

This monthly e-newsletter provides updates on the Workplace Safety Programs at the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (DWC). Any Texas employer with or without workers' compensation insurance is eligible for these services.

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### Transportation Safety Information

#### Tire Safety

**T**ire blowouts while driving are serious safety hazards and can cause crashes, injuries, and fatalities. Employees can use the following tips to prevent blowouts:

- Keep tires inflated to the level recommended by your vehicle manufacturer. This information is located on a placard on the driver's side door frame. Vehicles manufactured after 2007 come equipped with a tire pressure monitoring system, but it may not detect minor changes in tire pressure. Check tire pressure

(Continued on [page 2](#))

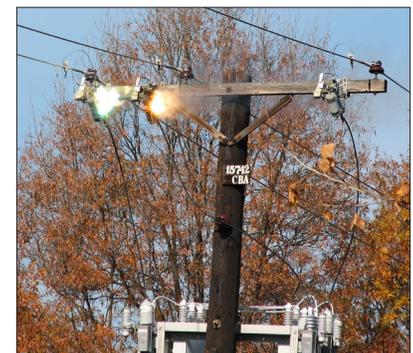


tirezo@flickr.com

### Safety Tips

#### Electrical Safety, Hurricane Safety

**M**ay is National Electrical Safety Month, sponsored by the Electrical Safety Foundation International. Electricity is both useful and dangerous. National Electrical Safety Month provides an opportunity to increase awareness among all employees about the importance of being safe around electricity when performing all types of job tasks. There are many potential electrical hazards at work, and accidental contact with electricity can mean injury, burns, or even death.



buschap@flickr.com

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## Transportation Safety Information (cont.)

yourself at least monthly and add air if needed. An under-inflated tire generates more heat than a properly-inflated tire.

- If you haul heavy loads, make sure they do not exceed your vehicle's gross vehicle weight rating. This is also listed on the placard on the driver's side door frame.
- Tire temperature ratings come in A, B, and C. Tires with an A temperature rating perform better in hot climates.
- Check tires frequently for uneven wear. An alignment problem can cause tires to wear through to the steel belt. When that happens, the tire is more likely to blow out. Rotate and balance tires regularly.
- If you strike a pothole, curb, or other road hazard, have the tire checked out by a professional for damage.

If a blowout occurs, follow these tips from the National Safety Council (NSC):

- At the first sign of tire trouble, grip the steering wheel firmly in both hands.
- Do not brake at first; take your foot off of the accelerator and let the car lose some speed.
- Turn on the vehicle's hazard lights.
- If you need to change lanes, do so slowly and deliberately, signaling to other drivers.
- Once your vehicle has slowed to about 30 mph, try pulling completely off the roadway. Don't be afraid to drive a short distance on the flat—the tire is probably ruined anyway.
- When all four wheels are off the roadway, brake lightly to come to a stop.
- Keep the hazard lights on and set out reflective triangles or other safety devices.
- Change the tire if you can do so safely, or call the Texas Department of Public Safety Stranded Motorist Hotline at 1-800-525-5555 for help. This number is printed on Texas driver licenses and identification cards.

Once the tire is changed, have the tire, wheel, and vehicle checked out professionally as soon as possible. ▲

## Download!

### DWC Resources

Safety Training Resources for Transportation-Related Incidents  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/targtransrltd.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/targtransrltd.html)

Resource Center Safety DVD Loans

[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html)

### Other Resources

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA)  
Tire Maintenance webpage

[www.safercar.gov/tires/pages/tires\\_maintenance.html](http://www.safercar.gov/tires/pages/tires_maintenance.html)

NHTSA Publications on Tire Safety

[www.nhtsa.gov/Vehicle+Safety/Tires](http://www.nhtsa.gov/Vehicle+Safety/Tires)

## Safety Tips (cont.)

Employees should follow these tips to stay safe around electricity:

### Grounding and Wiring

- Ground all power supplies using a three-wire system, including electrical outlets, circuits, extension cords, and tools. Use ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) electrical outlets or plug-in units.
- You can plug a double-insulated tool with a two-prong-electrical plug into a three-wire system.
- Use extension cords designed for outdoor use and rated for the power needs of electrical equipment.
- Maintain 36 inches clearance around all electrical boxes, panels, and controls.

