EHS Support
consider it done

Consider This

HEALTH & SAFETY NEWSLETTER
NOVEMBER 2015

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations

Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted

How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?

On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?

Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification

Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

Work Safe. Live Safe. Stay Safe.

EHS Support consider it done

Consider This
HEALTH & SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations

In relation to occupational safety and health, risk is commonly defined as *the likelihood that a person may be harmed or suffers adverse health effects if exposed to a hazard.* As part of managing the health and safety of your business, you must control the risks in your workplace.

To do this, think about what might cause harm to people in your business and decide whether you are taking reasonable steps to prevent that harm. This is known as a risk assessment. Assessing risk seems so obvious when we think about construction projects, chemical manufacturing, heavy equipment operation, etc. But what about companies where risk seems minimal?

Researching injury data or OSHA inspection updates (OSHA What's New) reveals an interesting perspective that highlights low-risk companies having serious injuries and getting hit with stiff penalties. For instance, Pier 1 Imports Inc., in Fort Worth was cited by OSHA for $86,100 for three serious and two repeated violations at two sites. Two serious violations were cited at the Fort Worth distribution center involved failing to ensure proper training for forklift operators and proper inspections for forklifts. A serious violation at the Mansfield location involved damaged storage racks. The repeated violations at both locations were for failing to provide forklift operator training. OSHA began the inspection after being notified that an electric pallet jack had struck an employee who was subsequently hospitalized. The report of the hospitalization is part of the new record keeping requirements as of **Jan. 1, 2015** requiring a company to report work-related fatalities and hospitalizations of three or more employees within eight hours of the event, as well as a hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye within 24 hours to OSHA.

The U.S. Postal Service in Greenville, SC issued one willful and two serious safety citations on September 14. The willful citation was issued for exposing employees to struck-by hazards by blocking and restricting traffic flow in aisles that are shared by powered industrial trucks and pedestrians. The serious violations include allowing employees to operate a forklift without using seat belts and exposing workers to falls from heights up to 8 feet. Proposed penalties are $79,900.

A risk assessment can protect your workforce, reveal lurking hazards and prevent costly penalties. Contact EHS Support today and set up your risk assessment.

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted

Forklift Safety is Accomplished through Forklift Training.

25% of forklift-related accidents are the result of inadequate training

Training helps protect against:

- Injury & Fatalities
- Fines for Noncompliance
- Liabilities
- Loss of Resources
- High Insurance Premiums
- Maintenance Costs
- Product & Property Damage

OSHA Found a **61%** Improvement Following Forklift Training

Forklift Safety Best Practices

- Practice safe driving, never allow riders on the forklift
- Only handle loads within the forklift's capacity
- Always tilt the load back before raising or driving
- Only trained and certified individuals should operate forklifts
- Never walk under a raised load, watch for pedestrians
- Always stay under the overhead guard
- Always wear a seatbelt

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted

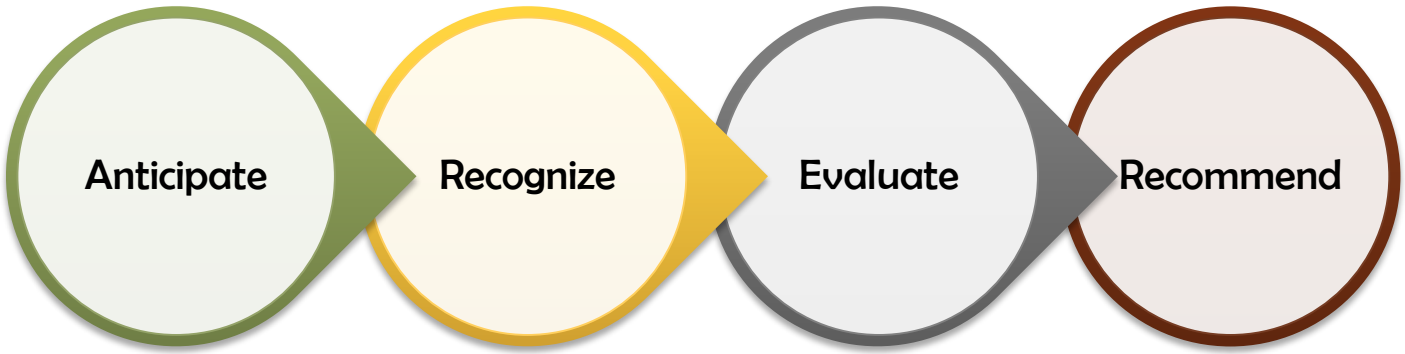
Need your personnel trained? Need a written program? **Contact EHS Support for details.**

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?

