



Lake County Contractors Association Safety News

June, 2007

Safety Day Features Electrical Hazard Recognition

LCCA along with Abbott Laboratories and OSHA will sponsor a half day seminar on Electrical Hazards on Thursday, June 21 beginning at 10:30 at the Greenbelt Cultural Center in North Chicago. The course is designed for those who work around electricity as well as those who work with electricity. The course is limited to 120 and is filling fast. To make your reservation, go to www.lcca-il.org/events.

Safety Training

For information on classes scheduled, or to register on-line go to <http://www.lcca-il.org/events>. The easiest way to get your employees trained is to let us schedule a class specifically for you. We will make sure the content is tailored to your employees and your industry. Call Lisa at the LCCA Office for all your safety training needs.

REMEMBER: If you have ten or more (or will pay for 10 students) we will bring the training to your office, or a site of your choice, or hold your class at the LCCA Office. First Aid, CPR, OSHA 10-Hour, Excavation Competent Person, Power Line, Confined Space, Respiratory Safety/Silica, Scaffold User or Competent Person, and much more are available for you. Since the LCCA Safety & Education Fund subsidizes the cost, the price is hard to beat. Training dates are subject to our instructors' schedules, so if you want a particular date, call the LCCA Office as soon as possible.

OSHA's Portland Cement Inspection Procedures in Conjunction with Hexavalent Chromium

April 19, 2007 OSHA announced that it will provide specific enforcement procedures for compliance officers to follow at all construction sites where employees are working with portland cement. OSHA's Occupational Exposure to Hexavalent Chromium (Cr-VI) final rule does not apply to operations with portland cement because OSHA determined that compliance with pre-existing OSHA general standards provides adequate protection for employees exposed to the trace amounts of Cr(VI) found in portland cement. These specific enforcement procedures include dermal and eye hazards, personal protective equipment (PPE), sanitation, inhalation and permissible exposure limits (PEL), training and hazard communication.

In particular OSHA compliance officers will be looking for:

- Appropriate personal protective equipment, such as boots and gloves that are cleaned and/or replaced whenever necessary. {1926.95}.

- Proper washing facilities with clean water, non-alkaline soap and clean towels within near proximity to the worksite and in adequate number. {1926.51(f)(1)}.
- Airborne concentration below the PEL (8-hour TWA exposure of 15 mg/m³ as total dust) for portland cement or particulates not otherwise regulated (PNOR). {1926.55}. Respiratory protection may be required where exposures exceed the PEL. {1910.134}.
- Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) and labels for portland cement that include hazards associated with cement's hexavalent chromium content. {1926.21}
- Employee training
 - On the hazards associated with exposures to portland cement and the hazards associated with cement's hexavalent chromium content.
 - Preventative measures – proper care and use of PPE and the importance of proper hygiene practices.
 - Access to hygiene facilities, PPE and information (MSDS). {1926.21}
- OSHA 300 injury and illness logs to include cases of dermatitis that meet the recordability criteria in 1904.4 and that employees know how to report their work related illnesses and injuries.

Hopefully this information will assist you in protecting yourself and others from the hazards of portland cement and Cr-VI. For more information on hexavalent chromium, types of controls and other safety and health issues, please visit OSHA website at www.osha.gov or call your local OSHA Area Office.

Warning Garments Not PPE

The OSHA Review Commission has ruled that reflective vests are not "Personal Protective Equipment" and not subject to OSHA violations under the PPE standards. In two cases before the Commission (one citing the 1910 standard and the other the 1926 version), Administrative Law Judges ruled the standards do not apply citing the ambiguous language in the act defining PPE. In addition both cases also cited section 5(a)(1) (the General Duty Clause) as an alternative but this two was dismissed.

FHWA Rule Requires High-Visibility Clothing

The new rule requires the use of American National Standard for High-Visibility Safety Apparel and Headware, class 2 or 3 for all workers in federal highway work zones. "Workers" include all people on foot whose duties put them within the federal right-of-way.

