

# Lake County Contractors Association

## Safety News

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July, 1999

**Sign Up Now For 1999 Training** - Just a reminder that we will be holding OSHA 10-Hour and First Aid classes every month throughout the year. **And for members who need any standard safety training for 10 or more employees, LCCA will schedule the course anywhere you wish. AND NO MATTER HOW MANY PEOPLE YOU HAVE IN THE CLASS, (subject to maximum class size) YOU WILL ONLY BE CHARGED FOR 10!** Subject to instructor availability, we will provide instructor, materials, equipment -- everything except a place and students and we might be able to help with those as well.

A copy of the registration form covering July-August is enclosed for your information. Please be sure to make copies of the form and submit a separate form for each course you are interested in.

### Upcoming Classes:

**July 24 OSHA 10-hour Course 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Rodheim**

**July 27 First Aid/ CPR 8:30 - 3:00 p.m. – Hemby**

**August 10 & 12 OSHA 10 hour Course Noon - 5:00p.m. – Rodheim**

**August 31 First Aid/ CPR 8:30 - 3:00 p.m. – Hemby**

**September 25 OSHA 10-hour Course 7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Rodheim**

**September 28 First Aid/ CPR 8:30 - 3:00 p.m. – Hemby**

**Fit Testing Respirators** – We have received a few inquiries from members wondering if there is a company who will do the fit testing for respirators. Tom Broderick, Executive Director of the Chicagoland Construction Safety Council (CCSC), reports that ENH OMEGA, affiliated with Evanston Northwestern Healthcare, provides respirator medical clearance and respirator fit testing. They have offices in Evanston and Glenview. Call Christine Pense at (847) 657-1686 for more information.

**Bill Introduced to Reimburse Legal Fees** – Republicans in both the House and Senate have introduced bills to allow small employers and labor unions to recoup attorney fees if they prevail in judicial or administrative actions brought against them by the Occupational Safety & Health Administration or the National Labor Relations Board. Coverage is limited to employers with less than 100 employees and a net worth of \$7 million. Qualifying employers and labor unions would be entitled to attorney fees even if the charges were not frivolous.

House Resolution 1987 has been introduced by Rep. William Gooding (R-Pa.) and Senate Bill 1158 by Sen. Tim Hutchinson (R-Ark). President Clinton has vowed to veto any such bill that passes but it is encouraging that the issue is being discussed. The bills are referred to as the "Fair Access to Indemnity and Reimbursement Act. If you are interested in legislation such as this, contact your US Congressman and Illinois two Senators.

**OSHA Endorses Fiberglass Insulation Agreement** - Charles N. Jeffress, assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health, lauded three industry associations for developing a program that will help protect more than 200,000 employees involved in the manufacture, handling, installation and removal of products containing fiberglass.

The agreement establishes a voluntary PEL for fiberglass exposure, makes comprehensive worksite recommendations for the proper and safe handling of insulation materials, and increases education and training programs for workers. All three organizations agreed to begin immediately implementing the provisions. Briefly, the agreement provides:

Establishes voluntary exposure limits of 1 fiber per cubic centimeter (f/cc) 8 hour time-weighted average for respirable SVF; currently fiberglass is only regulated as "nuisance dust" under a standard that allows up to about 50 f/cc.

Increases respiratory protection by agreeing that workers wear NIOSH certified dust respirators when the PEL is exceeded or when performing certain tasks such as blowing SVF insulation into attics and other places and when demolishing buildings; and

Establishes exposure monitoring by NAIMA which will continue to develop a database of representative exposure limits for manufacturing and end-use application for SVF.

Jeffress said the agreement will go a long way towards addressing the concerns that lead to OSHA identifying SVF as a high priority for regulatory or other risk reduction action in 1995.