

EFO Safety and Health Committee News

August 3, 2016

Beating the Heat!

As [previously reported in *QuickTakes*](#), on June 27 OSHA Assistant Secretary Dr. David Michaels hosted a conference call featuring several employers and employer groups that are making noteworthy efforts to protect workers. These efforts include holding heat-safety stand-downs, and providing additional protections such as cooling vests and shade canopies. OSHA wants to hear how employers and safety professionals are keeping workers safe from extreme heat. Post your photos to Twitter using [#WaterRestShade](#) or email stories to OSHA.QuickTakes@dol.gov for possible inclusion in a future issue of *QuickTakes*.

CSB Releases Final Report on Facility Safety Culture at Tesoro Martinez Refinery

On August 2, 2016, the US Chemical Safety Board released its final report on the multiple sulfuric acid releases that occurred in 2014 at the Tesoro Refinery in Martinez, CA. The report includes key process safety findings related to safety culture, safety indicators, and the continued need for a proactive regulator to conduct preventive inspections. For more information, see [US CSB Tesoro Refinery](#).

Interim Guidance for Protecting Workers from the Zika Virus

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) are monitoring the Zika virus outbreak spreading through Central and South America, Mexico, and parts of the Caribbean, including U.S. territories. For the most up-to-date information, check the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [Zika website](#) frequently. Workers who are exposed on the job to mosquitoes or the blood or other body fluids of infected individuals may be at risk for occupationally acquired Zika virus infection. This interim guidance provides employers and workers with information and guidance on preventing occupational exposure to the Zika virus. For more information, see [OSHA Zika Virus](#).

OSHA's Hear and Now – Noise Safety Challenge

The DOL's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and Mine Safety and Health Administration, in partnership with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, have launched the 'Hear and Now - Noise Safety Challenge' with the dual goals of inspiring creative ideas and raising business awareness of the market for workplace safety innovation. For more information, [Hear and Now Challenge](#).

NIOSH Newsletter

The latest NIOSH Newsletter has a lot of good information in it. It includes an app for the classic NOISH Pocket Guide, Engineering Controls database, FACE reports, and more. For more information, see [NIOSH eNews August 2016](#).

Staffing Agencies and Manufacturers Jointly Fined for Endangering Workers

Staffing agencies and host employers are jointly responsible for maintaining a safe work environment for [temporary workers](#) — including, for example, ensuring that OSHA's training, hazard communication, and recordkeeping requirements are fulfilled. In two recent cases, OSHA held both the host and temporary employers responsible for violations of OSHA standards.

Fall Protection Standards Almost Over

Titled “Walking Working Surfaces and Personal Fall Protection Systems (Slips, Trips and Fall Prevention),” this entry in the final rule stage is one of the wordiest. But, its developmental history is much longer than any number of words could suggest. Including previously aborted rule-making attempts that were forerunners of the current proposed rule, we go all the way back to 1973. The new rule may be published in August 2016, but don’t be surprised if we have to wait just a little longer; perfection takes time, after all. For more information, see www.safeopedia.com [Fall Protection Standard Almost Over](#).

Oklahoma Safety Resources

- **OSHA:** Sign up for Quick Takes at [OSHA Quick Takes](#)
- **Oklahoma Safety Council** - Monthly luncheon meetings held in Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Sign up to receive their newsletters at [OK Safety Council](#).
- **Oklahoma AIHA:** Meetings held periodically with Spring and Fall one day conferences. See [OK AIHA](#) for more information.

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