

SE TX OSHA Five Things to Know (October 2024)

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



1 – October 2024 Preliminary Fatalities/Catastrophes* (5)

Construction NAICS 236220 - Employee fell off a mobile scaffold called a buggy while welding on a tank wall. They may have been moving locations when it fell 80' to the ground level.

Construction NAICS 237990 –Worker in a sulfur recovery unit was exposed to a hydrogen sulfide release.

General Industry NAICS 445110 – Employee pursued theft suspects from the store where he worked and was shot.

General Industry NAICS 484110 – Employee helping to back a truck and trailer into a dock was struck-by the trailer and pinned to the loading dock.

General Industry NAICS 324110 – Worker in a sulfur recovery unit was exposed to a hydrogen sulfide release.

2 – OSHA Publications Spotlight

Recordable Injuries and Illnesses: What Workers Need to Know

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA4444.pdf>

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA4445.pdf>

Hazards Associated with the Release of Liquid Nitrogen and Carbon Dioxide During Flash Freezing Processes

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA4450.pdf>

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA4451.pdf>

Suicide Prevention in Construction 5 Things You Should Know

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA4446.pdf>

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA4447.pdf>

3 – New Tool

OSHA-NIOSH Small Business Checklist App

<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/small-business/communications-resources/handbook-app.html>

4 – October 2024 Preliminary Serious Incident Reports (33 Reports)

Construction (9 Reports) – Three ‘**caught between**’ incidents occurred involving a directional driller and trailer while loading, hand between 3,000 lb. load and slab on floor while reaching for the load line, and a mixing machine auger when they were started and reached in. Three ‘**falls**’ occurred including 8’ off a ladder while drilling holes, an 8’ ladder when they leaned right and lost their footing, and a second story building while applying waterproofing. One ‘**electrical**’ injury occurred when they contacted an overhead powerline while doing maintenance from a bucket truck. One ‘**struck-by**’ incident occurred while repositioning a bundle of rebar that drifted into them. One ‘**other**’ incident occurred when an explosion occurred while evacuating propane from a cylinder

General Industry (24 Reports) – Eight ‘**falls**’ occurred involving moving quickly to avoid falling water and ran into a pipe and fell, stooping and fell back into a caustic puddle, a trip and fall over a protective pedestrian barrier, fall while unplugging a chute striking their throat on a handrail, a fall when their pallet jack snagged a stack of pallets, a fall off a lift when it began to roll, lost footing while turning away from a patient, and a fall while leaving the break room. Eight ‘**caught-between**’ incidents involving a cabbage shredder while clearing a jam, sheet metal folding machine when they activated it with their hand in a pinch point, a press brake when they placed their fingers between the punch and die and accidentally pressed the foot pedal, a lathe when they lost their balance and finger was caught, an industrial baler while cleaning it, a finger caught while loading/unloading packages, a trash bin while moving them around, and a refrigerator door that swung back and the rack they were putting inside. Six ‘**struck-by**’ injuries occurred involving a metal shear, a forklift they ran into a pole, a moving rotating lock inside a hopper of resin residue while cleaning, a meat saw while cutting meat, a falling object on a stage, and a peeling while peeling an orange and it slipped. Two ‘**other**’ incidents occurred involving a flash fire while using a propane torch to heat a threaded connection and a back injury while moving trash.

5 – Enforcement

- Heat Injury and Illness Prevention in Outdoor and Indoor Work Settings Proposed Rule Comments due by Dec 30th

<https://www.osha.gov/news/newsreleases/national/20240830>

*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*