



## OSHA Releases 2002 Injury and Illness Statistics

In December 2003, the Department of Labor published the workplace injuries and illnesses report for 2002. Numbers included in this report are taken from annual OSHA surveys completed by covered facilities, which estimates numbers and frequencies of workplace injuries and illnesses based on completion of the OSHA 300 Log.

The recent report indicates that a total of 4.7 million nonfatal injuries and illnesses were re-

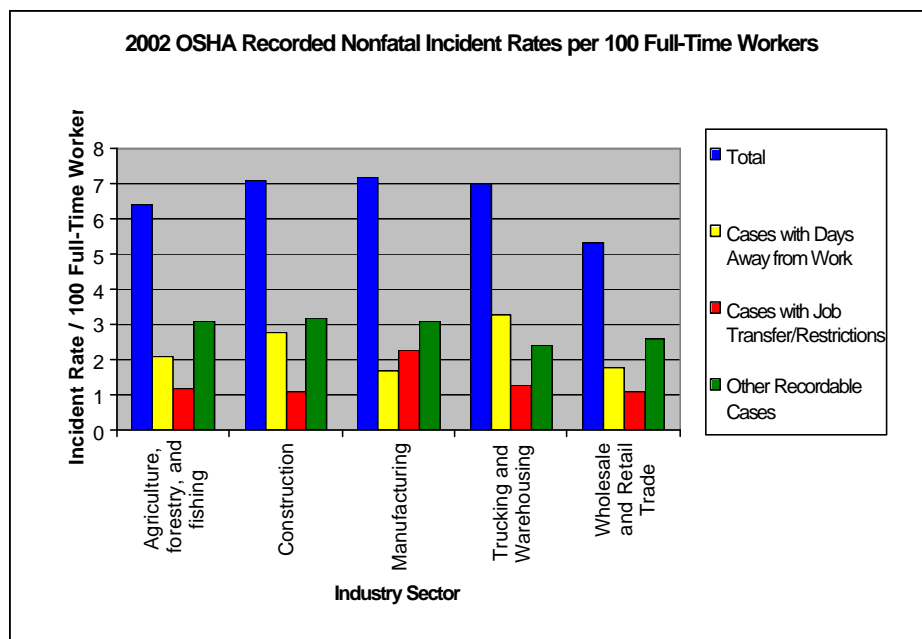
ported in private industry workplaces in 2002, resulting in an incident rate of 5.3 cases per 100 full-time workers. Of the 4.7 million nonfatal injuries and illnesses, 4.4 million were recorded as injuries, while 294,500 were recorded as illnesses.

The OSHA report breaks down recorded injuries and illnesses by case type and industry division. As illustrated in the table, the manufacturing sector of industry accounted for an incident

rate of 7.2/100 full-time workers, and the warehousing and transportation sector accounted for 7.0/100 full-time workers. This equates to a total of approximately 1.5 million, and 125,000 recorded injuries and illnesses for manufacturing and warehousing/trucking, respectively.

Are your incident rates higher than, lower than, or equal to those indicated in the attached table? If your incident rates are equal to or higher than the industry standards listed, does your facility have the appropriate safety programs in place to provide a safe workplace for all employees? If not, your facility may conduct a safety and health job hazard analysis to identify areas of your facility that may require improvement in health and safety. Each facility and company should strive to provide a safe workplace, free from hazards that may cause injury and / or illness.

If industry places a higher emphasis on workplace safety, the numbers indicated above will decrease in subsequent years.



### Inside this issue...

- ⇒ *Did You Know?*
- ⇒ *Personal Page*

### Articles...

- OSHA Injury and Illness Stats **Page 1**
- IATA Update **Page 2**
- CDL Endorsement **Page 2**

- OSHA 300 Posting Reminder **Page 2**
- EPA Info **Page 3**
- Quality Corner **Page 4**
- Sexual Harassment **Page 4**

## Did You Know?

### *St. Louis Tire Distributor Fined \$135,000 for Safety Hazards*

OSHA investigated a St. Louis tire distributor after a worker fractured his skull when he fell from an elevated, unguarded wooden pallet raised on the forks of a forklift.

