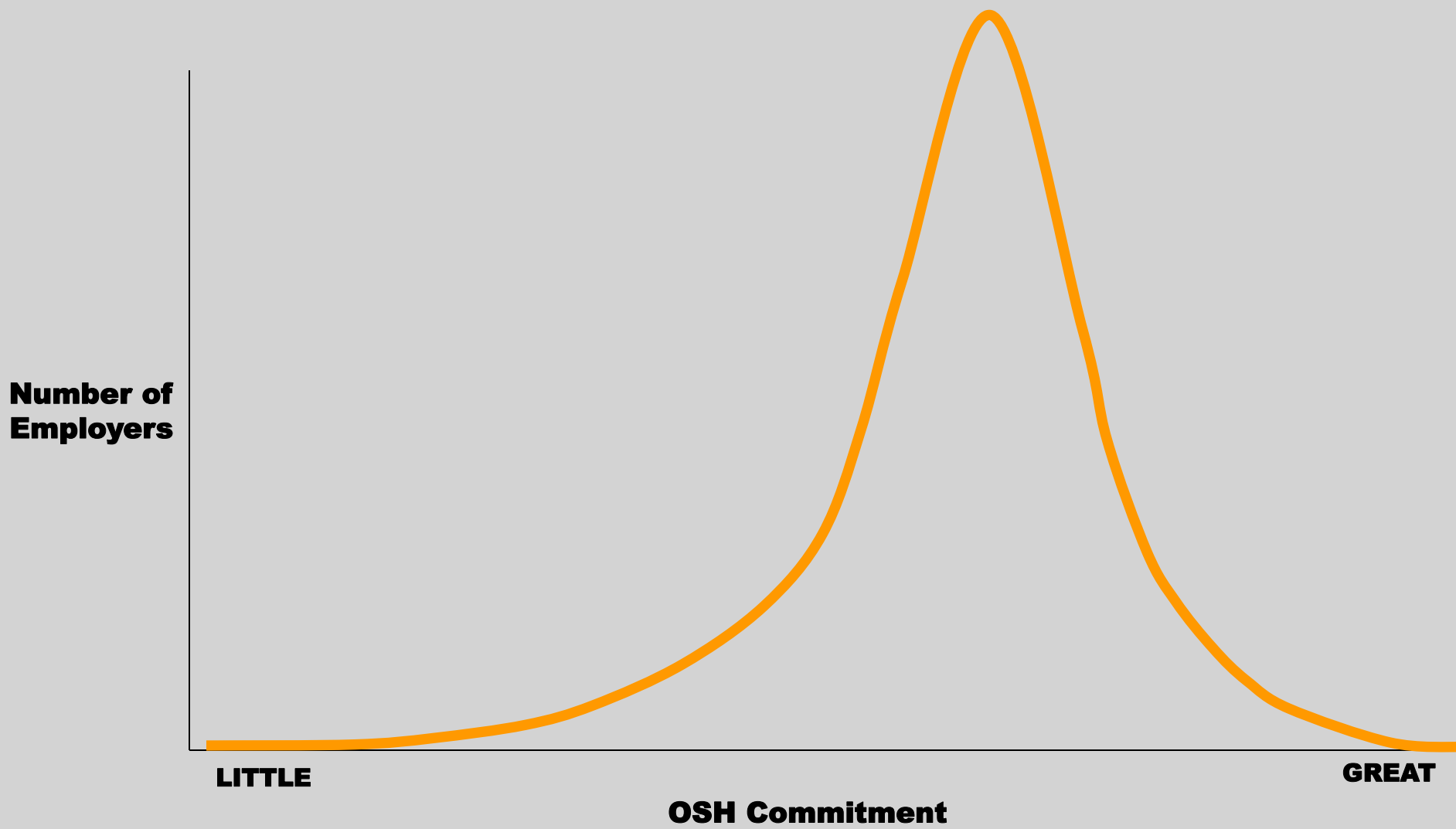
**OSHA levels the playing field for responsible employers competing with those who are trying to cut corners and costs on worker safety.**



# Distribution of Employers, by Commitment to Workplace Safety



# Distribution of Employers, by Commitment to Workplace Safety



# Deterrence Theory

- **OSHA has a range of tools and deterrence strategies, appropriate for different employers and different situations.**
- **Given (very) limited resources, OSHA's challenge is to apply the most efficient mix in order to maximize the abatement of hazards, and therefore the prevention on injuries, illnesses and fatalities.**

# **OSHA Standards 2002 - Present**

**2002**

- **Exit Routes, Emergency Action Plans, and Fire Prevention Plans**

**2004**

- **Commercial Diving Operations**
- **Fire Protection in Shipyards**

**2006**

- **Occupational Exposure to Hexavalent Chromium**
- **Assigned Protection Factors for Respiratory Protection Equipment**

**2007**

- **Electrical Installation Standard**
- **Personal Protective Equipment Payment**

**2008**

- **Vertical Tandem Lifts**

**2010**

- **Cranes and Derricks in Construction**

**2011**

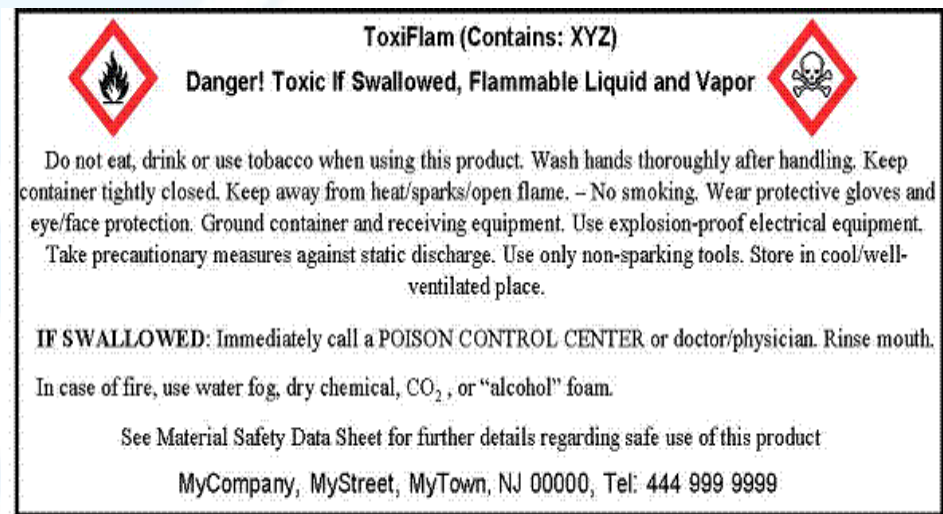
- **General Working Conditions in Shipyard Employment**

**2012**

- **Global Harmonized System**












# Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS)



- **Biggest visible impact: Look of and information required for labels**
- **Signal Words, Pictograms**
- **Precautionary Statements**
- **Appropriate Hazard Warnings**