### Tools

- Keep electrical equipment and tools away from wet areas.
- Use electric power tools according to the manufacturer's instructions.
- Store all tools unplugged in dry areas when not in use.

## Safety Tips (cont.)

- Do not carry, raise, lower, or hang tools using the power cord.
- Inspect electric power tools before and after each use for damage to the tool itself. Also check all power cords, plugs, or ground prongs.
- Only use ladders with fiberglass or wooden side rails when working near electricity.

### Personnel Working Around Power Lines

- In Texas, dial 811 before digging to determine the location of underground utilities.
- Keep a minimum of ten feet clearance away from all power lines. Be aware of overhead power lines when carrying or setting up a ladder or using long handled tools, and use spotters if needed.
- If trimming grass, trees, or shrubs, be aware of electrical wiring or extension cords that power yard decorations.
- Use non-conductive tools.
- Treat all lines with caution and respect. Even low-voltage electric lines can be hazardous if damaged or improperly handled.
- Stay away from downed power lines. DO NOT try to move them with dry objects such as broomsticks.
- If someone is touching a downed power line, call 911. DO NOT touch the person.

## Upcoming Free Traffic Safety Workshop for Employers

The National Safety Council's (NSC) *Our Driving Concern*: Texas Employer Traffic Safety Program is offering free employer train-the-trainer traffic safety workshops:

- Grapevine – Monday, May 23, 2016  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Baylor Scott and White Medical Center  
1650 W. College St., Grapevine, Texas, 76051
- Corpus Christi – Wednesday, September 14  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Texas Department of Transportation – Corpus Christi  
1701 S. Padre Island Dr., Building 2, Rooms A,B,C,  
Corpus Christi, Texas 78416

*Space is limited.*

Register online at [www.txdrivingconcern.org](http://www.txdrivingconcern.org).

For more information, call Lisa Robinson at

512-466-7383 or email at [lisa.robinson@nsc.org](mailto:lisa.robinson@nsc.org).

### Free Webinars

The NSC also offers free webinars on a variety of workplace safety topics, including:

- My Car Does What? (May 20)  
More information can be found on the Texas Driving Concern website at [www.txdrivingconcern.org](http://www.txdrivingconcern.org).
- All mini webinars begin at 10:00 a.m.

## ELECTRICITY FACTS

- Electrical voltage can melt steel and be fatal.
- Overhead and buried power lines at worksites are especially hazardous because they can carry extremely high voltage.
- Using motorized tools and equipment in around power lines increases the risk of electrocution, burns, and falls from elevations.
- The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) requires minimum clearance from power lines.
  - ◇ At least ten feet away from power lines carrying 50 kilovolts (50,000 volts).
  - ◇ 15 feet if the voltage is unknown or between 50 and 200 kilovolts.
- Many power lines are not insulated. Even if they are, the insulation is meant to protect the line, not you.

## Safety Tips (cont.)

### Vehicle Operations Around Power Lines

A vehicle that touches a power line becomes a path to ground. Operators of equipment such as mobile cranes, boom trucks, boom lifts, scissors lifts, rough-terrain forklifts, track hoes and backhoes, concrete pumpers, and drilling rigs are at risk. However, employees on the ground who touch the equipment are far more likely to become electrocuted. If OSHA-required clearances cannot be met, ask the power company to de-energize the power lines or create protective and non-conductive barriers.

- Do not operate equipment around power lines unless you are authorized and trained to do so.
- Use a spotter.
- Do not drive over downed lines.
- If you are in a vehicle that comes in contact with a power line, DO NOT leave the vehicle if possible. Stay inside and avoid touching metal on the vehicle. Honk your horn or call 911 if you have a cell phone. Warn others offering assistance not to touch the vehicle.
- If you must exit a vehicle that is in contact with a power line, DO NOT touch the vehicle and the ground at the same time so you do not become a path for the current to go to ground. The current passing through the vehicle is already going to ground creating electrical fields in the earth around it. Jump clear of the vehicle, keep your feet together, and shuffle or hop out of the area.
- Others in the area must stay well clear of the vehicle. The electrical fields around it will increase over time until the line is de-energized. ▲