OSHA found two previous incidents of workers being injured from falls from raised pallets during the subsequent investigation. The company was cited by OSHA for alleged willful violations for elevating workers on unguarded pallets raised by forklifts and allowing workers to freely climb on storage racks to obtain product. Willful violations are those committed with plain disregard to the requirements of OSHA and worker safety and health.

OSHA prohibits raising personnel on pallets with a forklift because of the hazards that are present. OSHA-approved personnel lifting cages must be utilized if raising facility personnel is necessary. OSHA-approved cages provide the proper guarding and restraint necessary to prevent personnel from falling when in an elevated position.

If you perform, or witness, a worker lifting another employee on an unguarded pallet with a forklift, the action should be stopped immediately and proper disciplinary and preventative actions should be taken to prevent future incidents.

### *Air Eligibility Markings*

Effective January 1, 2004, markings that specify a package for air transport are optional for packages that include a limited quantity of dangerous goods. If markings are applied, the following requirements must be met:

- The marking must be placed adjacent to the proper shipping name and UN markings.
- Markings must be durable and of a size relative to the package.
- Markings must include a sym-

### **CDL Hazmat Endorsement**

As of April 1, 2004, renewing, upgrading, or transferring a hazmat endorsement for a CDL will be prohibited until the Transportation Security Administration has first conducted record checks of the applicant. This revision requires states to fingerprint all applicants to determine they do not pose any security risk when handling or transporting hazardous materials.

## IATA

bol consisting of an aircraft within a circle.

- As always, all markings and labels must be visible.

### *Net Quantity Markings*

Effective January 1, 2004, net quantity markings for dangerous goods contained in a package must be shown adjacent to the UN number. This requirement only applies to multiple packages for classes 2 ,3 ,4 ,5 ,6 ,8 and UN 1845 (dry ice). The net quantity for dry ice must be marked on all packages.

### **OSHA 300 Annual Summary Posting Reminder**

Are your OSHA 300 Logs maintained and up to date?

OSHA requires the Annual Summary of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses to be posted in a conspicuous location within a facility by February 1st of the year following the year covered by the records. The Annual Summary must remain posted until April 30th.

### **Ask RCS!**

**Contact us today with all of your  
regulatory questions.**

**Phone: 614-552-8530**

**Web: [www.4rcs.com](http://www.4rcs.com)**

**Email: [info@4rcs.com](mailto:info@4rcs.com)**



## EPA Info

### *EPCRA Extremely Hazardous Substances List Proposed Delisting of Phosmet*

The EPA is proposing to delist Phosmet from the extremely hazardous substances (EHS) list under the Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act (EPCRA). Phosmet is a member of the organophosphate pesticides family with its most common application on fruit trees in orchards. The decision to delist the chemical by the EPA is based on the fact that there is no valid data indicating that Phosmet meets the EHS listing criteria.

EPCRA consists of the following four major programs:

- Emergency Planning (Sections 301-303)
- Emergency Release

Notification (Section 304)

- Hazardous Chemical Storage Reporting (Sections 311-312)
- Toxic Chemical Release Inventory (Section 313)

The chemicals covered under these EPCRA programs vary, and are listed under Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Emergency Planning requires facilities storing listed chemicals to develop and implement emergency plans containing information used by community officials at the time of an emergency. Emergency Notification requires facilities to immediately contact local response agencies in the event of a release of an extremely hazardous substance. The Toxic Chemical Release Inventory requires facilities to report releases of specified toxic chemi-

cals from a facility on an annual basis. The Hazardous Chemical Storage Reporting requirements, or Community Right-to-Know Program, requires facilities that store listed chemicals in amounts exceeding set thresholds, to complete an annual report. The Community Right-to-Know Report is due by the March 1<sup>st</sup> following the reporting year. If your facility stores EPCRA regulated chemicals, the Community Right-to-Know report must be completed and submitted to the EPA no later than March 1, 2004. If you are unsure whether your facility stores EPCRA regulated chemicals, contact RCS and speak with a Technical Consultant to determine if EPCRA reporting requirements apply to you.

