The safety and health of any company can sometimes be an overlooked priority. The Labor Department’s CONN-OSHA division has taken steps to help your business keep up to date on the latest information and resources. On the third Tuesday of every month, CONN-OSHA offers Breakfast Roundtable Meetings that cover subjects ranging from evacuation plans and fire extinguishers to air quality and ergonomics. The intent of these free 90-minute workshops is to discuss safety and health issues in a supportive and informal environment.

The roundtable meetings are held from 8:15 am to 9:45 on the third Tuesday of the month at the Connecticut Department of Labor:

Conference Room A
CT Dept. of Labor
200 Folly Brook Boulevard
Wethersfield, CT 06109
Phone (860) 263-6900

Pre-registration is required. Those interested in attending should reply to this e-mail or send an email to john.able@ct.gov.

The focus subject for the August 15, 2017 meeting is:

SAFETY WITH A SMILE (SM) - “Holistic Steps to Improve Safety”

We all know that changing the way you think and interact with your team can impact - improve your work place safety performance, correct? But are we using these concepts on a regular basis?
Consider spending 30-45 minutes with Milt refining your coaching techniques and or learning how to incorporate these holistic methods into your system. The presentation includes performance improving coaching tips that can be utilized with your managers, supervisors and construction foremen.

Workshop Facilitator: Milton Jacobs, CSP, MPH

Milton is a holistic safety speaker and educator that has been practicing occupational safety and public health for the past 24 years. Milton is a Certified Safety Professional (CSP), who holds a Master's Degree in Public Health (MPH).

Milton serves as a coach and safety advisor to local and international private and governmental organizations and is the author of Milt's 5 Steps to S.A.F.E.R. safety.

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**CONN-OSHA**

**Breakfast Roundtable Discussion Group**

**8:15 am – 9:45 am**

**DRAFT Agenda**

**August 15, 2017**

- Welcome and Introduction
  - John Able, CSP
    - Occupational Safety Training Specialist
    - CONN-OSHA
    - John.able@ct.gov

- SAFETY WITH A SMILE (SM) - “Holistic Steps to Improve Safety”
  - Milton Jacobs, CSP, MPH
    - President
    - Safety Solution Consultants
    - P.O. Box 512
    - East Granby, CT 06026
    - www.safety-solution.com
    - mjacobs@safety-solution.com
    - 860-653-3580
    - Fax 860-653-3590
• Low/No-Cost Training/Certification/Educational Opportunities

  o The Massachusetts Department of Labor Standards (MA DLS) is offering only one more FREE Fall Protection in Residential Construction Seminar:

    - Springfield, MA, Sept. 13, 2017

Falls are one of the most common causes of workplace injuries and deaths. This OSHA-sponsored training is a great opportunity to learn about safety in the workplace and what is needed to meet OSHA requirements for preventing falls at residential construction worksites. MA DLS is offering four sessions starting December 2016 through September 2017. Attendees can go to any session, and they must complete an entire session in order to receive an OSHA certificate. For registration and more information, visit www.mass.gov/dols and click on the link under News & Updates, Fall Protection in Residential Construction Seminar, or email susan.humphreys@state.ma.us, 617-626-6474.

  o The October 17, 2017 CONN-OSHA Breakfast Roundtable Discussion Group subject will be Suicide in the Workplace and Prevention Methods. Tom Steen, Chair of the Northern CT Chapter of the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention (AFSP.org) will present “Talk Saves Lives” training. Suicide is the 12th leading cause of death overall in Connecticut. On average, one person dies by suicide every 23 hours in CT. Three times as many people die by suicide in CT annually than by homicide.

  o Save the Date! ASSE Region VIII New England Area Chapters Professional Development Conference (PDC), November 7th & 8th, 2017, Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center, Southbridge, MA. “Discover, Share, Excel.”

The PDC includes a variety of practical and technical programs which include management techniques and soft skills.

We are also looking for PDC Planning Committee Volunteers. If you would like to help shape the 2017 PDC please contact John Spath at aqcspath@msn.com.

• Ongoing Educational Opportunities

  o For the OSHA Training Institute Education Center, Keene State College schedule of classes, go to their home page at: www.OSHAedNE.com.

• New Business/News

  o OSHA now accepting electronic submissions of injury and illness reports. Employers can begin submitting Form 300A data using an electronic reporting system. Learn more here.
New and revised resources available from OSHA on silica final rule. OSHA has released two resources to help small business employers comply with the agency’s final silica rule. The Small Entity Compliance Guide for General Industry and Maritime outlines steps that employers are required to take including: assessing worker exposures; using engineering and work practice controls to keep exposures below a specified safety threshold; offering medical exams to certain highly exposed workers; and training workers. Enforcement of the final rule is scheduled to begin June 23, 2018.