Under the *Act*, OSHA develops and sets mandatory occupational safety and health requirements applicable to the more than 6 million workplaces in the U.S. OSHA relies on, among many others, industrial hygienists to evaluate jobs for potential health hazards. Developing and setting mandatory occupational safety and health standards involves determining the extent of employee exposure to hazards and deciding what is needed to control these hazards, thereby protecting the workers.

Industrial hygienists, or IHs, are trained to **anticipate, recognize, evaluate,** and **recommend** controls for environmental and physical hazards that can affect the health and well-being of workers. More than 40 percent of the OSHA compliance officers who inspect America's workplaces are industrial hygienists. Industrial hygienists also play a major role in developing and issuing OSHA standards to protect workers from health hazards associated with toxic chemicals, biological hazards, and harmful physical agents. They also provide technical assistance and support to the agency's national and regional offices. OSHA also employs industrial hygienists who assist in setting up field enforcement procedures, and who issue technical interpretations of OSHA regulations and standards. Industrial hygienists analyze, identify, and measure workplace hazards or stressors that can cause sickness, impaired health, or significant discomfort in workers through chemical, physical, ergonomic, or biological exposures. Two roles of the OSHA industrial hygienist are to spot those conditions and help eliminate or control them through appropriate measures.



Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?

What is a Worksite Analysis?

A worksite analysis is an essential first step that helps an industrial hygienist determine what jobs and work stations are the sources of potential problems. During the worksite analysis, the industrial hygienist measures and identifies exposures, problem tasks, and risks. The most effective worksite analyses include all jobs, operations, and work activities. The industrial hygienist inspects, researches, or analyzes how the particular chemicals or physical hazards at that worksite affect worker health. If a situation hazardous to health is discovered, the industrial hygienist recommends the appropriate corrective actions.

What Are Some Examples of Job Hazards?

To be effective in recognizing and evaluating on-the-job hazards and recommending controls, industrial hygienists must be familiar with the hazards' characteristics. Major job risks can include:

Air contaminants

Chemical hazards

Biological hazards

Physical hazards

Ergonomic hazards.

Determine potential problems by conducting a worksite analysis, program review, or exposure monitoring. Connect with our Certified Industrial Hygienist to discuss your needs.

Source: Information Booklet on Industrial Hygiene, OSHA, OSHA 3143 1998 (Revised)

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?

Illnesses from exposure to chemicals kill nearly **50,000** people every year.

OSHA's GHS compliance regulations require employers to replace all MSDSs with updated, standardized SDS documents by **June 1, 2016**.

Practice corporate social responsibility by having an EHS Support team conduct an accurate and up-to-date chemical inventory.

Only **40%** of chemicals match the safety data sheet (SDS) records onsite. Due to long shelf lives and poor inventory management, more than **40%** of chemicals in laboratories are obsolete or expired.

Reference: Carillo, C (2015). On-Site Chemicals: Do You Know Your Exposure?. *Safety Decisions, Fall/Winter 2015*, pgs. 32-34.

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification

If your company subscribes to a third-party prequalification website such as ISNetworld, PICS, PEC Premier, BROWZ or others, they revise their standard questionnaires quite regularly. These are known as updates. The frequency at which they happen are variable depending on the third-party auditor. ISNetworld (ISN®) is the largest third-party auditor, and we will be taking a look at what a quarterly update is and how it can affect your score.

What is a quarterly update?

At the end of each quarter, ISN® takes initiative and revises their Management System Questionnaire™ (MSQ™) to ensure it is up to date with the most current legislative requirements and other important information as requested by Owner Clients. During this time, the MSQ™ will be inaccessible until the revisions have been made. The schedule is based on a calendar year's quarters.

Multiple changes can happen during one quarterly update. New questions may be added, obsolete questions removed, and new requirements may be populated. With each quarterly update, every ISNetworld® account will have to answer statistical questions pertaining to the number of employees, hours worked, injuries, time away from work, and other company-specific information for the past three months. This can be expected and will always be added during a quarterly update.

PEC PREMIER

PICS THE CONTRACTORS' CHOICE

BROWZ keeping compliance in check

ISN Collect. Verify. Connect.

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

Contact Monica Meyer at Monica.Meyer@ehs-support.com today to learn more about how we can help you manage your health and safety risks.

Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification (Cont.)

How can a "Quarterly Update" affect my grade?

After the quarterly update has been completed and the statistical information has been entered, there are different items which can affect your grade – in a positive or negative manner.