### *Proposed Conditional Exclusion of Solvent-Contaminated Industrial Wipes and Shop Towels*

The EPA is attempting to eliminate the long-standing issues associated with the management and disposal of solvent-contaminated industrial wipes. The EPA has proposed to modify the definition of hazardous waste under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) for certain solvent — contaminated shop towels, rags, disposable wipes, and paper towels. This proposal is to conditionally exclude industrial wipes that are

contaminated with hazardous solvents that are sent for disposal, and reusable industrial shop towels and rags that are contaminated with hazardous solvents sent for laundering or dry cleaning. This includes contaminated wipes and towels sent for landfilling, laundering, and combustion that may exhibit a hazardous characteristic (which may include ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity) due to use with solvents.

The EPA's goals, through this proposal, are to reduce testing and disposal costs, foster improved solvent management by generators and handling facilities, and increase consistency in regulations governing solvent - contaminated wipes and towels, while ensuring that all current RCRA regulations are observed and followed.

## Sexual Harassment in the Workplace

Sexual harassment is an important issue in many workplaces. All employees and employers need to know the definition of sexual harassment, the circumstances under which it can occur, and some simple methods of prevention.

Sexual harassment is...

- unwanted sexual attention from a person who knows that such attention is unwanted.
- an implied or expressed promise of reward for complying with a sexually oriented request.
- an implied or expressed threat of reprisal or actual reprisal for refusal to comply with a sexually oriented request.
- a sexual relationship, which constitutes an abuse of power in a relationship of trust.
- a sexually oriented remark or behavior, which may be perceived to create a negative psychological and emotional environment for work and study.

Sexual harassment can occur in various circumstances, including the following:

- The harasser OR the victim may be a male or female. The victim does not have to be of the opposite sex.
- The harasser can be the victim's supervisor, an agent of the employer, a supervisor in another area, a co-worker, or a non-employee.
- The victim does not have to be the person harassed but could be anyone affected by the offensive conduct. Unlawful sexual harassment may occur without economic injury to or discharge of the victim.
- The harasser's conduct must be unwelcome.

The person being harassed should directly inform the person doing the harassing that the conduct is unwelcome and must stop. The person be-

ing harassed should use any employer complaint system available.

Prevention is the best tool for eliminating sexual harassment in the workplace. Employers are encouraged to take steps as necessary to prevent sexual harassment from occurring. They should clearly communicate to employees that sexual harassment will not be tolerated. They can do so by establishing an effective complaint

## Personal Page

### *Sick of Getting Sick?*

Since there are no known cures for colds and flu, a proactive approach to warding off colds and flu is necessary for prevention.

Since most colds and the flu are spread by direct contact, washing your hands frequently rids the germs before they have a chance to make you sick. Fresh air and plenty of fluids are also good for washing out toxins. Breathing fresh air can limit the circulation of germs. Don't drink excessively. Heavy alcohol use destroys the liver, the body's primary filtering system. This means that germs of all kinds won't leave your body as quickly. Eating right and getting at least 8 hours of sleep each night can help to keep your body free from sickness. When eating, stay away from sweets and sugar and eat more vegetables. The natural vitamins will help to keep your immune system high. Sleep is also important because your body is relaxed. Relaxation can activate your immune system and fight the infection.

Following these simple rules can help you survive the winter season free from sickness.

## Quality Corner

### *ISO 9000*

The ISO 9000 standard represents the basic elements of good business practice, as well as a good quality management system. To get started, a company must first familiarize themselves with the ISO 9000 requirements, and implement them in the workplace. After careful self-evaluation, a company must add the necessary systems and processes to meet ISO requirements. All processes must be recorded in documents such as the Quality Management System, Standard Operating Procedures, and Work Instructions. Once registered, a company may enjoy benefits such as improvement in operations and the bottom line, external recognition, and market expansion.

The ISO standard was revised in 2000 to make it applicable to a wider range of organizations. Companies were previously allowed to either register to the 1994 or 2000 revision. However, as of the end of 2003, all companies are now required to comply with the 2000 revision. In addition to attracting a wider range of organizations, the revision changed the standard to follow a "Process" model which recognizes that an organization is a system of interconnected processes. The revised standard is aimed at improvement of those processes. Key processes must be identified, in addition to measurement and control procedures.

If you have any questions about beginning the ISO registration process or updating your registration, please contact RCS at 614-552-8530, or [info@4rcs.com](mailto:info@4rcs.com).