# GHS Pictograms

<p><b>Health Hazard</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Carcinogen</li><li>▪ Mutagenicity</li><li>▪ Reproductive Toxicity</li><li>▪ Respiratory Sensitizer</li><li>▪ Target Organ Toxicity</li><li>▪ Aspiration Toxicity</li></ul>	<p><b>Flame</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Flammables</li><li>▪ Pyrophorics</li><li>▪ Self-Heating</li><li>▪ Emits Flammable Gas</li><li>▪ Self-Reactives</li><li>▪ Organic Peroxides</li></ul>	<p><b>Exclamation Mark</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Irritant (skin and eye)</li><li>▪ Skin Sensitizer</li><li>▪ Acute Toxicity</li><li>▪ Narcotic Effects</li><li>▪ Respiratory Tract Irritant</li><li>▪ Hazardous to Ozone Layer (Non-Mandatory)</li></ul>
<p><b>Gas Cylinder</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Gases Under Pressure</li></ul>	<p><b>Corrosion</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Skin Corrosion/Burns</li><li>▪ Eye Damage</li><li>▪ Corrosive to Metals</li></ul>	<p><b>Exploding Bomb</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Explosives</li><li>▪ Self-Reactives</li><li>▪ Organic Peroxides</li></ul>
<p><b>Flame Over Circle</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Oxidizers</li></ul>	<p><b>Environment (Non-Mandatory)</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Aquatic Toxicity</li></ul>	<p><b>Skull and Crossbones</b></p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Acute Toxicity (fatal or toxic)</li></ul>



# OSHA's Permissible Exposure Limits

- Majority adopted in 1971, not updated since.
- Widespread agreement about need for updates.
- OSHA held stakeholder meeting and web forum.
- Now developing an RFI for effective ways to address workplace exposure to chemicals (expected late Summer/early Fall)
- New: Developing annotated PELs tables, a reference for identifying protective occupational exposure limits for chemicals.



# Permissible Exposure Limits

## Annotated PELS Tables

- **Presents other occupational exposure limits**
  - NIOSH
  - CalOSHA
  - ACGIH
- **Will be on OSHA's website**

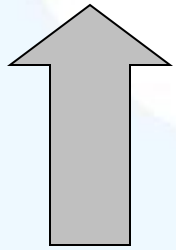




# OSHA Compliance Assistance



- ✓ **200 million** visitors to OSHA's website in FY 2011.
- ✓ **200,000** responses to OSHA 1-800 calls for help.
- ✓ **33,000** e-mail requests for assistance answered.
- ✓ **5,300** outreach activities by Regional & Area Offices.
- ✓ **27,000** small businesses helped through Consultation.



**\$3.2 million  
increase**

**over FY 2011  
budget for  
the On-site  
Consultation  
Program**

**DOL  
Budget**



**2012**



# Injury and Illness Prevention Programs

Good for Workers. Good for Businesses. Good for America.

Related OSHA Documents

Effective Programs

Program Resources

State Programs

"The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that approximately 3.3 million serious work-related injuries and about 4,300 fatalities occurred in 2009. The human cost of preventable workplace injuries and deaths is incalculable. However, according to the 2010 Liberty Mutual Workplace Safety Index, the direct cost of the most disabling workplace injuries and illnesses in 2008 amounted to \$53.42 billion in U.S. workers compensation costs, more than one billion dollars per week. This money would be better spent on job creation and innovation. Injury and illness prevention programs are good for workers, good for business and good for America." - Dr. David Michaels Assistant Secretary of Labor

Injury and Illness Prevention Programs, known by a variety of names, are universal interventions that can substantially reduce the number and severity of workplace injuries and alleviate the associated financial burdens on U.S. workplaces. Many states have requirements or voluntary guidelines for workplace injury and illness prevention programs. Also, numerous employers in the United States already manage safety using Injury and Illness Prevention Programs and we believe that all employers can and should do the same. Most successful injury and illness prevention programs are based on a common set of key elements. These include: management leadership, worker participation, hazard identification, hazard prevention and control, education and training, and program evaluation and improvement. This topics page provides information relevant to Injury and Illness Prevention Programs in the workplace.

The Buzz

Jim Thornton of Northrup-Grumman Discusses OSHA's Injury and Prevention Program

Video

1 2

I worked construction for 10 years  
before my fall. It shattered my body  
and my livelihood.

Work safely. Use the right equipment.

# Fall Prevention Campaign

- Each year over 750 construction workers die on the job in the U.S.
- Falls are leading cause of deaths in construction — about 1/3 of all construction fatalities
- Of the 255 deaths from falls in construction in the US in 2011, 90 were from roofs, 68 from ladders and 37 from scaffolds



Safety Pays. Falls Cost.

**FALLS FROM LADDERS, SCAFFOLDS AND ROOFS CAN BE PREVENTED!**



U.S. Department of Labor

**PLAN** ahead to get the job done safely.  
**PROVIDE** the right equipment.  
**TRAIN** everyone to use the equipment safely.  
[www.osha.gov/stopfalls/](http://www.osha.gov/stopfalls/)

1-800-325-OSHA (6742) • TTY 1-877-889-8027

**OSHA**

Occupational  
Safety and Health  
Administration

[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)



**CDC**

**NOSH**

1405H 2012-04 / OSHA 3031-04 2012

**OSHA**



## PLAN. PROVIDE. TRAIN.

*Three simple steps to preventing falls.*

[Home](#)

[Educational Materials and Resources](#)

[Media Resources](#)



### Welcome to OSHA's Fall Prevention Campaign

**FALLS ARE THE LEADING CAUSE OF DEATH IN CONSTRUCTION.** In 2010, there

#### Highlights

##### en Español

- [Poster](#). Also available as a 1 MB [PDF](#)
- [Fact Sheet](#). Also available as a 1 MB [PDF](#)

##### Prevention Videos (v-Tools)

- Falls in Construction
  - [Floor Openings](#)
  - [Fixed Scaffolds](#)
  - [Bridge Decking](#)
  - [Reroofing](#)
  - [Leading Edge Work](#)
  - [Solar Industry](#). California Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE)

##### Campaign Partners

- [National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health \(NIOSH\)](#)
- [The National Occupational Research Agenda \(NORA\)](#)

#### PLAN

*ahead to get the job done safely.*

#### PROVIDE

*the right equipment.*

# Measuring Enforcement Effectiveness







18 May 2012

# Randomized Government Safety Inspections Reduce Worker Injuries with No Detectable Job Loss

David L. Levine,<sup>1</sup> Michael W. Toffel,<sup>2\*</sup> Matthew S. Johnson<sup>3</sup>

Controversy surrounds occupational health and safety regulators, with some observers claiming that workplace regulations damage firms' competitiveness and destroy jobs and others arguing that they make workplaces safer at little cost to employers and employees. We analyzed a natural field experiment to examine how workplace safety inspections affected injury rates and other outcomes. We compared 409 randomly inspected establishments in California with 409 matched-control establishments that were eligible, but not chosen, for inspection. Compared with controls, randomly inspected employers experienced a 9.4% decline in injury rates (95% confidence interval =  $-0.177$  to  $-0.021$ ) and a 26% reduction in injury cost (95% confidence interval =  $-0.513$  to  $-0.083$ ). We find no evidence that these improvements came at the expense of employment, sales, credit ratings, or firm survival.