## Download!

### DWC Resources

*Electric Shock Take 5 for Safety*

[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/t5electricshock.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/t5electricshock.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/spt5electricshock.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/spt5electricshock.pdf) (Spanish)

*Electrical Safety*

[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/essielecsafe.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/essielecsafe.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/essielecsafes.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/essielecsafes.pdf) (Spanish)

*Electrical Safety Training Program*

[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/stpelsafe.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/stpelsafe.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/stpelsafes.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/stpelsafes.pdf) (Spanish)

*ENG Camera and Live Truck Safety FactSheet*

[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fsengcamtruck.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fsengcamtruck.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/spsengcamtruck.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/spsengcamtruck.pdf) (Spanish)

### Other Resources

*Electrical Safety Foundation International National Electrical Safety Month*

[www.esfi.org/program/national-electrical-safety-month-314](http://www.esfi.org/program/national-electrical-safety-month-314)

*OSHA Construction eTool*

*(see section under Contact with Power Lines)*

[www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/construction/electrical\\_incidents/mainpage.html](http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/etools/construction/electrical_incidents/mainpage.html)

*OSHA Electrical Safety*

[www.osha.gov/SLTC/electrical/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/electrical/index.html)

*OSHA Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution Industry*

[www.osha.gov/SLTC/powergeneration/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/powergeneration/index.html)

*OSHA Electrical Contractors Industry*

[www.osha.gov/SLTC/electricalcontractors/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/electricalcontractors/index.html)

*NIOSH Electrical Safety*

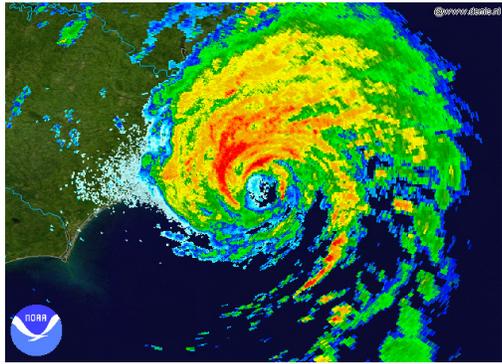
[www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/electrical/](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/electrical/)

*Oregon OSHA Power Line Safety*

[www.orosha.org/pdf/pubs/fact\\_sheets/fs46.pdf](http://www.orosha.org/pdf/pubs/fact_sheets/fs46.pdf)

## Hurricane Safety

May 15-21, 2016, is National Hurricane Preparedness Week. The Texas Gulf Coast and low-lying areas immediately inland are vulnerable to hurricanes and tropical storms. A lack of knowledge about hurricanes and preparedness is a common



link among major hurricane disasters, according to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). You can reduce risks by assessing your risk and taking precautions.

Employers can use the daily tips listed below to raise hurricane planning awareness among their employees.

- Sunday, May 15 Determine your risk.
- Monday, May 16 Develop an evacuation plan.
- Tuesday, May 17 Secure an insurance checkup.
- Wednesday, May 18 Assemble disaster supplies.
- Thursday, May 19 Strengthen your home.
- Friday, May 20 Identify your trusted sources of information for a hurricane event.
- Saturday, May 21 Complete your written hurricane plan.

NOAA offers educational materials on each of these topics, plus links to informational videos in English and Spanish on its website at [www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/hurricane-preparedness.html](http://www.nws.noaa.gov/com/weatherreadynation/hurricane-preparedness.html). ▲



### DWC Resources

*Emergency Action Plan Sample OSHA Written Program*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/emergencyact.doc](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/emergencyact.doc)

*Emergency Procedures for Employees with Disabilities in Office Occupations Resource Guide*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/ghsprgemergproc.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/ghsprgemergproc.pdf)

[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spghsprgemergproc.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spghsprgemergproc.pdf) (Spanish)

*Emergency Response Planning for Hazardous Materials*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/stperplan.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/stperplan.pdf)

*Hurricane Preparation FactSheet*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fshurricane.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fshurricane.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spfshurricane.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spfshurricane.pdf) (Spanish)

*Hurricane/Tornado Recovery Efforts and Clean-Up Hazards*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fshurricanecl.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fshurricanecl.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spfshurricanecl.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spfshurricanecl.pdf) (Spanish)

