**Final Rule Issued to Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses**

**What does the rule require?**
The new rule, which takes effect Jan. 1, 2017, requires certain employers to electronically submit injury and illness data that they are already required to record on their onsite OSHA Injury and Illness forms.

**Compliance schedule**
The new reporting requirements will be phased in over two years:

Establishments with 250 or more employees in industries covered by the recordkeeping regulation must submit information from their 2016 Form 300A by July 1, 2017. These same employers will be required to submit information from all 2017 forms (300A, 300, and 301) by July 1, 2018. Beginning in 2019 and every year thereafter, the information must be submitted by March 2.

Establishments with 20-249 employees in certain high-risk industries must submit information from their 2016 Form 300A by July 1, 2017, and their 2017 Form 300A by July 1, 2018. Beginning in 2019 and every year thereafter, the information must be submitted by March 2.

OSHA Penalties Significantly Raised

On July 1, 2016, the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) issued an interim final rule raising civil penalties by nearly 80% in some cases, for occupational and mine safety and health violations, and certain other types of employment law infractions. The Federal Register notice indicates that the rule takes effect on Aug. 1, 2016.

The maximum OSHA penalty–applicable to citations classified as “willful” or “repeat”—will rise on Aug. 1, 2016, from the current $70,000 ceiling to a new high of $124,709. OSHA says that it will apply the heightened penalties retroactively to inspection events predating Aug. 1, 2016, if the penalties and citations were not yet issued by that date.

Therefore, any inspections not yet assessed that occurred in February 2016 or later can be subject to the new penalty structure. OSHA also says that citations issued after the rule's Aug. 1, 2016, effective date will be subject to the higher maximum penalty for repeat violations if the prior violation occurred after Nov. 2, 2015. However, the repeat lookback period will still include all citations under the same standard or involving similar hazards that became final within a 5-year period prior to the new alleged violation.

More information: http://www.asse.org/osha--msha-penalties-significantly-raised/

Top 10 Most Frequently Cited Standards

1. 1926.501 - Fall Protection
2. 1910.1200 - Hazard Communication
3. 1926.451 - Scaffolding
4. 1910.134 - Respiratory Protection
5. 1910.147 - Lockout/Tagout
6. 1910.178 - Powered Industrial Trucks
7. 1926.1053 - Ladders
8. 1910.305 - Electrical, Wiring Methods
10. 1910.303 - Electrical, General Requirements

Welcome New Members

Max Vome – KION North America
William Hurtes
Jason Fredericksen
Glen Bianchi – Ensafe Inc.
Laura Hill – ECS Corporate Services LLC
Ben Lee – Boeing Company
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