# Random OSHA inspections...

## Prevent injuries

- 9.4% decline in injury rates

## AND Reduce workers' compensation costs

- 26% reduction in injury cost
- ✓ Saved about \$355,000 (or ~14% of the average annual payroll of this sample of employers)

# ....and do not destroy jobs

No effect on employers'

- ✓ Employment
- ✓ Total earnings
- ✓ Sales
- ✓ Credit worthiness

[AIHA Home](#) > [Stay Connected](#) > [The Synergist](#) > [Synergist Blog](#) > [Posts](#) > [Links of Interest: Study Finds that Safety Inspections Reduce Injuries, Not Profits](#)

5/21/2012

[Links of Interest: Study Finds that Safety Inspections Reduce Injuries, Not Profits](#)

*A grab-bag of links from OEHS in the news...*



<http://www.aiha.org/news-pubs/synergist/synergistblog/Lists/Posts/Post.aspx?ID=92>

**Chicago Tribune**

## **Drowned in corn: Grain bin deaths hit record**

**Feds step up inspections after accident that killed 2 Illinois teens**

March 08, 2011 | By Judith Graham, Tribune

The three young workers sank into corn that pulled them down like a giant hand toward the bottom of the giant grain bin.

Wyatt Whitebread, 14, started seeing the kernels moved past his chest and over his head within a matter of minutes.

"We're going to die," moaned Alex Pacas, 19, who had jumped into the sinkhole to try to pull Whitebread out.



**Wyatt Whitebread  
14 years old**



**Alex Pacas  
19 years old**



## U.S. Grain Entrapments

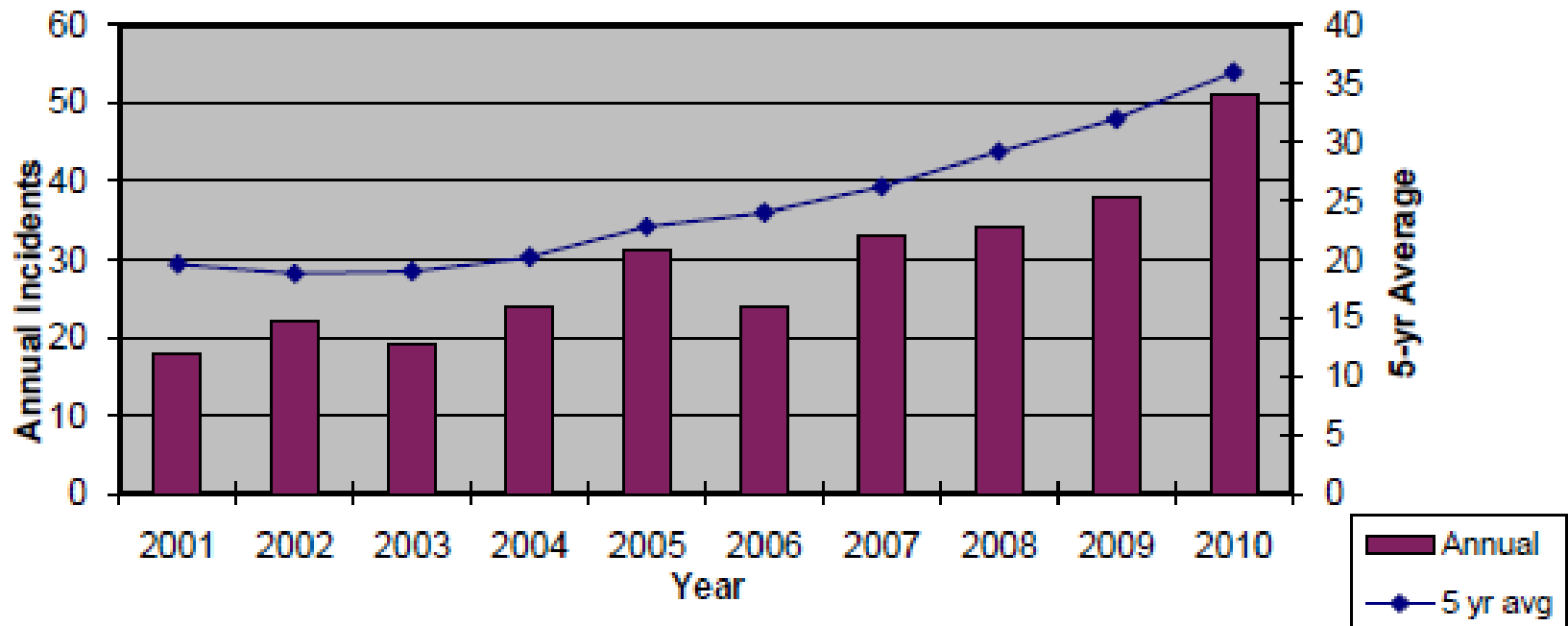


Figure 1: Number of annual grain entrapments<sup>3</sup> recorded in the National Grain Entrapment Database and the 5-year average between 2001 and 2010.

Source: 2010 Summary of Grain Entrapments in the United States  
Riedel S, Field B. Agricultural Safety & Health Program, Purdue Univ.