The most critical component of all is ensuring you are taking all necessary strides to incorporating a safe workplace. New incidents and injuries will definitely hurt your Total Recordable Incident Rate (TRIR) for the previous 3 years. However, if you have had incidents and injuries in the past but have worked incident-free, your TRIR will naturally become lower. Most, if not all, Owner Clients will take a very serious look at a contractor's safe hours worked when considering them for a project.

New questions added to the MSQ™, depending on the Owner Client, may appear in your GAP report. These should be addressed as soon as feasibly possible to ensure that your account does not fall to an unfavorable grade. Keep a close eye on any additional questions!

RAVS® revisions commonly happen during quarterly updates as well. This may entail partial or full revisions to your existing policies and procedures or write new programs. These have a major impact on most Owner Client's grading scales. Some Owner Clients may keep you off of a project until the new policies are written. This should take a high priority.

How can EHS Support assist you?

EHS Support can manage your existing third-party prequalification process or start the process for you. We are seasoned in developing and updating compliant safety programs and getting companies the highest grade possible along with developing a continuous improvement program tailored specifically to the needs of your company.

Let EHS Support manage the continual upkeep of your third-party prequalification database while you spend your valuable time managing your business.

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

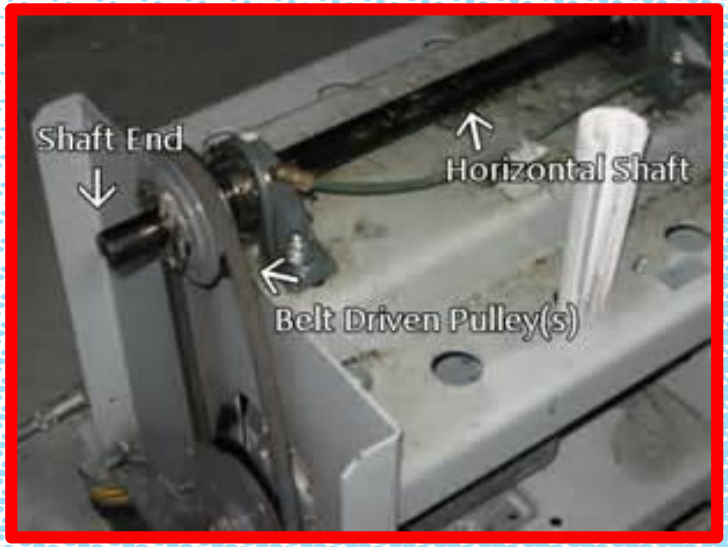
Why is it that safety professionals are getting heckled when we provide reminders on basic safety information and then go into a facility to conduct a mock-OSHA audit and find the same type of potential hazards or non-compliance items over and over again? Each month we feature a "Captain Obvious" photo to share simple safety reminders that are found on jobsites every day.

CORRECTIVE ACTIONS

- **Guard exposed rotating shaft, horizontal shaft and pulley.**
- **Retrain personnel machine guarding hazards and on inspecting equipment prior to use.**

FINDING

Lack of Proper Machine Guarding



Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

EHS Support consider it done

Consider This
HEALTH & SAFETY NEWSLETTER

Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

According to the calendar, and judging by the addition of long sleeves and jackets and the leaves changing to beautiful fall colors - summer is officially over. As the weather turns consistently cooler, facility or plant furnaces will start running on a regular basis. The time is now to conduct the annual inspection and tune-up.

Monitoring and tuning engines and furnaces to run efficiently and produce fewer emissions further reduces energy costs and the possibility of harm to workers and the environment. Checking air intake and exhaust systems for fumes, hazardous gases and noxious odors are imperative for a safe working environment.

As expected, new furnaces and boilers operate at peak efficiencies. Older equipment be 20 to 30 percent less efficient than new units. And while you can't always completely get back to "as new" efficiency, routine furnace maintenance has been shown to reduce energy costs by as much as 10 percent.

Sending properly conditioned heated or cooled air to the right locations in the right amounts helps reduce energy costs. Restricted or limited airflow places an unnecessary strain on a furnace that can lead to increased repairs and a shortened lifespan.

By balancing air handling system and running efficiency tests on boilers, furnaces or generators, you can spend less on energy and make people more comfortable and healthy in indoor environments.

Source: news@raecorents.com

Minimal Risk Leading to Costly Citations
Forklift Safety - Don't Take it for Granted
How are OSHA and Industrial Hygiene Related?
On-Site Chemicals – What is Your Exposure?
Quarterly Updates for Website Prequalification
Captain Obvious
Furnace and Ventilation Inspection and Tune-ups

Contact Monica Meyer at Monica.Meyer@ehs-support.com today to learn more about how we can help you manage your health and safety risks.