# Recordkeeping -

- > Interpretations,
  - > Proposed Rules &
    - ➤ New Emphasis Programs





# January 13, 2011 Webinar

OSHA is taking a closer look at injury/illness records and employers' procedures that influence their accuracy. Proposed rules types of injuries that are recorded continue to loom on the horizon. And, even before these can be promulgated, OSHA is pushing forward with emphasis programs and new compliance ideas. This webinar reviewed recordkeeping basics in relation to OSHA initiatives. It also took a closer look at how OSHA injury/illness records relate to NECA safety and awards programs .

A copy of the PowerPoint file has been posted on the **NECA eSafetyLine software website. It is available free to all subscribers.** If you are currently registered for eSafetyLine, you can access it under the training section in the Accident reporting module. If you are not registered for eSafetyLine, you can contact NECA at for more information on how to subscribe to eSafetyLine.

# **National Electrical Contractors Association**

Bethesda Metro Center, Suite 1100 Bethesda, MD 20814 Phone: (301) 657-3110 Fax: (301) 215-4500

www.necanet.org

## **Objectives**

- Identify pending regulations that may affect recordkeeping
- Describe OSHA's National Emphasis Program on recordkeeping and the direct, as well as indirect, impact it may have on inspection of contractor records
- 3. Determine whether to record a given injury/illness
- 4. Give an example of a common mistake contractors make in their recordkeeping
- 5. Explain why lagging and leading measures should be part of a safety award program

# **Pending Regulations**

## **NAICS Update and Reporting Revisions**

- Action Proposed Rule
- Action Date March 2011
- Summary
  - update list of exempt industries
  - change from SIC codes to NAICS codes
  - change requirements around notification of fatalities and serious injuries

# **Pending Regulations**

# Modernizing OSHA's Reporting System

- Action Proposed Rule
- Action Date September 2011
- Summary
  - modernize reporting system
  - electronic submittal of recordable incident data??

# **Pending Regulations**

## **Musculoskeletal Disorders**

- · Action Final Rule
- Action Date February 2011
- Summar
- add a column for Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (WMSD) to the OSHA 300 Log.
- first step to a possible resurrection of an ergonomics standard ??????

## National Emphasis Program

## Purpose/Scope

- Address under-recorded injuries and illnesses
- · Targets manufacturing
- Pilot construction
- Construction NEP to be developed

## National Emphasis Program

# Records to be reviewed

- Medical records
- Workers' comp
- Insurance records
- Payroll absentee
- · Company safety incident
- First-aid logs
- Alternate duty rosters
- Disciplinary



# National Emphasis Program

## Persons to be interviewed

- Designated Recordkeeper
- Employee
- · Healthcare Professional
- Management representatives



# National Emphasis Program

## Questions

- Training
- Reporting policy
- Incentive/Award programs
- · Medical treatment and first aid
- Authority
- · Records access

# National Emphasis Program

## **Other Actions**

- · Limited walk-around
- Consistency with recorded injuries and illnesses, but will address any violations in plain view
- Expand scope or make referral to address areas that may pose safety and health issues

# National Emphasis Program

## **Citations**

- · Classified as other-than serious
- If "willful," "repeat," or "failure to abate," Regional Administrator or Regional Solicitor
- · NOT to be cited for over-reporting cases

# Recordkeeping Basics

## **Forms**

- OSHA forms
  - 300- Injury/Illness Log
  - 300A- Injury/Illness Summary
  - 301- Individual Incident Report

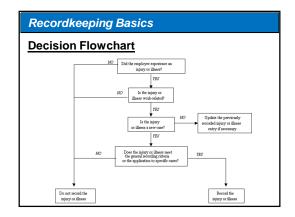


• 300A posted February 1st - April 30th

# Recordkeeping Basics

## <u>Understandings</u>

- Does not indicate fault
- Does not prove an OSHA rule was violated,
- · Does not determine eligibility for comp



