

SE TX OSHA Three Things to Know (August 2023)

An overview of what is happening in regards to safety in SE Texas and OSHA



1 – August 2023 Preliminary Fatality/Catastrophes* (8)

Construction

- **NAICS 237110** – Ground guide electrocuted when excavator boom contacted over head powerline

General Industry

- **NAICS 531312** – Employee jump 5' of dumpster and later died from brain bleed
- **NAICS 531110** – Shocked while working on HVAC and fell off 2nd story apartment building
- **NAICS 423510** – Fall 34' through skylight on industrial building
- **NAICS 423710** – Electrocuted while installing an electric motor
- **NAICS 561311** – Fall off a scaffold
- **NAICS 484110** – Truck driver struck by falling cylindrical filter press while unchaining the load
- **NAICS 811111** – Shot during workplace argument

2 – Important Dates

September 18, 2023

Last day to submit comments on PPE in Construction Proposed Rule

<https://www.regulations.gov/document/OSHA-2019-0003-0001>

October 13, 2023

Date inspections may begin Warehousing NEP

<https://www.osha.gov/enforcement/directives/cpl-03-00-026>

October 30, 2023

Last day to submit comments on worker walkaround representative designation process Proposed Rule

<https://www.regulations.gov/document/OSHA-2023-0008-0001>

3 – August 2023 Preliminary Serious Incident Reports (54 Reports)

Construction (5 Reports) – There were three **caught between** incidents involving a slip handle and chain tong while breaking out drill pipe when the pipe rotated, a door and frame while exiting a control room, and a finger in bolt hole while aligning sections of a 60' power pole. One **struck by** incident occurred when a nail struck a finger while moving plywood. One 9' **fall** occurred through a 5'x7' roof hole.

General Industry (49 Reports) – There were 18 'other' incidents including eleven heat related illnesses to workers in/at an oilfield, mill plant, manufacturing plant, spray booth, paint shop, truck driver, two delivery drivers, tank truck yard, security guard, and an airport plane inspector. The other incidents also included ruptured disc lifting pipes, exposure to chlorine dioxide while draining a valve, contact with vinyl acetate polymer while disconnecting a hose, contact with glacial acrylic acid when disconnecting a hose to investigate a leak, exposure to tert butyl patephol with methanol while disconnecting a hose, a ruptured hernia, and a reaction to a gas leak. Eleven **caught between** cases involving a butterfly valve that closed in a hopper, three rolls of plastic that fell over, a strap on a piston being lowered snapped causing a crow bar to swing forward, a scissor lift and a structure, a mill block and a spindle, a shirt pulled into a metal straightening machine, a valve that closed when their finger slipped off the control button, a foot between supersacks and lost balance and fell, a reach truck and a warehouse pole, and an injury while performing preventive maintenance on a conveyor. Ten **struck by** injuries occurred with air pressure when a pressurized valve was removed knocking him into a fence, a fall off a truck after a pressurized cap blew out, a falling pipe while clearing a jam, a ¼" staple that punctured to foot, two amputations on a meat saw, a car backing up in a parking lot, a steel billet that fell after the banding was cut, a table saw while cutting plywood, and blades on a printing press while feeding paper. Nine **falls** occurred when they jumped off a table, a slip and fall into hot plastic and water on the floor, a trip over a plastic tray sitting on the floor, an access ladder, 3' off a wheel loader, 12' off a scaffold while dismantling it, a trip and fall while turning around, steps to a trailer when their shoes got caught up, and off boxes used to inspect a blower fan. There was one suspected **electrical** when a computer made a popping sound and physical discomfort and symptoms ensued including an abnormal EKG.

This information has been developed by an OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist and is intended to assist employers, workers, and others improve workplace health and safety. While we attempt to thoroughly address specific topics [or hazards], it is not possible to include discussion of everything necessary to ensure a healthy and safe working environment in this presentation. This information is a tool for addressing workplace hazards, and is not an exhaustive statement of an employer's legal obligations, which are defined by statute, regulations, and standards. This document does not have the force and effect of law and is not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies. It does not create (or diminish) legal obligations under the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Finally, OSHA may modify rules and related interpretations in light of new technology, information, or circumstances; to keep apprised of such developments, or to review information on a wide range of occupational safety and health topics, you can visit OSHA's website at www.osha.gov. Incident information is based on first reports so information may change and is edited for length. *Every incident may not be included. For questions contact Jim Shelton at Shelton.james@dol.gov