Released earlier in the year, the Small Entity Compliance Guide for Construction describes requirements to protect employees including: using engineering controls specified in the standard or selecting other effective engineering controls to reduce exposures; offering medical exams to workers who will need to wear a respirator under the silica standard for 30 or more days a year; and training workers. The guide was updated to reflect the new enforcement date of Sept. 23, 2017.

Connecticut-based lumber company saves money through safety excellence.

Sanford & Hawley Inc. is a retail lumber and building materials supplier based in Unionville, Conn. The company also operates lumber yards and stores in Avon and Manchester, Conn., and in West Springfield, Mass. All four of the company’s facilities are Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program participants. The company learned about SHARP through working with OSHA’s On-site Consultation Program to identify workplace hazards and establish an effective safety and health program. In addition to keeping workers safe, the improvements that earned the company SHARP status also helped reduce costs associated with on-the-job injury claims, incident investigations, medical care, days lost, and workers’ compensation premiums. For more information, see the success story. (https://www.osha.gov/dcsp/smallbusiness/success/ss_shlirs.html)

OSHA and NIOSH team up to offer updated heat safety app

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and OSHA have collaborated to update OSHA’s original Heat Safety Tool. The updated app, available for both Android and iPhone, provides a clearer user interface, while still providing the same information to help keep workers safe when working outdoors in hot weather. Extreme heat causes more deaths than any other weather-related hazard; each year more than 65,000 people seek medical treatment for extreme heat exposure.

Employers should encourage workers exposed to hot and humid conditions to use the app to check the heat index and relevant protective measures. The app
displays the heat index in the user’s location and shows the current risk level. The app also forecasts the hourly heat index throughout the entire workday, giving employers information they can use to adjust the work environment as needed to protect workers.

More than 450,000 users have downloaded the original app since it was launched in 2011. The original OSHA app will no longer function after September 30. To download the updated app and get more information on OSHA’s efforts to help protect workers from the heat, visit our heat campaign webpage.

- On March 27, 2017, the State of Massachusetts Dept. of Public Safety (DPS) merged with the Division of Professional Licensure (DPL) and was renamed the Office of Public Safety and Inspections (OPSI). The DPL oversees 28 boards of registration and the Office of Occupational Schools, which licenses and regulates more than 387,000 individuals, businesses and schools to practice in excess of 50 trades and professions in Massachusetts. Under the direction of Commissioner Charles Borstel, OPSI will continue its efforts to promote public safety through regulation and licensing.

It is with this intent that we wish to address the recent confusion regarding the definition of hoisting machinery and its applicability to compact hoisting machinery. The current version of 520 CMR 6.00, promulgated on November 18, 2016, modified the definition of hoisting machinery to read:

Derricks, cableways, machinery used for discharging cargoes, and temporary elevator cars used on excavation work or used for hoisting building material, when the motive power to operate such machinery is mechanical and other than steam, including but not limited to excavators, backhoes, front end loaders, uniloaders, skid loader, skid steer loaders, compact loaders or similar devices, lattice cranes, derricks, cranes with or without wire rope; all fork lifts, powered industrial lift trucks, overhead hoists (underhung), overhead cranes, underhung cranes, monorail cranes, lifting devices, cableways, powered platforms and any other equipment that has the minimum capability of hoisting the load higher than ten feet, and either the capability of lifting loads greater than 500 pounds or the capacity of the bucket exceeds ¼ cubic yards; overhead bridge cranes, electric or air driven hoists, pendant controlled hoists, specialty equipment as categorized by license grade in 520 CMR 6.00.

It was brought to the attention of OPSI that some have questioned whether or not the new definition suggests that compact hoisting machinery that cannot hoist loads higher than ten (10) feet may be considered exempt from licensing requirements of 520 CMR 6.00. This notice is to clarify that OPSI deems compact hoisting machinery to meet the definition of hoisting machinery and is therefore subject to established provisions of 520 CMR 6.00. Although compact hoisting machinery has a gross vehicle weight not exceeding 8,000 pounds, these
machines are still *excavators, backhoes*, and *skid steers* which are defined as hoisting machinery regardless of their rated capabilities.

A period of 90 days from the date of this notice will be allowed for members of the short-term rental industry and the operators of compact hoisting machinery to comply. During this 90 day period, OPSI inspectors will perform random compliance checks to verify that compact hoisting machinery operators are appropriately licensed. Please note that OPSI is empowered to and reserves the right to issue warnings and, where appropriate, monetary civil fines for noncompliance with 520 CMR 6.00.

If you have any questions on this matter, please contact Daniel Kilburn (daniel.kilburn@state.ma.us) or Cesar I. Lastra (cesar.lastra@state.ma.us).

Sincerely,

Robert Anderson
Division of Professional Licensure
Office of Public Safety and Inspections
Chief of Inspections - Building & Engineering
One Ashburton Place - Room 1301
Boston, MA 02108

- Announcements from the floor
- Adjourn