

WABA SAFETY NOTICE

OSHA Announces New Requirements For Reporting Severe Injuries

Last week OSHA published a new regulation <<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2014-09-18/pdf/2014-21514.pdf>> that changes the employer obligation for reporting certain types of severe injuries. This regulation covers **ALL EMPLOYERS**, regardless of size and whether or not your company is exempt from OSHA's recordkeeping requirements (i.e. OSHA 300 log, 300A Summary, etc.).

Starting January 1, 2015, employers have to report the following events to OSHA:

- All work-related fatalities*
- All work-related in-patient hospitalizations of one or more employees
- All work-related amputations
- All work-related losses of an eye

(*If the fatality occurs during normal working hours it is assumed to be work related and you must notify OSHA. OSHA will determine if the fatality was work related or not based on the findings of their investigation.)

Employers must report work-related fatalities within **8 hours of learning about it**. Only those fatalities that occur within 30 days of the work-related incident must be reported to OSHA.

For any in-patient hospitalization, amputation, or eye loss **employers must report the incident within 24 hours of learning about it**.

Further, for an inpatient hospitalization, amputation or loss of an eye, the incidents must be reported to OSHA only if they occur within 24 hours of the work-related incident.

Employers have three options for reporting the event:

1. By telephone to the nearest OSHA Area Office during normal business hours.
2. By telephone to the 24-hour OSHA hotline (1-800-321-OSHA or [1-800-321-6742](tel:1-800-321-6742)).
3. OSHA is developing a new means of reporting events electronically, which will be released soon and accessible on OSHA's website.

For more information on this topic check out OSHA's new web page at: <http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014/index.html> If you have any further questions please contact WABA Safety Director Jim Nolte at 608-223-1111.