OSHA Updates Recordkeeping Requirements

OSHA has issued a new rule that changes the way employers report injury and illness data. Employers will be required to electronically submit data that they already record. Once submitted, OSHA will analyze it in order to use its enforcement and compliance assistance resources more efficiently. Some of the data will also be posted on the OSHA website. This will be done in an effort to encourage employers to improve workplace safety and provide valuable information to workers, job seekers, customers, researchers and the general public.

The rule also prohibits employers from discouraging workers from reporting an injury or illness. The final rule requires employers to inform employees of their right to report work-related injuries and illnesses free from retaliation; clarifies the existing implicit requirement that an employer’s procedure for reporting work-related injuries and illnesses must be reasonable and not deter or discourage employees from reporting; and incorporates the existing statutory prohibition on retaliating against employees for reporting work-related injuries or illnesses.

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 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.

Member News

Miller Construction Company has completed construction of the upscale, four-story Surfside Residence Inn by Marriott for owner HDP-TLD Partners, LLC of Atlanta.

Miller created the 175-suite hotel at 9200 Collins Avenue in the Town of Surfside, FL, with spacious amenity areas and a three-story parking structure. Located four blocks south of the internationally renowned Bal Harbour Shops and just north of Miami Beach, the hotel is strategically positioned for extended or short-term stays. The hotel features a central, 5,500-square-foot landscaped courtyard arboretum, with open-air, bistro-style seating and a fountain. A rooftop pool with cabanas and a full bar provides 1,800 square feet of versatile dining and meeting terrace space.

The Annual Planning Meeting was held on August 13 at the Ritz-Carlton in Naples. Seventeen companies met for a fun weekend to discuss future visions for the Construction Association of South Florida.
Crawford Tracey Corporation (CTC) is one of the largest commercial glazing contractors and manufacturers in the southeast region of the United States. Ralph Crawford founded CTC in 1956 and since then it has grown to have 98 employees, including current President Ray Crawford, Vice President Ralph Crawford, and CFO & General Manager Randy Beard.

CTC offers a complete line of impact-resistant and non-impact resistant curtain wall and window wall products for commercial applications. By strategizing with architects, engineers and general contractors, CTC creates the most structurally sound, functionally performing and aesthetically pleasing glazing solution. CTC strives to maintain a reputation as the best commercial glazing contractor and manufacturer. It manages to do this by engineering, designing, manufacturing and installing all of its own window systems.

Through innovation, CTC developed and tested the first impact-resistant, four-sided, structurally glazed system in the United States. CTC also offers the highest water design ratings in the industry at 100 psf. This innovation has allowed CTC to work on such projects as Surfside Residence Inn, the Conrad Hotel, the Atton Brickell Miami Hotel, NSU Center for Collaborative Research and Ganot Plaza. They’ll soon begin work on All Aboard Florida, FIU Rec Center, FLMP Terminal One and Delray Medical Center Tower.

In addition to constantly improving the quality of its products and service, CTC offers a sense of commitment and loyalty to both its customers and employees. CTC believes that building relationships that last requires mutual respect, shared goals, values and consistent quality of work. By building and maintaining such relationships, CTC is able to maintain employee and customer retention.

CTC has been a member of CASF since 1977. Ray Crawford believes in CASF’s ability to advance the industry by strengthening and bonding the relationships amongst members. He also says that CASF has played a large part in CTC’s networking and as a result, they have been introduced to and worked with many quality-minded contractors and their teams.

Crawford Tracey Corporation is located at 3301 SW 13th Drive in Deerfield Beach. To learn more about CTC and the services it offers, visit their website at www.crawfordtracey.com.
Do You Have the Traits of a True Safety Professional?

Safety professionals are, in some ways, the most important employees in the construction industry. They aid in helping companies to avoid costly OSHA fines and workers' compensation claims, but first and foremost, they are tasked with keeping employees alive and well. On August 11, Phil Nanna from Safety and Risk Solutions, Brian Trusky from Coastal Construction Group and Dave Lockhart from Poole & Kent Company spoke to a group of CASF members about what it takes to be a true safety professional.

While Phil, Brian and Dave acknowledge that safety professionals tend to be the least popular employees on the jobsite, they know that a little unpopularity is necessary to limit injuries. The commitment to keep others safe is time consuming and often co-workers and family members do not understand what the job entails. That is why a passion for the science of safety is an important trait of a safety professional.

Education also plays an important part of being a safety professional. Safety professionals must acquire knowledge through formal education to be able to accurately evaluate hazards and identify risks that are likely to occur. Anyone serious about turning this job into a career should pursue a higher education by obtaining a degree (Associates, Bachelors, Masters, etc.) and a professional designation from the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP). These designations include CHST (Construction Health & Safety Technician), OHST (Occupational Health & Safety Technologist) and CSP (Certified Safety Professional). Do not rely on OSHA 10, 30 or even 500 courses to qualify you as a safety inspector. They do not.

In addition to continuing education, all safety professionals must use experience to identify safety hazards more effectively. This is why one of the best things you can do is walk the jobsite as often as possible. Don’t stay in your trailer unless you absolutely need to. This way, you are always identifying and addressing safety hazards. You’ll find that the more you see, the more you’ll learn.

There are times when safety professionals come across a safety issue that they don’t know how to address. This is not a problem. Although education and experience prepare you for a lot it cannot prepare you for everything. In this case, it is important for all safety professionals to have a network of trusted safety professionals to consult. The key word, of course, is “trusted”. Be sure that whomever you consult is giving you correct information.

Finally, all safety professionals must have good communication skills. These skills include speaking, writing and presentation. Know how to speak and write to all employees of the company. Whether it’s the laborer on the jobsite or the CEO. When writing a report be clear, concise and use proper language and grammar. Be comfortable when addressing a group and know what you want the outcome to be. If you don’t know what you want your audience to take away from what you are presenting, there’s no way that they’ll know either.

Safety is an important science that saves lives and a position as a safety professional is an important job in this industry. If it’s something you plan to pursue you must have the passion, knowledge, commitment and communication skills to make you the best. Your hard work will not always be acknowledged, but the knowledge that you have kept employees safe will be the biggest reward.
Construction Night at the Marlins Game
Tuesday, August 9, 2016