## Recordkeeping Basics

#### **General Criteria**

- Death
- Days away from work
- · Restricted work activity
- Transfer to another job
- Medical treatment beyond first aid
- Loss of consciousness

## Recordkeeping Basics

#### **Miscellaneous**

- Entries to forms within 7 calendar days of event
- Day counts (days away or days restricted)
  - count calendar days employee unable to work
  - cap at 180 days
  - stop count if employee leaves for unrelated reason
- Privacy cases
- Multiple Establishments
  - Separate 300 for each establishment

#### Common Errors, Questions & Interpretations

#### Misunderstanding work restrictions (1)

- Q Employee has work-related occupational injury and examined by physician. Employee can be returned to full duty; however, is given 20-pound lifting restriction or "do not use left hand" for 3 weeks. Restriction given because employees may get rotated for non-routine tasks, or equipment breakdown that might occur once or twice a month. Is this still considered a work restriction for recordkeeping?
- A This case should not be recorded as restricted work. For recordkeeping purposes, an employee's routine functions are those work activities the employee regularly performs at least once per week.

## Common Errors, Questions & Interpretations

### Misunderstanding work restrictions (2)

- Q. Clerical worker injures knee in work-related accident. Has out-patient surgery 1 month after injury and released with only restriction being: "May work at home." Company sets up employee to work at home. Employee works from home, but not the full 8 hours/day Employee is able to perform all routine job functions from home. Should days be treated as restricted work activity or days-away-from work?
- A Assuming that the employee does not work from home as part of her normal work schedule, the case should be recorded as days away from work.

## Common Errors, Questions & Interpretations

### Using policy to immediately report as basis for recording

- Q. Employee injures back lifting materials, but doesn't feel it is serious enough to report. Later that week he is still in pain and visits his physician. The physician prescribes pain medication and issues a restriction to refrain from any lifting. The employer has a rule that all injuries must be reported within 24 hours. Is this recordable?
- A Even though an injury is reported late, in violation of an employer's rule, if the employee's account of the injury is credible meeting all other criteria of the standard, it must be recorded.

## Common Errors, Questions & Interpretations

#### Misunderstanding aggravations

- Q. Employee gets a bad case of tennis elbow on vacation, returns to work and picks up a small box of pencils. Lifting the pencil box pushes her elbow over the edge. She requires medical treatment and unable to type. Is the case recordable?
- A Although the standard states "significantly" aggravates a previous non-occupational condition, a provision in the standard also defines "significantly" aggravated as being severe enough to tip a non-occupational injury into the usual recordability criteria. In this case the incident resulted in aggravation sufficient enough to require treatment. The case is recordable.

## Common Errors, Questions & Interpretations

#### Misunderstanding work-relatedness

- Q. An employee arrives at work and parks his car in the company parking lot. As the employee is getting out of his car, he inadvertently slams the car door on his finger, and the injury requires "medical treatment." Is the case work-related and recordable?
- A Exception requires injury to occur commuting to or from work, to take place in company parking lot or company access road and be the result of a motor vehicle accident. The case is recordable.

## Common Errors, Questions & Interpretations

## Failure to rely on OSHA First-aid List

- **Q.** A foreign object (metal filing) is removed from an employee's eye by using a magnet. Is the case recordable?
- A The case is recordable. OSHA's "first aid" list is considered an exclusive list. It only considers removing foreign bodies from the eye by irrigation or a cotton swab as first aid.

## Safety Awards

## How are top safety performers measured?



## Safety Awards

- "... benchmarking ...[is]... an on-going outreach activity; the goal of the outreach is identification of best operating practices that, when implemented, produce superior performance."
- -Bogan and English, Benchmarking for Best Practices

## Safety Awards

#### **Metrics**

- Lagging Measures:
  - \*results oriented (RIR, LWDR, DART, Severity, Comp #s/\$, EMR)
- Leading Measures:
  - \* performance drivers (near miss reports, safety meeting attendance, safety work orders open vs closed / resolution, inspections)















