

Newsletter



Spotlight on Safety

National Safety Council

April 2015

About the National Safety Council:



The National Safety Council saves lives by preventing injuries and deaths at work, in homes and communities, and on the roads through leadership, research, education and advocacy. Visit us at nsc.org for up-to-date industry news, information and tools to take your safety program to the next level.

Featured Safety Poster:



Put this poster on the walls at work to remind employees that communication prevents hazards in the workplace.

[Downloadable poster](#)

Featured Webinar

Welcome to *Spotlight on Safety*, an e-newsletter brought to you by the Department of the Interior Office of Occupational Safety and Health in partnership with the National Safety Council. We hope you will find this service of value.

Send feedback or ideas on topics you would like to see to membershipinfo@nsc.org.

Please put "Department of the Interior feedback" in the subject line.

5-Minute Safety Talk: Employer Rights and Responsibilities Under OSHA



The goal of OSHA is for you to go home whole and healthy every day. OSHA helps protect you by setting and enforcing workplace safety and health standards, and by providing safety and health information and assistance to employees and employers.

[This 5-minute Safety Talk](#) outlines your rights and responsibilities under OSHA rules.

If OSHA comes Calling, Will You Be Ready?

Does complying with federal safety requirements feel like a huge burden, or is it simply an extension of your company's safety culture? When you hear that the [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) wants to have a look at your organization, does it send a chill down your spine or do you welcome inspectors with open arms?



If your organization is focused on the health of every employee and has a program in place to reinforce safety practices through training, an OSHA inspection should go smoothly.



Visit our [Online Learning Library](#) to view our extensive webinar selection.

This month's suggested topic "[What to do \(and not to do\) when OSHA knocks.](#)"

NSC Safety Awards

Employee engagement is key to a successful safety program! An award from the National Safety Council shows them you appreciate their efforts.

Safety awards from NSC instill employee pride; earn respect from your customers, community and peers; and place you one step ahead of your competition. [Learn more.](#)



Learn about all the benefits available to you in our Member Benefits Guide



[See the benefits that are available to you and ALL your employees](#)

Top 10 Hazards

OSHA is very serious about enforcement of regulations, and every organization needs to take steps to address potential hazards. Investigators tend to come across the same problems in company after company, year after year. These are the 10 hazards OSHA inspectors see most frequently, and they cross a number of different industries and workplaces:

- Scaffolding
- Fall protection
- Hazard communication
- Respiratory protection
- Lockout/tagout
- Electrical and wiring methods
- Powered industrial trucks
- Ladders
- Electrical - general requirements
- Machine guarding

Boy Scouts Have it Right: Be Prepared

You can develop a plan for how to handle an OSHA inspection, but it's more important to develop an ongoing [safety training program for all employees](#) to prevent incidents before they happen. Don't let your safety system grow out of an injury or failure. Here are a few suggestions from NSC:

- Make sure all employees understand the disciplinary system for safety violations, and document all disciplinary action taken
- Continuously audit your organization for hazards and involve employees in hazard assessment; incentive systems keep employees engaged
- Document not only incidents but near misses to help prevent injuries
- After identifying issues, follow through by tracking and documenting action items all the way to resolution
- Saying employees receive on-the-job safety training is not enough for OSHA; you will need to keep records for each employee

Old habits can be hard to break, and supervisors and employees don't always understand safety and risk. Developing a plan for safety training not only will make your organization compliant, but will lead to a strong and effective safety culture.

[OSHA compliance training](#) offered by NSC meets or exceeds standards and is trusted worldwide.

In the end, the goal is the same for OSHA and your company: saving lives and preventing injuries.

Facts



Failure to identify and correct hazards in the workplace can lead to serious injury and death. Ultimately, it's not just compliance with OSHA regulations that employers should strive for, it's injury prevention. We're taking a page from NSC Injury Facts 2014 to look at some of the workplace reasons employees died in 2012. All of these could have been prevented:

Cause	Number of Deaths
Transportation incidents	1,923
Fires and explosions	122
Slips, trips and falls	704
Exposure to harmful substances or environments	340
Contact with objects or equipment	723

A total of 4,693 workers didn't make it home to their families that year. The key to preventing these incidents is planning, observation and establishing a safety culture. Safety is not a destination, it's an ongoing Journey. [Learn about our Journey to Safety Excellence program here.](#)

How to Conduct an Incident Investigation

A worker at your company has been injured. Now what? Reacting quickly to the incident with a prescribed procedure can demonstrate your company's commitment to safety and ensure the proper information is collected to fulfill an incident investigation's ultimate purpose: To prevent future incidents.



Through the OSHA and National Safety Council Alliance, NSC has put together this guide on the steps you'll need to take during an incident investigation, including who should conduct the investigation, who should be interviewed, how to document the scene, and how to use the results to better identify hazards and prevent future injuries.

[Download "How to Conduct an Incident Investigation" here.](#)

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