

A DOSH ADVOCATE

Improving
workplace
safety &
health



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Darin Perkins, Director

Voluntary Protection Program Update

The last three months have seen a flurry of activity when it comes to the Voluntary Protection Program. On February 20th ADOSH approved two new additions to the VPP program: Printpack, Inc., in Prescott Valley, and Yuma Cogeneration in Yuma, AZ. Moreover, First Vehicle Services and Honeywell Defense & Aerospace successfully completed their re-certifications as VPP sites.

In April a team from ADOSH was onsite at Raytheon Missile Systems Palo Verde site in Tucson and that site received notification of approval in late April. Their flag



presentation took place on May 20th. Congratulations to all of you who have demonstrated this level of commitment. That brings the count to 28 sites in Arizona.

March 2010 brought the VPPA Region IX conference in Newport Beach, CA. Attendance set an all time high for the region at approximately 480 people. As usual the VPPA Region IX board did an outstanding job of putting together one of the most informative and professional conferences around.

As for Construction VPP activity in Arizona, ADOSH has received and approved the third construction application and the onsite inspection is

pending. With that, ADOSH will open the construction VPP to general contractors in Arizona beginning July 1, 2010, meaning that applications can be turned in after that date. A cautionary note here: those considering applying should do a thorough self evaluation beforehand to ensure you are ready. By ready we simply mean that you are sure your comprehensive safety manage-

ment system is actually doing what you state it is doing, up to and including, exercising

ing a certain degree of control over the subcontractors working on your sites. For details regarding the construction VPP please call Mark Norton at 520-628-5478, or Babak Emami at 602-542-5795.

Lastly there has been a lot of discussion over the past year regarding the status of the VPP program and possible resource cuts on the Federal level. Arizona is committed to maintaining this worthwhile program ([see commitment letter](#)), which provides greater safety awareness and protection to over 22,000 employees in the state. This is a reflection of the commitment by management and employees alike.

Fatal Mistakes

Who would guess that Arizona would have its share of workplace drowning? It is understandable for states with abundant lakes, beaches, ponds or fishing communities; but Arizona? We are reminded year round to watch our children around water, check fences and gates, keep pools clean and be vigilant about childcare. Having a pool in the backyard requires a higher level of responsibility and even presents a higher level of liability.

Likewise, when employers assign employees to work in proximity to water, the hazards of the work environment must be assessed and appropriate protective measures taken to prevent submersion into canals, ponds, tanks, rivers, creeks, lakes, irrigation systems, pools and even excavations. Consider the following fatalities:

In March, 2005, two employees of a landscaping company arrived at a Phoenix home to perform routine yard work. They split up, one working in the front yard, one in the back yard where there was a pool. The company had been servicing the yard every other week for at least 6 months and the employees were familiar with the jobsite.

The worker in the back yard was alone and trimming hedges, having had to trim one hedge group that grew in a fixed planter within 3' of the pool edge. The hedge overgrowth only allowed for a narrow 2 ½' walkway, which would have been very close quarters for the use of a gas-powered trimmer. A resident of the home came out to sit at a table on the patio and noticed the gas-powered trimmer in the pool, which she figured was accidentally dropped by the worker. A few minutes later she became aware of the worker at the bottom of the pool, near the drain, at approximately 8' in depth. He had apparently stepped backward and fell into the pool while trimming the hedge.

The resident called to the other worker who was coming from the front yard to assist in the back yard. When he saw his fellow worker in the water he told the resident that he could not swim and as she called 911 she raced into the house to get her mother. The mother dove into the water and pulled the victim to the pool side and began CPR. CPR was continued by the emergency responders but the worker was pronounced dead at the hospital.

In December 2008 a 20 year-old employee of a golf course maintenance company was operating a ride-on mower at the ninth tee of a golf course, near an irrigation pond. The terrain was at a 6% slope into the pond. As the mower approached the pond, the operator lost control and the mower rolled into the water. A nearby golfer heard a large splash, and seeing the mower and operator in the water ran to assist the worker who slipped under the murky surface. The golfer/rescuer was not able to locate the victim, and due to medical concerns was forced to stop his rescue efforts. At this time two golf course employees came to the scene and attempted to locate the victim, thinking he was under the submerged mower. They could not find the worker in the darkened water, and neither could the fire department and police first responders. A rescue dive team was called in and the lifeless body recovered 2 hours after the incident began. The victim had been working with the landscaping maintenance company for about two months.