*Severe Weather Action Planning Safety Training Program*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/stpsevwea.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/stpsevwea.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spstpsevwea.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spstpsevwea.pdf) (Spanish)

*Tornado Safety – Take 5 for Safety*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/t5tornadosafety.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/t5tornadosafety.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spt5tornadosafety.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spt5tornadosafety.pdf) (Spanish)

*Tree Trimming Safety Tips for Hurricane/Tornado Clean Up FactSheet*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fstreetrim.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/fstreetrim.pdf)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spfstreetrim.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresourcecssp/spfstreetrim.pdf) (Spanish)

Resource Center Safety DVD Loans  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html)

### Other Resources

*OSHA Hurricane Preparedness and Response*  
[www.osha.gov/dts/weather/hurricane/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/dts/weather/hurricane/index.html)

*NIOSH Emergency Response Resources*  
[www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/emres/flood.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/emres/flood.html)

*State Fire Marshal's Office Fire Safety Tips for the Hurricane Season*  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/fire/fmcanefiresafe.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/fire/fmcanefiresafe.html)

## DWC, OSHCON, and OSHA Recognize Four Texas Companies with Exemplary Safety Programs

The DWC's Occupational Safety and Health Consultation (OSHCON) Program and OSHA recently recognized the following Texas companies for outstanding safety programs with the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) award. As a SHARP recipient, these companies have been granted a one-year exemption from OSHA for planned inspections.

**Metal Specialties, Inc.** employs 20 people at its Odessa location. This company provides sheet metal fabrication services to the oil and gas industry.

**The OK Concrete Company** employs one person at its Seymour (Plant 5) location and one person at its Olney (Plant 12) location. This company manufactures and delivers ready-mix concrete as well as other construction materials such as sand, gravel, and rock chips to the construction industry. This company received SHARP awards for both worksites.

**Shelton & Shelton Plumbing, L.P.** employs 93 people at its Killeen location. This company provides commercial and industrial plumbing, public works construction, certified backflow prevention testing, and other plumbing-related construction services.

**Tyler Beverages, Inc.** employs 92 people at its Tyler location. This company serves businesses in the East Texas area as the franchised bottler of Dr Pepper, 7Up, and other nationally branded soft drinks.

The SHARP award recognizes small, private sector Texas employers participating in the DWC OSHCON program for exemplary safety management programs and low incidence rates of work-related injuries and illnesses. ▲

## Regional Safety Summits

DWC offers a series of regional safety summits that provide affordable training on common causes of preventable injuries and fatalities in the workplace, as well as current and upcoming regulations in the occupational safety and health fields.

### Session Options

Session Time	Option 1	Option 2
Morning	<i>Occupational Driving Safety Programs</i>	<i>Workplace Violence Prevention and Personal Security</i>
Afternoon	<i>Preventing Sprains and Strains</i>	<i>Safety Orientation, Safety Inspections, and OSHA Compliance Update</i>

**San Antonio — May 10, 2016**

**Region 20 Education Service Center  
1314 Hines, San Antonio**

**El Paso — May 24, 2016**

**Tech20 Water Resources Learning Center  
10751 Montana Avenue, El Paso**

**Houston — June 21, 2016**

**University of Houston Small Business  
Development Center  
2302 Fannin Street, Suite 200, Houston**

**Austin — June 28, 2016**

**Holiday Inn Lady Bird Lake  
20 North IH-35, Austin**

**Waco — July 12, 2016**

**Holiday Inn Express  
5701 Legend Lake Parkway, Waco**

## Register!

For session descriptions and to register, visit [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/regional.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/regional.html) or call 512-804-4610. The registration fee is \$50 per person and includes course materials and a CD of all four presentations. Register five people and get registration for a sixth person free.

## Upcoming Safety Observances

**May 1-31**

***Motorcycle Safety Month***

**May 1-31**

***National Electrical Safety Month***

**May 1-31**

***Global Employee Health and Fitness Month***

**May 2-6**

***National Safety Stand-Down To Prevent Falls in Construction***

**May 15-21**

***Hurricane Preparedness Week***

**May 17-23**

***National Dog Bite Prevention Week***

**May 23-June 5**

***Click It or Ticket Campaign***

**June 1-30**

***National Safety Month***

**June 1-7**

***National CPR and AED Awareness Week***

**July 1-31**

***National Fireworks Safety Month***

## DWC Workplace Safety Job Postings

There are many benefits to working for the State of Texas and DWC, as detailed at [www.tdi.texas.gov/jobs/index.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/jobs/index.html).