# Grain Handling Hazards

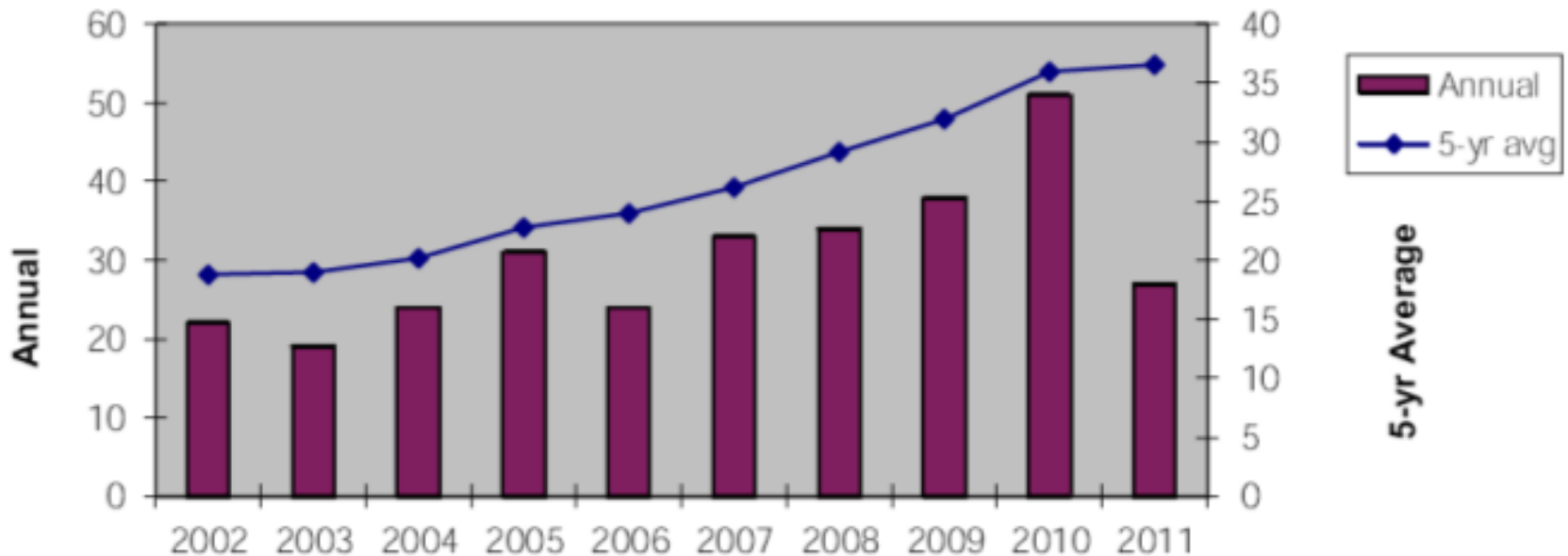


## OSHA response:

- Stepped-up enforcement of grain facilities
- Industry outreach
- Hazard Alert
- Web site
- Fact sheet
- Wallet card



## U.S. Grain Entrapments



Purdue University researchers report that grain entrapments **declined 47 percent** in 2011 — a significant drop from the record high in 2010.

# Measuring Enforcement Effectiveness





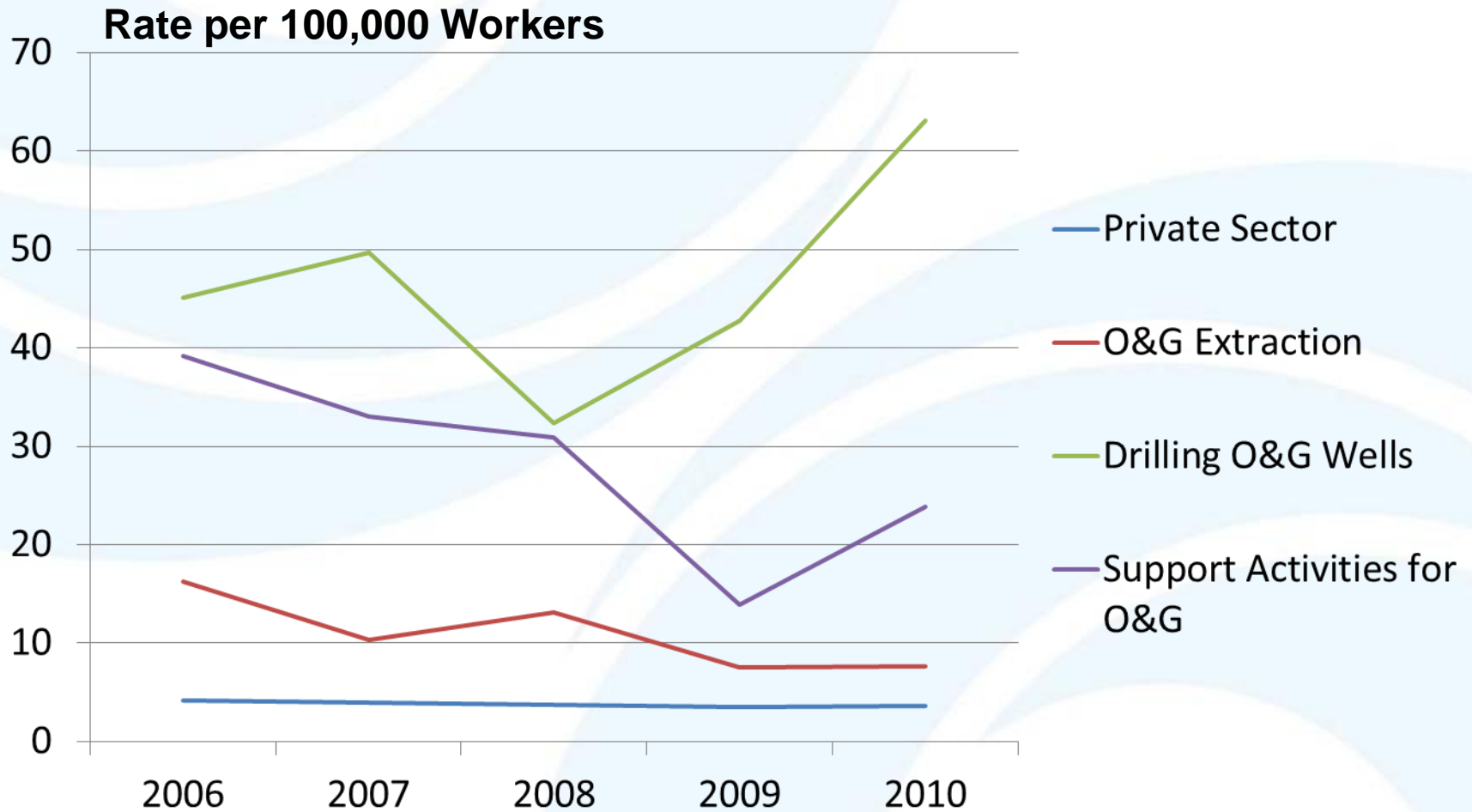
# Evaluating Effectiveness of Current OSHA Activities

- **Inspections**
  - **Random/Programmed Inspections** ✓
    - Targeting Strategies
  - **Complaint and Fatality Inspections**
    - Inspection Characteristics
    - Citation Characteristics
- **Consultation Programs** ✓
- **Recognition Programs**
- **Whistleblower Programs**