In November 1999 a 27 year-old construction laborer was preparing to make a repair connection to a 6" water line, located in an excavation. The closed gate valve came off the end of the water line, releasing water under pressure into the excavation. The employee was immediately engulfed in a torrent of water within the confines of the excavation, and drowned.

In July 1993 a 42 year-old employee of a mechanical repair company arrived by boat at a Lake Powell buoy to repair a generator on a 70' house boat. The small boat that he arrived in became unsecured and drifted away from the houseboat. The employee swam out to recover the boat but drowned in the attempt.

These four fatalities are by no means an exhaustive list. As you can see, extra vigilance and assigned responsibilities are required by employers to safeguard employees who work near or with water. Play the worse case scenario exercise, and then provide protective measures for each eventuality. Train employees to recognize the hazards and empower them to take action for their own safety. "Employers - Watch Your Employees Around Water!" is a mantra we can use all year long.

Jenny Mandeville, Safety Consultant/Trainer

A Thousand Words

ADOSH recently inspected this contractor performing work in the Tucson area. Employees indicated they had expressed concerns regarding the safety of the excavation and the need to have some type of protective equipment.

Following our inspection, ADOSH issued willful serious citations for failing to protect the excavation from collapse and for the competent person's failure to take measures to correct serious hazards.

Excavation safety remains an area of emphasis for ADOSH. Ensure your excavations are properly protected against collapse!



Temporary Employees

In these difficult economic times, many employers are turning to temporary employees to fill short-term staffing voids until such time as situations improve and permanent positions can be opened for hire. While temporary employees can and do fill a necessary role, they can also present challenges to employers in terms of occupational safety and health.

Many times, temporary employees do not have the experience, skills and/or training in the tasks assigned. Unfortunately, it is also true that many times employers who hire temporary help are also not providing the training necessary to ensure that temporary employees can perform tasks in a safe manner.

Employee training is an integral part of an overall safety program. Employers have a duty to provide

training to employees, including temporary employees, on the hazards associated with a particular task. Furthermore, an employer has a duty to ensure that the training and instruction is followed.

Summer heat kills! Every year, approximately four employees in Arizona die as a result of heat-related illnesses. Make sure your employees have plenty of fluids, shade and rest!

The "Inbox"

We regularly receive questions and comments via e-mail, at adosh.comments@dol.gov. Following is a selection of some we recently received.

Q: Are students required by OSHA to wear long pants in a laboratory classroom even if the class does not include a lab component?

A: OSHA regulations do not apply to students unless the students are also employees, receiving compensation for their work. OSHA regulations apply only where there is an employer/employee relationship.

Q: I frequently experience symptoms of illness (itchy eyes, sore throat, headaches, etc.) when I go to work. I think it may have something to do with the quality of the indoor air. Is there anything I can do about this?

A: First, it is important to understand that there are many possible non-work related explanations for your symptoms and you may wish to see your physician for guidance. In terms of your workplace, you should speak with your employer and ask that they be sure that the

HVAC systems are in optimal operating condition. Filters should be changed regularly and there should be a sufficient amount of fresh air introduced into inside areas.

If you feel it is necessary, you may file a complaint with ADOSH, but understand that there are no OSHA standards on indoor air quality. Unless the situation is such that employees are suffering serious health effects, there may be little that ADOSH can require an employer to do to make changes.