A complete listing of safety related positions is posted at [www.tdi.texas.gov/jobs/jobs.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/jobs/jobs.html).

## Custom On-site Training

**D**WC offers affordable on-site safety training courses to businesses, groups, and trade associations. Training focuses on industries or occupations that experience high rates of injuries, illnesses, and fatalities in Texas.

DWC offers more than 30 on-site courses, including:

### ***Electrical Safety***

This program teaches OSHA General Industry 29 CFR 1910.331-335 standards and best practices. Topics include:

- elements of electricity
- hazards of electricity
- protective devices
- fuses
- safe work practices
- equipment use
- testing equipment
- safeguards for personal protection
- conducting electrical inspections.

*(Length: 1 hour.) Can be delivered via teleconference at no cost. This program may be included in the Safety & Health Outreach Program – General Industry.*

The DWC Training Program Descriptions guide at [www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/ghsphstrainingp.pdf](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/pubs/videoresource/ghsphstrainingp.pdf) provides information on course content and length. Cost for on-site training varies according to the travel costs to the location. Many courses are offered at no cost by teleconference or webinar. ▲

## Book Your Training Class!

To request training, or for more information, call 512-804-4610 or email [safetytraining@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:safetytraining@tdi.texas.gov).

## Safety DVDs for Electrical Safety

The DWC Resource Center has 4,000 DVDs in its library, and includes more than 140 DVDs on electrical safety. Most titles are available in English and Spanish. DVD titles and descriptions are found under the electrical safety subject heading.

### **2012 NFPA 70E: Electrical Safety in the Workplace DVD2872, DVD2872S**

"Highlights the hazards of arc flash with dramatic arc flash footage, full-scale explosions and realistic re-enactments of flammable clothing ignition due to arc flash incidents. Explains the critical parts of the 2012 70E standard in detail. Covers qualified electrical worker requirements, safe working conditions, energized electrical work permits, approach boundaries, arc flash boundaries, and hazard risk categories." 13 minutes.

### **Electrical Emergencies: Proper Response DVD1272ES**

"Covers the three levels of electric shock, common causes and classifications of fire, and proper first aid measures for victims of shock or smoke inhalation. Reviews emergency procedures and discusses how to extinguish electrical fires." 14 minutes.

### **Electrical Grounding: A Vital Precaution DVD1947ES**

"Covers proper grounding techniques for employees who work around potentially deadly electrical power. Discusses installing and removing grounds as well as choosing the right equipment for safe work around electrical power." 13 minutes.

### **Electrical Safety: Real, Real Life DVD2071ES**

"Provides information about safe work practices when working with or around electricity. Covers awareness and attitude, conductivity, personal protective equipment, and using ground-fault circuit interrupters." 13 minutes. ▲

## Book Your DVDs!

The DWC Resource Center catalog and information on how any Texas employer or employee can check out safety DVDs for free are available at [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html).

## Free OSHA 10-Hour Construction Classes

DWC offers free OSHA 10-Hour Construction classes in English and Spanish in Austin, Fort Worth, El Paso, Houston, La Marque, and San Antonio. Each two-day course is presented by authorized instructors and designed to train employers and employees on the essentials of occupational health and safety for construction. Classes cover OSHA standards and requirements as they apply to the construction industry and teach safety awareness to help recognize and reduce the risks of job-site hazards. Participants who complete the course get an OSHA 10-Hour Construction class completion card within six to eight weeks. ▲

## Register!

Additional information is available at [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/events/index.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/events/index.html).

Registration is required due to limited space. To register or get more information on class availability, call 512-804-4610.

## OSHA Update

### OSHA Issues Final Rule to Protect Employees from Exposure to Respirable Crystalline Silica

In March, OSHA announced a final rule to protect employees by reducing their exposure to respirable silica dust. The final rule contains two standards, one for construction and one for general industry and maritime. Both standards reduce the permissible exposure limit (PEL) for crystalline silica.