# Oil Patch Fatality Injury Rates

## 2006-2010

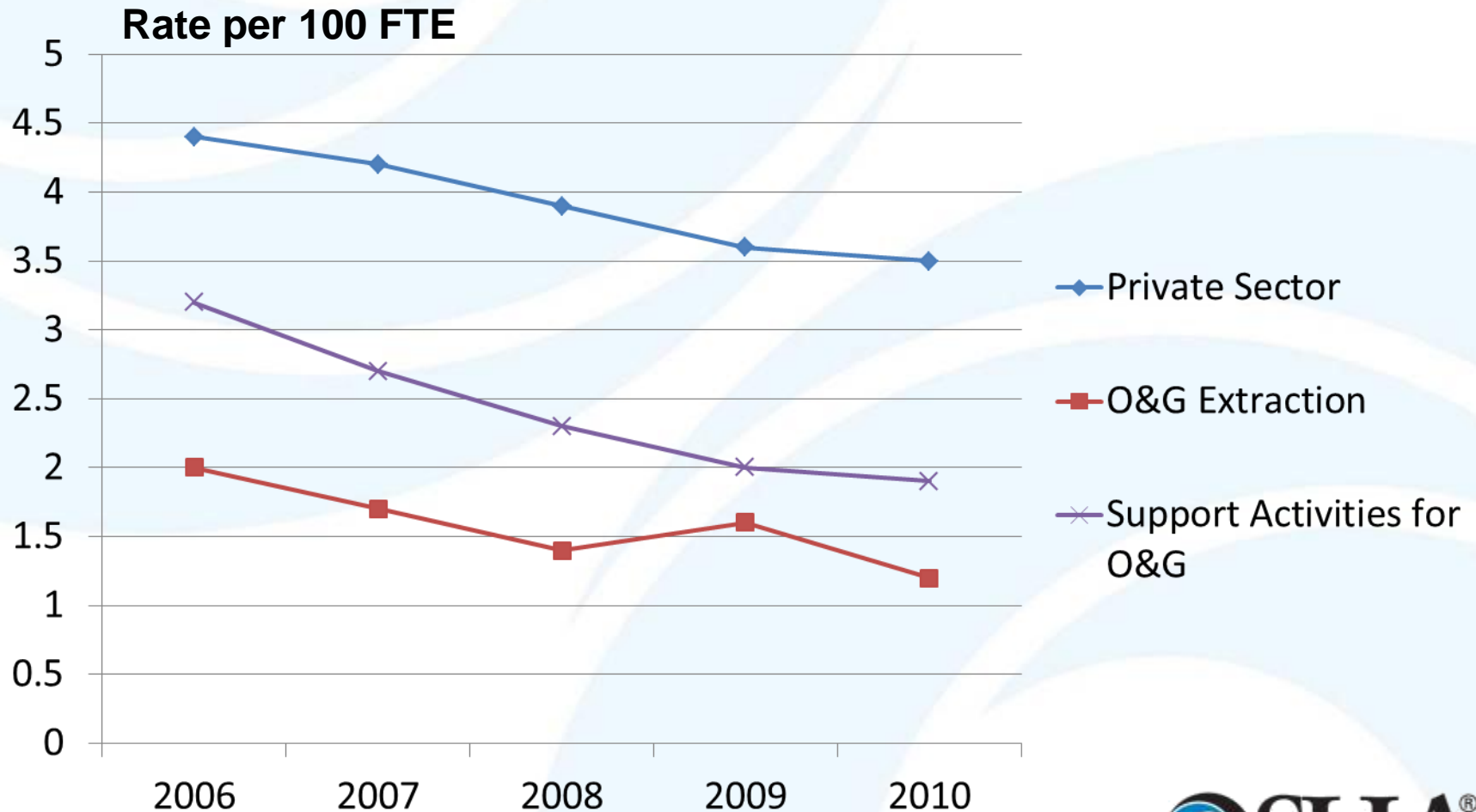


Source:

Private Sector Fatality Rates- Bureau of Labor Statistics Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI)  
O&G Fatality Rates - OSHA calculated using CFOI fatality counts and employment data from the BLS  
Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages.



# Injury and Illness Incidence Rates 2006-2010



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII)



# OSHA's Heat Campaign

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OSHA QuickTakes Newsletter RSS Feeds Print This Page Text Size

Occupational Safety & Health Administration We Can Help

Home Workers Regulations Enforcement Data & Statistics Training Publications Newsroom Small Business OSHA

## WATER. REST. SHADE.

*The work can't get done without them.*

Home Educational Resources Training Media Resources

### Educational Resources

**Heat illness can be deadly.** Every year, thousands of workers become sick from heat exposure on the job. Some of these [workers even die](#). **These illnesses and deaths are preventable.**

**Who is affected?** Workers exposed to hot and humid conditions are at risk of heat illness, especially those doing heavy work tasks or using bulky protective clothing and equipment. Some workers might be at greater risk than others if they have not built up a tolerance to hot conditions, are in poor physical condition, are older, or if they have heart disease, high blood pressure, or are taking certain medications.

**What is heat illness?** The body normally cools itself by sweating. During hot weather, especially with high humidity, sweating isn't enough. Body temperature can rise to dangerous levels if precautions are not taken. Heat illnesses range from heat rash and heat cramps to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat stroke can result in death and requires **immediate medical attention**.


**How can heat illness be prevented?** Remember three simple words: **water, rest, shade**. Drinking water often, taking breaks, and limiting time in the heat can help prevent heat illness. Employers should include these prevention steps in worksite training

Video - Dr. David Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health

## WATER. REST. SHADE.

*The work can't get done without them.*

# FACT SHEETS



**WATER.  
REST.  
SHADE.**

*The work can't get done without them.*

**A HEAT SAFETY FACT SHEET**

**Two types of heat illness:**

**Heat Exhaustion:** 

**Heat Stroke:** 



*Heat kills - get help right away!*

**Stay safe and healthy!**

**Drink water even if you aren't thirsty every 15 minutes.** 

**Check out for each other.** 

**Wear a hat and light-colored clothing.** 

**Never drink any one beverage to cool you down by itself.** 

**Rest in the shade.** 



**Heat illness can be prevented!**  
By law, your employer must have:


Water 

Shade and Rest 

Training 

Emergency Plan 







**AGUA.  
SOMBRA.  
DESCANSOS.**

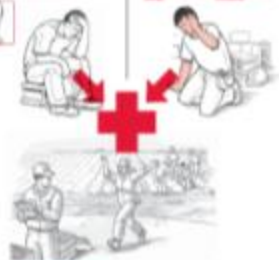
*Sin ellos no se puede trabajar.*

**UNA HOJA INFORMATIVA SOBRE EL CALOR**

**Dos tipos de enfermedades por calor:**

**Agotamiento:** 

**Golpe de calor:** 



*El calor mata - ¡Socorro ayuda de inmediato!*

**¡Manténgase seguro y sano!**

**Beba agua incluso si no tiene sed cada 15 minutos.** 

**¡Cuide a los demás!** 


**Use sombrero y ropa ligera de colores claros.** 


**Nunca beba una sola bebida para refrescarse por sí misma.** 


**Descanse en la sombra.** 




**¡Se pueden prevenir las enfermedades por calor!**  
Por ley su empleador debe tener:

Agua 

Sombra y Descansos 

Capacitación 

Plan de emergencia 



# POSTERS

**Health effects of heat**  
Two types of heat illness:

**Heat Exhaustion**      **Heat Stroke**

**1** Watch out for early symptoms. You may need medical help. People react differently – you may have just a few of these symptoms, or most of them.