ADOSH Education and Training Calendar

Registration for each class begins 30 days prior to the date of the class. Classes sponsored by ADOSH are free of charge but are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Some classes or seminars listed are not exclusively sponsored by ADOSH and may carry a nominal fee to cover the cost of course materials, space rental, etc. **NOTE: The phone number listed for each class is the number participants need to call for registration purposes and may or may not be a direct number to ADOSH or the trainer. Students must call the specific number listed to register.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class Title</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Instructor</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>Facilitator</u>
July 1	Laser Safety Awareness	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Caballero	520-628-5478	
July 8	Safety Management - Gen. Ind.	3030 N. 3 rd St.	Phoenix - SCF	Mandeville	602-631-2228	Scott Higbee
July 14	Construction Site Safety	3030 N. 3 rd St.	Phoenix - SCF	Mandeville	602-631-2228	Scott Higbee
July 14	Confined Spaces	12001 W Peoria	El Mirage	Mandeville	623-876-4253	Dennis Teller
July 15	Forklift Train-the-trainer	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Garton	520-628-5478	
July 15	Accident Investigation	3000 N Dysart Road	Avondale	Mandeville	623-935-8888	Landis Elliott
July 16	OSHA Recordkeeping (300 log)	2951 S. 21st. Dr.	Yuma	Caballero	928-373-1138	Diane Robinson
July 21	OSHA Inspections	2951 S. 21st. Dr.	Yuma	Caballero	928-373-1138	Diane Robinson
July 21	Ergonomics for Construction	16430 N. Scottsdale Rd Ste 150	Scottsdale	Mandeville	602-274-6545	Lisa Rugloski
July 21	Violence in the Workplace	5401 E. Commerce	Flagstaff	Mandeville	928-522-3032	Margaret Penado
July 22	Forklift Train-the-Trainer	5401 E. Commerce	Flagstaff	Mandeville	928-522-3032	Margaret Penado
July 22	Emergency/Evacuation Planning	5401 E. Commerce	Flagstaff	Mandeville	928-522-3032	Margaret Penado
July 22	Driver Safety	5401 E. Commerce	Flagstaff	Mandeville	928-522-3032	Margaret Penado
July 28	OSHA Recordkeeping (300 log)	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Caballero	520-628-5478	
Aug. 4	Fall Protection	55 S. Priest Dr	Tempe	Mandeville	480-350-2904	Chris Hansen
Aug. 4	Hazard Communication	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Garton	520-628-5478	
Aug. 5	Job Hazard Analysis	3030 N. 3 rd St.	Phoenix - SCF	Mandeville	602-631-2228	Scott Higbee
Aug. 5	Accident Investigation	3030 N. 3 rd St.	Phoenix - SCF	Mandeville	602-631-2228	Scott Higbee
Aug. 5	Machine Guarding	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Norton	520-628-5478	
Aug. 10	Utility Worker Safety	8401 W. Monroe	Peoria	Mandeville	623-773-7679	Tracey Booth
Aug. 10	All About VPP	2951 S. 21st. Dr.	Yuma	Norton	928-373-1138	Diane Robinson
Aug. 10	Excavation Safety Awareness	2951 S. 21st. Dr.	Yuma	Norton	928-373-1138	Diane Robinson
Aug. 11	Lockout/Tagout	55 S. Priest Dr	Tempe	Mandeville	480-350-2904	Chris Hansen
Aug. 11	Concret & Masonry Safety	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Caballero	520-628-5478	
Aug. 12	Bloodborne Pathogens	7360 E. Tahoe Ave	Mesa	Mandeville	480-857-5501	Jodi Gilsdorf
Aug. 17	Respiratory Protection	3727 Karicio Lane	Prescott	Mandeville	928-541-5001	Rusty Summers
Aug. 17	Forklift Train-the-Trainer	3727 Karicio Lane	Prescott	Mandeville	928-541-5001	Rusty Summers
Aug. 18	Fall Protection	3727 Karicio Lane	Prescott	Mandeville	928-541-5001	Rusty Summers
Aug. 18	Scaffold & Aerial Lift Safety	3727 Karicio Lane	Prescott	Mandeville	928-541-5001	Rusty Summers
Aug. 24	Electrical Safety Awareness	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Caballero	520-628-5478	
Aug. 25	Excavation Safety Awareness	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Garton	520-628-5478	
Aug. 27	Personal Protective Equipment	16430 N. Scottsdale Rd.	Scottsdale	Mandeville	602-274-6545	Lisa Rugloski
Sep. 1	Hazard Recognition	12001 W Peoria	El Mirage	Mandeville	623-876-4253	Dennis Teller
Sep. 2	Scaffold & Aerial Lift Safety	3030 N. 3 rd St.	Phoenix - SCF	Mandeville	602-631-2228	Scott Higbee
Sep. 7	Safety Management	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Norton	520-628-5478	
Sep. 8	Excavation Safety Awareness	8401 W. Monroe	Peoria	Mandeville	623-773-7679	Tracey Booth
Sep. 8	Construction Hazard Awareness	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Caballero	520-628-5478	
Sep. 14	Hand & Power Tool Safety	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Garton	520-628-5478	
Sep. 15	Job Hazard Analysis	1611 S Main St.	Snowflake	Mandeville	928-522-3032	Margaret Penado
Sep. 15	Accident Investigation	1611 S Main St.	Snowflake	Mandeville	928-522-3032	Margaret Penado
Sep. 16	Electrical Safety	1611 S Main St.	Snowflake	Mandeville	928-522-3032	Margaret Penado

Trainer's Corner

Training Calendar
Cont'd.