#### Key Provisions

The new rule:

- Reduces the PEL for respirable crystalline silica to 50 micrograms per cubic meter of air, averaged over an eight-hour shift.
- Requires employers to
  - ◇ use engineering controls (such as water or ventilation) to limit employee exposure to the PEL;
  - ◇ provide respirators when engineering controls cannot adequately limit exposure;
  - ◇ limit employee access to high exposure areas;
  - ◇ develop a written exposure control plan;
  - ◇ offer medical exams to highly exposed employees; and
  - ◇ train employees on silica risks and how to limit exposures.
- Provides medical exams to monitor highly exposed employees and gives them information about their lung health.
- Provides flexibility to help employers, particularly those in small businesses, to protect employees from silica exposure.

#### Compliance Schedule

Both standards contained in the final rule take effect on June 23, 2016, after which industries have one to five years to comply with most requirements, based on the following schedule:

- **Construction** – June 23, 2017
- **General Industry and Maritime** – June 23, 2018
- **Hydraulic Fracturing** – June 23, 2018, except for Engineering Controls, which have a compliance date of June 23, 2021. ▲

For more information, visit the [OSHA Silica index webpage](#).

#### Free Help with OSHA Compliance

**D**WC provides free help with OSHA compliance for small and medium-sized businesses, with priority given to high-hazard industries, through its OSHCON program. OSHCON is a non-regulatory program with professional safety and health consultants that is available to help identify and eliminate occupational hazards in your workplace, whether or not your company carries workers' compensation insurance. Benefits for employers participating in the OSHCON program include prevention of work-related injuries and illnesses; confirmation to employees and customers of their commitment to safety; public acknowledgement of their safety efforts; monetary savings by reducing workers' compensation costs and other costs associated with work-related injuries and illnesses; and protection of company assets such as employees, equipment, supplies, products, and facilities. ▲

**Find Out More  
About OSHCON!**

For more information about the OSHCON program call 1-800-252-7031, option 2, email [OSHCON@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:OSHCON@tdi.texas.gov), or visit [www.txoshcon.com](http://www.txoshcon.com).

## CONTACT US!

### FREE HELP WITH OSHA COMPLIANCE

- Occupational Safety and Health Consultation (OSHCON) Program  
[www.txoshcon.com](http://www.txoshcon.com)  
**1-800-252-7031 option 2**  
[OSHCON@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:OSHCON@tdi.texas.gov)

### SAFETY AND HEALTH RESOURCES

- Free Safety and Health Publications  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/index.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/index.html)
- Free Audiovisual Loans  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/avcatalog.html)  
**512-804-4620**
- Safety Training Courses and Seminars  
**512-804-4610**  
[safetytraining@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:safetytraining@tdi.texas.gov)
- Helpful Safety and Health Resource Links  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/govunivlinks.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/videoresources/govunivlinks.html)

### OCCUPATIONAL INJURY AND ILLNESS DATA

- Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (SOII)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/nonfatalhomepage.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/nonfatalhomepage.html)  
**512-804-5020**  
[InjuryAnalysis@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:InjuryAnalysis@tdi.texas.gov)
- Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI)  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/fathomepage.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/sis/fathomepage.html)  
**512-804-5020**  
[CFOI@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:CFOI@tdi.texas.gov)

### REPORT A SAFETY VIOLATION OR HAZARD

- Safety Violations Hotline  
Reports are taken in both English and Spanish and may be made anonymously.  
[www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/hotline.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/safety/hotline.html)  
**1-800-452-9595**

### RETURN-TO-WORK PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

- [www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/rtw/index.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/wc/rtw/index.html)  
**512-804-5000**

Subscribe to email alerts when the *Safety & Health Update* newsletter is published at [www.tdi.texas.gov/alert/dwcsafetyhealth.html](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/alert/dwcsafetyhealth.html). You will also receive information on occupational safety and health matters, safety tips and publications, upcoming training events, training DVD loans, and OSHA updates.

Please forward this newsletter to friends and colleagues interested in preventing workplace injuries and illnesses. Have a safe day!

DWC Resource Center  
512-804-4620  
[ResourceCenter@tdi.texas.gov](mailto:ResourceCenter@tdi.texas.gov)