Occupational Safety for Public Works Facilities

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Consultation & Training

Purpose

- To help participants learn more about PEOSH.
- To make participants aware of the most common safety hazards in the Public Works Industry.
- To let participants know there are free, confidential resources available to assist with OSHA/PEOSH Compliance and Safety Training.
PEOSH Enforcement Process

1. Identify facility due for inspection
2. Conduct opening conference
3. Conduct On-Site Inspection
4. Failure to Abate
   - Abated
   - Follow-up Inspection
   - Case Closed
5. Violation(s)
   - Issue Order to Comply
   - No Violation

Inspection Targeting

- PEOSH Inspections originate in several different ways:
  - FAT/CATs
  - Complaints
  - State Performance Plan
  - Referrals from other disciplines
Emphasis Programs / Penalties

- PEOSH has established Departments of Public Works as a strategic initiative under the 50% OSHA Grant in the five year plan beginning 10/1/2019.
  - Greater focus on enforcement
  - Greater focus on outreach/cooperative services
- Revised Field Operations Manual (FOM): PEOSH has adopted the older Federal OSHA penalty structure so there will no longer be a 90% reduction.

Types of Violations

- Willful – fines of up to $70,000 (X 10)
  - Minimum of $5,000
  - Intentional disregard or plain indifference
- Repeat
  - For <250 multiplied by a factor of 2/5/10
  - For >250 multiplied by a factor of 5/10
- Serious – fines of up to $7,000
- Other Than Serious
- Regulatory
- De Minimus
Penalties

- PEOSH is not a first sanction fining organization except in the case of Willful and Repeat violations.
- The vast majority of PEOSH fines are caused by “Failure to Abate”.
- Per Diem penalty assessed until the hazard is corrected or 30 days – whichever comes first.

NJ's Top 10 Safety Violations in Public Works FFY 2018

- 10. 1910.101 Compressed Gases
- 9. 1910.212 Machine Guarding
- 8. 1910.37 Exit Routes
- 7. 1910.305 Wiring Methods, Components, and Equipment
- 6. 1910.157 Portable Fire Extinguishers
- 5. 1910.303 General Electrical Requirements
- 4. 1910.146 Permit Required Confined Space Entry
- 3. 1910.147 Control of Hazardous Energy
- 2. 1910.132 Personal Protective Equipment
- 1. 1904.29 Recordkeeping
Recently Changed Standards

- NEW: Confined Space in Construction (29 CFR 1926.1201)
- NEW Silica in Construction (29 CFR 1926.1153)  
  - Typically covered by Health
- REVISED Walking/Working Surfaces in General Industry (29 CFR 1910.21 through 30)

Frequently Found Safety Hazard Examples

CONTROL OF HAZARDOUS ENERGY – LOCK OUT TAG OUT
Employer Must Have...
- Written Program
- Machine Specific Procedures
- Employee Training
- Authorized Employees
- Affected Employees
- Annual Review

Is this OK?

How About This?
Employer Must Have…
- A written Emergency Plan if there are 10 or more employees working at the facility.
- Can be verbal if less than 10 employees.
- Training in these procedures must be provided
Insufficient Exit Access Width <28”

Emergency Lighting not in working condition
Exit sign isn’t illuminated

Frequently Found Safety Hazard Examples
ELECTRICAL HAZARDS
Blocked Electrical Panel

Multi-Plug Adapter In Use
Portable Power Taps in Series

No Faceplate on Outlet Box
Electrical Box Cover Has Been Removed and Not Replaced

Improper Splice
Damaged Cord Insulation

Frequently Found Safety Hazard Examples
PORTABLE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS
Employer Must...

- Conduct monthly visual tests of all fire extinguishers
- Conduct an annual maintenance check of all fire extinguishers
- Ensure fire extinguishers are mounted and readily available for employees
- Provide training annually if employees are going to be using fire extinguishers
- If any "Hot Work" is done then a trained employee must be available to act as a fire watch for the duration + 30 minutes

Frequently Found Safety Hazard Examples

PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
Employer should have...
- PPE Hazard Assessment
- Training Records
- PPE Available for employees

Frequently Found Safety Hazard Examples
MATERIAL HANDLING
Housekeeping

Unstable Storage
Work Zone Safety

Flagger and Spotter

- Flaggers should use clear and distinct hand signals and must wear high-visibility safety apparel.
- Flaggers should stand either on the shoulder or in the closed lane prior to stopping road users.
- Flaggers should be stationed sufficiently in advance of the responders to warn them of approaching danger.
  - When resources permit, a traffic spotter should be utilized to monitor traffic and activate an emergency signal to warn other responders of an approaching danger.
- Flaggers should stand alone, away from other responders, vehicles, or equipment.
Safety Vests

- Anyone exposed to vehicle traffic must wear appropriate high visibility apparel.
- The high visibility apparel or garment shall meet the ANSI 107-2004 Standard for Class 2 or 3.
Traffic Control Zones

Advance Warning Area

- Advance Warning Area tells traffic what to expect ahead
- Warning signs are placed prior to work area advising that there is a change in roadway
  - Lane shift
  - Lane closed
  - Detour

Traffic Control Zones

Transition Area

- Transition area moves traffic out of its normal path to new construction pattern
Traffic Control Zones
Activity Area

- Buffer space provides protection for workers and traffic
- Allows traffic to adjust to the new traffic pattern
- Work Area is where the construction activity is being done
- Work space is set aside for workers, equipment, and material storage

Traffic Control Zones
Termination Area

- Downstream buffer
- Termination taper returns traffic back to its normal pattern
- Termination of work activities
MUTCD Use of Hand-Signaling Devices By Flaggers

Consultation Overview

- Provide safety and health consultations to public employers in New Jersey
- Assist companies with OSHA/PEOSH regulations
- Help companies establish safety and health programs
- Assist with employer/employee S&H training
Training

- Provide safety training to employers in New Jersey in a wide variety of topics
- Forklift, LOTO, PPE, Work Zone Safety, Hazard Communication, etc.

Features & Benefits

- Voluntary - employer requests the training
- All training is completely FREE
- Training can be customized to the employers facility
- Training records are provided to the employer for records retention
Contact

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