Date	Class Title	Location	City	Instructor	Phone	Facilitator
Sep. 21	Lockout/Tagout Bloodborne Pathogens Workplace Violence	1611 S Main St. 8351 W. Cinnabar Ave 2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Snowflake Peoria Tucson		928-522-3032 623-773-7679 520-628-5478	Margaret Penado Tracey Booth
Sep. 23	General Industry Hazards	2675 E. Broadway Rd.	Tucson	Caballero	520-628-5478	
Sep. 29	Construction Site Safety Mgt.	1971 Jagerson Ave. (MCC)	Kingman	Mandeville	928-757-0894	LeeAnn Benton
Sep. 30	OSHA Office Safety Hazard Communication	1977 Acoma Blvd. W (MCC) 1977 Acoma Blvd. W (MCC)	Lake Havasu Lake Havasu	Mandeville Mandeville	928-757-0894 928-757-0894	LeeAnn Benton LeeAnn Benton

It is always a challenge to keep training relevant and current, especially when working with long-time employees. The OSHA website offers helpful training resources, if one knows where and how to look for them. One of the methods I use to interest employees in a much reviewed topic is to pull real-life accident and fatality information from the IMIS Database, available on www.osha.gov.

When you log onto the OSHA website a sub-menu *Data and Statistics* can be found mid-page. From the sub-menu, click on *Fatality and Catastrophe Investigation Summaries*, or click on this link: <https://www.osha.gov/oshstats/index.html>

To provide information that is particularly relevant to your training group, make sure you know the SIC (Standard Industrial Classification) number of the business or industry, so that you can filter the search fields. If you are not sure about the SIC, you can look up the number on [this page](#), under "SIC Manual." Once you know the SIC, you can click the "Accident Investigation Search" link and perform a search for accident or fatality information that has been compiled from the summaries of OSHA investigations.

"confined space". 2) Choose "Fatality Only" (or leave blank if you want both accident and fatality data). 3) Enter SIC 17 (Construction). 4) Click "Submit". 5) View the five fatalities listed. Click on a highlighted *Summary Number* for information about the incident. 6) If further information is desired, click on the highlighted *Inspection Number* to find where the company was located. You can then perform an internet search for local newspapers or TV news broadcasts that covered the incident. The summaries contain only the basic information of the incident, but usually enough information to spur discussion and convince students that the hazards are real and the consequences of ignoring the hazards can be fatal.

Now that you are on the *Statistics* page, click on the "Frequently Cited OSHA Standards" for your targeted industry, to see where training emphasis can be placed and help students understand that OSHA does cite companies for non-compliance. Explore the page for even more material that you can include in your training curriculum. Statistics and real-life stories can help bring around even the most skeptical student.

-Jenny Mandeville, Consultant

Example: 1) Enter the keywords



Printpack in Prescott Valley during their VPP award and celebration. Printpack's injury and illness rate is 27% below the national average for their industry!

Congratulations to all of the Arizona VPP members!

**Occupational Fatalities Investigated by ADOSH
January 1, 2010 through March 31, 2010**

- 1) A construction employee was killed when he was struck by a forklift.
- 2) The owner of a scissors lift was killed when he raised the lift into an overhead electrical line.
- 3) An employee was killed when the side dump truck he was driving overturned. He was not wearing a seat belt.

CPSC Recalls

The US Consumer Product Safety Commission has issued recalls for the following products. Employers who have these items should contact the product manufacturers for additional information.

Ridgid table saws sold exclusively at Home Depot. The table saw's arbor shaft can fail when used with a

stacked blade set. The blade set can eject from the saw, posing a potential laceration hazard to users.

Hitachi coil nailers. The nailers could have a faulty feeder that can allow nails to be ejected sideways, posing a serious injury hazard to the user or bystanders.

Fluke VoltAlert voltage detector. The testers can fail to give an indi-

cation of live voltage, resulting in the user falsely believing the electrical power is off, posing a risk of serious injury or death from electrical shock or thermal burns.

Stanley stud sensors 200 and FatMax sensors 400. The stud sensor can fail to calibrate properly and detect AC electrical wires behind the wall, posing a shock hazard to the user.

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