**Stay safe and healthy!**  
**WATER. REST. SHADE.** The work can't get done without them.

Drink water even if you aren't thirsty – every 15 minutes.

Rest in the shade.

Watch out for each other.

Wear hats and light-colored clothing.

**2** "Easy does it" on your first days of work in the heat. You need to get used to it. Rest in the shade – at least 5 minutes as needed to cool down.

**Los efectos del calor**  
Dos tipos de enfermedades por calor:

**Agotamiento**      **Involuntario**

**1** **¡Cuidado con los primeros síntomas.** Podrían necesitar atención médica. Las personas reaccionan de diferentes maneras. Podrían tener unos cuantos de estos síntomas o la mayoría de ellos.

**¡Manténganse seguros y sanos!**  
**AGUA. SOMBRA. DESCANSOS.** Sin ellos no se puede trabajar.

Tomen agua aunque no tengan sed – cada 15 minutos.

Descansen en la sombra.

Cuiden pendientes de sus compañeros.

Usen sombreros y ropa ligera de colores claros.

**2** No deben esforzarse demasiado los primeros días que trabajan en el calor. Tienen que acostumbrarse. Tomen descansos en la sombra – por lo menos 5 minutos para refrescarse.

# **National Weather Service Heat Advisories now include:**

TO REDUCE RISK DURING OUTDOOR WORK  
THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH  
ADMINISTRATION RECOMMENDS SCHEDULING  
FREQUENT REST BREAKS IN SHADED OR AIR  
CONDITIONED ENVIRONMENTS. ANYONE  
OVERCOME BY HEAT SHOULD BE MOVED TO  
A COOL & SHADED LOCATION. HEAT STROKE  
IS AN EMERGENCY. CALL 911.



# Heat Safety Tool

osha.gov/SLTC/heatillness

The screenshot shows the OSHA Heat Safety Tool interface. At the top, there are two OSHA logos and the text "OSHA Heat Safety Tool". Below this are three buttons: "Get Current", "Get Today Max", and "More Detail". Underneath, it says "Or Enter Numbers:". There are two input fields: "Temperature" with the value "80 °F" and "Humidity" with the value "80 %". A "Calculate" button is next to the humidity field. Below the input fields, the "Heat Index" is displayed as "84.2 °F". The "Risk Level" is shown as "LOWER (CAUTION)" in a yellow box. A "Precautions" button is located below the risk level. To the right of the input fields, there is a section titled "Drink water throughout the day." with a bulleted list of advice: "Estimate how much water will be needed and decide who will obtain and check on water supplies.", "Guidelines recommend that outdoor workers drink 4 cups (8 cones) of water every hour, even if they're not thirsty.", "It is best to drink a small amount of water often, like 1 cup (2 cones) every 15 minutes.", "Avoid alcohol and drinks with caffeine or sugar.", and "Generally, fluid intake should not exceed 6 cups per hour." Below this list is a link "Know what to do in an emergency.". At the bottom of the screen, there are navigation buttons: "Home", "More Info", "Home", "« Back", and "More Info".

New mobile phone app provides critical information for reducing risk of heat illness during outdoor work

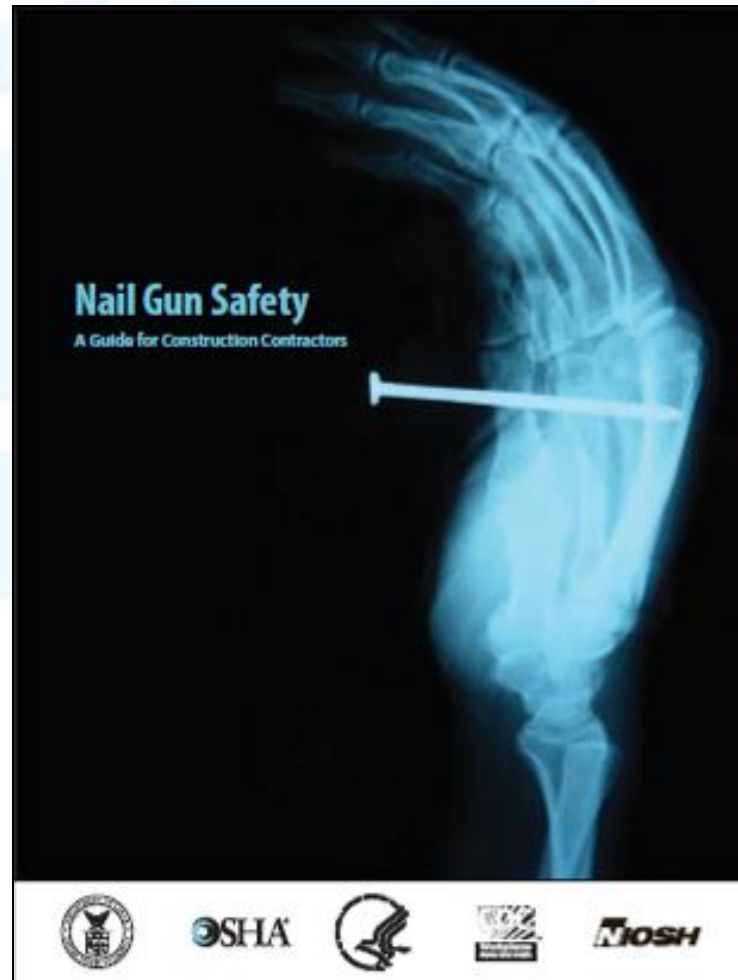
- Calculates heat index for worksite location
- Displays “risk level” for work at that heat index
- Lists protective measures to reduce risk of heat illness

Water ☀ Rest ☀ Shade





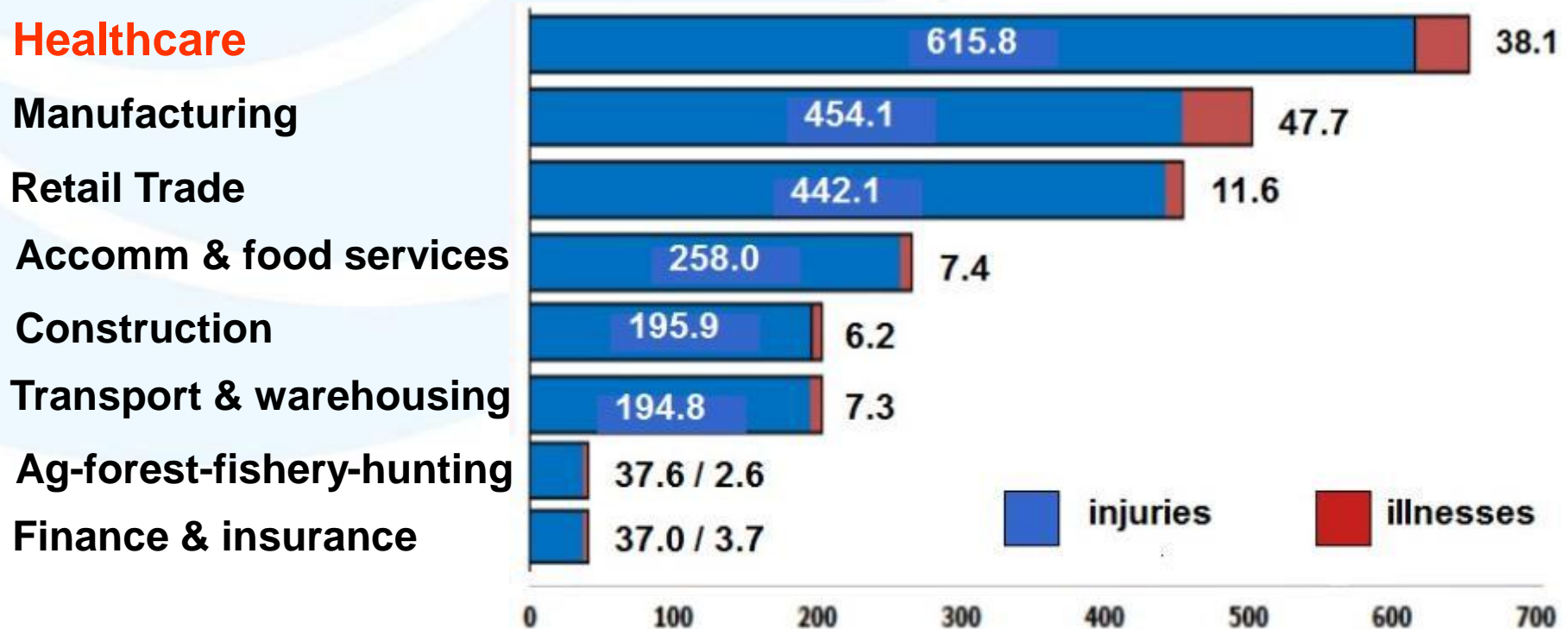
# Nail Gun Safety



# Healthcare Is Not A Safe Industry For Its Workforce

Distribution of (selected) nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses by private industry sector, 2010

## Healthcare



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, October 2011



# What Nurses Say...

When asked if they put patient care first before their own personal safety at work, most nurses (82 percent) say “**yes.**”

## What impacts workplace safety:

- increasing workloads (89%)
- workplace stress levels (84%)

## Key issues to nurses:

- patient care and organizational reputation
- patient safety
- infection control
- healthcare worker safety and staff productivity



# **Organizational Safety Culture: Linking Patient and Worker Safety**

- **Elevated incidence of work-related injury and illness among healthcare workers**
- **Impact on workers, their families, healthcare institutions, and ultimately patient safety**
- **Patient safety & worker safety**
- **Systems approach/Injury and illness prevention**

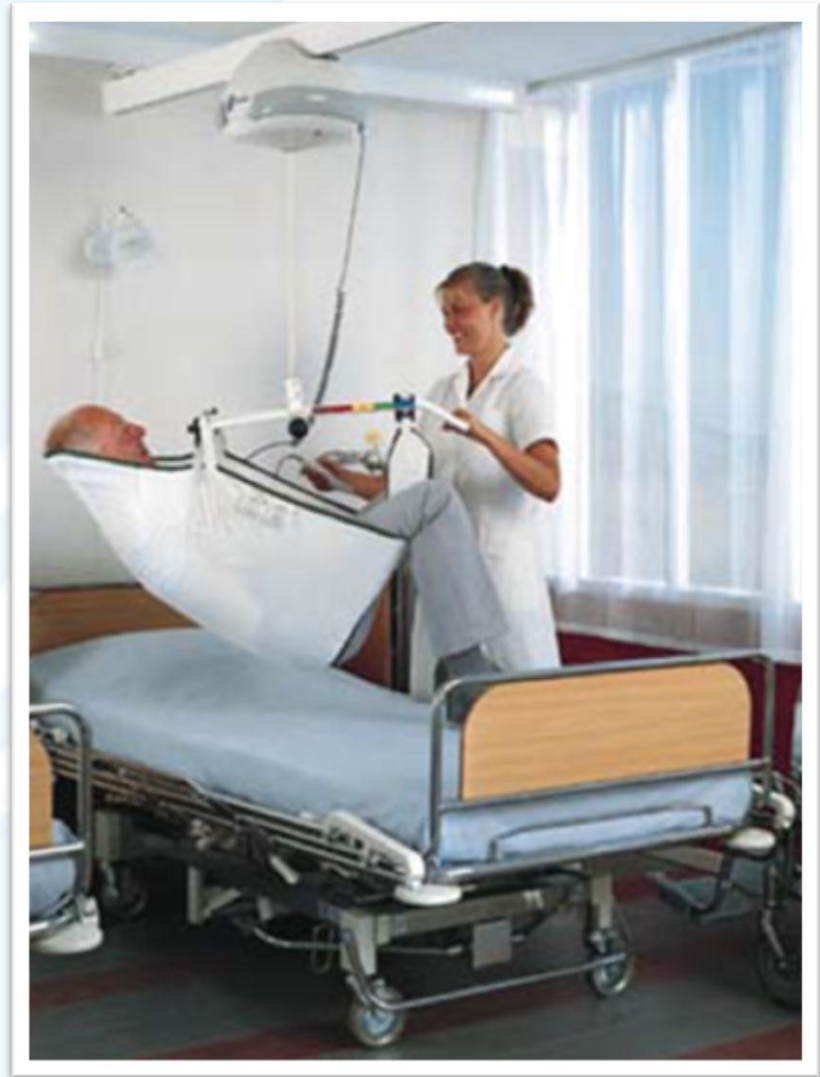
# How OSHA is Addressing the Issue

- **Working with alliance partners.**
- **Building new relationships with key healthcare leaders like the National Patient Safety Foundation and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.**
- **Addressing culture of safety that includes both patients and workers.**



# National Emphasis Program

to protect workers  
in nursing homes





**Of all occupations in 2010, nursing aides, orderlies, and attendants had the highest rates of musculoskeletal disorders.**

**— Bureau of Labor Statistics**



# OSHA's New Healthcare Webpage

back to **SAFETY AND HEALTH TOPICS**



## Highlights

FDA, NIOSH and OSHA Joint Safety Communication on Blunt-Tip Surgical Suture Needles". (2012, January).

Hospital eTool. (2012, January).

National Emphasis Program for Nursing and Residential Care Facilities. OSHA, (2012).

Culture of Safety



Infectious Diseases



Safe Patient Handling



Workplace Violence



Other Hazards



Standards/Enforcement



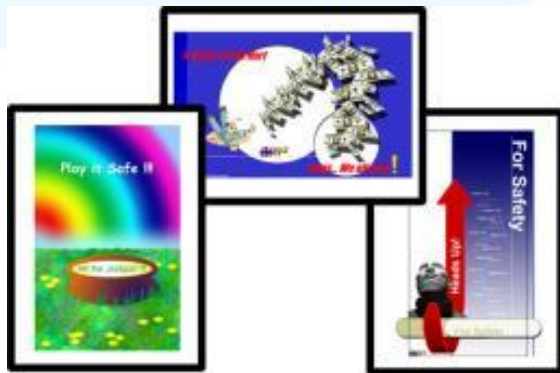


# Incentive Programs

Master Game Board  
**Safety Bingo**

TODAY'S NLR	1	10	31	40	64
	2	17	32	47	62
	3	18	33	48	63
DAMAGE	4	19	34	49	64
	5	20	35	50	65
	6	21	36	51	66
PRIZE	7	22	37	52	67
	8	23	38	53	68
	9	24	39	54	69
STANDARD	10	25	40	55	70
DATE	11	26	41	56	71
	12	27	42	57	72
	13	28	43	58	73
	14	29	44	59	74
	15	30	45	60	75

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12  
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z



S-U-P-E-R  
**Safety BINGO**

**Safety BINGO** 100 WIN!

Yellow Cards ONLY JANUARY Yellow Cards ONLY

51	●	●	●	●
●	●	●	●	●
●	●	●	●	●
●	●	●	●	●
●	●	●	●	●



# **Reporting an Injury is Protected:**

## **Metro-North Commuter Railroad Co.**

### **Whistleblower Complaint**

#### **Poor lighting and training**

- **Worker fired for reporting injury**

#### **OSHA Whistleblower complaint**

- **Expunge HR files, back wages of \$5,254**
- **Punitive damages: \$75,000**



## Rail man wins \$1M

By JENNIFER FERMINO

Last Updated: 6:53 AM, March 23, 2012

Posted: 1:20 AM, March 23, 2012

*A Metro-North track worker who was fired after getting injured on the job was awarded \$1 million in damages yesterday following a historic verdict in a New Haven federal court.*

*Andy Barati, a Westbury, Conn., father of two, was a brand-new employee when he broke his toe laying track four years ago, an accident he claims happened because he was improperly trained.*

*But the MTA fired him, despite warnings from his union that the agency was violating the 2008 federal rail-safety act, said Barati.*

*That law prohibits retaliation against workers who point out dangerous conditions. Barati's case is the first verdict under the law in the nation, according to his lawyer Charles Goetsch.*

(Last sentence of article removed)

- **Back pay: \$5,254**
- **Lost earnings, pain, suffering and disfigurement: \$50,000**
- **Punitive damages: \$1 million**

# Protecting the Right to Call OSHA

- **Anonymous complaint and OSHA inspection triggered termination of employee**
- **Company failed to pay \$7,500 in back wages**
- **U.S. Marshals seized the black corvette of Richard Kohler, president of Brocon Petroleum Inc., at his residence.**



# OSHA'S New Whistleblower Webpage



## THE WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION PROGRAM

Home



File a Complaint



Fact Sheets &  
Statistics



News & Updates



Statutes



Regulations &  
Directives



Contacts & Links



# Whistleblower Regulations

## Interim Final Rules

- **Affordable Care Act**
- **Seaman's Protection Act**
- **FDA Food Modernization Act**
- **Consumer Financial Protection Act**

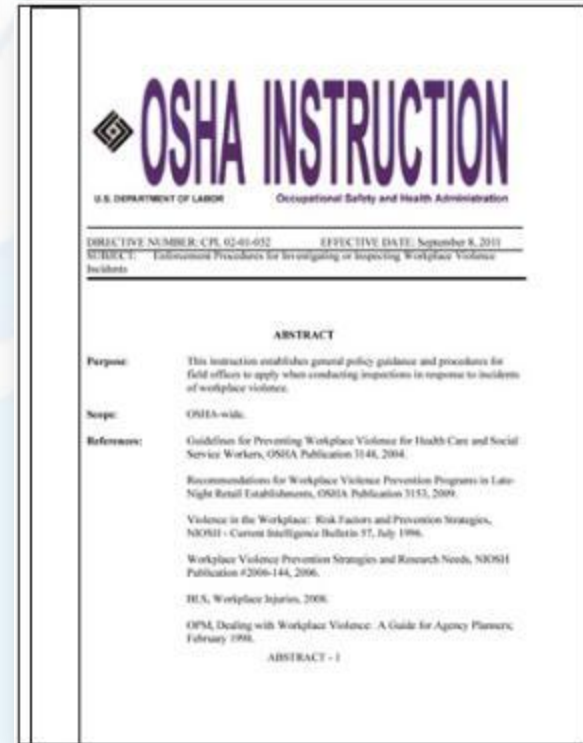
## Final Rules

- **Surface Transportation Assistance Act**
- **Federal Railroad Safety Act and National Transit Systems Security Act**
- **Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act**
- **Sarbanes Oxley Act**

# Workplace Violence

## OSHA Enforcement

- Under the 'General Duty Clause' OSHA can cite an employer for failing to provide a safe and healthful workplace.
- In 2011, OSHA published general policy guidance and procedures for field offices to apply when conducting inspections in response to incidents of workplace violence.



# Criteria for Initiating an Inspection

- **Known risk factors**
  - Working with volatile people
  - Working alone or in small number
  - Working late at night
- **Evidence of employer/industry knowledge**
  - High risk industries – health care, late night retail
- **Feasible means of abatement**



# **Citing under the General Duty Clause**

**Since there is no OSHA standard, the  
General Duty Clause must be applied:**

- **A serious workplace violence hazard exists and the employees are exposed to the hazard**
- **Industry/employer recognition**
- **Hazard caused or was likely to cause death or serious physical harm**
- **There are feasible means of abatement**



# Workplace Violence: Responding to a Fatality

- A counselor, working at a group home was attacked and fatally injured by a client.
- OSHA found that the employer failed to develop and implement adequate measures to protect employees from physical assault in the workplace.



# **Workplace Violence: Responding to a Complaint**

**A corrections officer wrote OSHA a letter, listing numerous instances of working conditions, which allowed prison inmates to assault corrections officers and other staff members.**



# OSHA Resources

<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/workplaceviolence/>

- Risk Factors
- Prevention Programs
- Training and Other Resources



OSHA was “... *the*  
instrument of a  
revolutionary law.  
I always looked upon it  
as insuring Americans  
of a new right in the  
*Bill of Rights* —  
the right to a safe and  
*healthful workplace.*”



**Morton Corn, PhD, CSP**  
**OSHA Assistant Secretary**  
**Ford Administration**





UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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