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October Safety Focus

AISC's website (www.aisc.org/safety) provides safety resources for its members and once a month we send reminders, relevant news and new tools that members may use to keep safety a current topic.

AISC received great news last month. After many tries Professor Tim Mrozowski of Michigan State University was awarded a Harwood Grant for Targeted OSHA Training. The training will be developed with AISC members and structural steel stakeholders in mind. Subjects will include material handling including loading storage and unloading of material. The goal is to reach over 600 employees. We plan to do that by training participants who will take that training back to their companies and spread the lesson. The first 'train the trainer' session is planned for the NASCC: The Steel Conference in Nashville next March. AISC will waive the fee and the conference fee for employees responsible and willing to train their coworkers.

Mr. Bryan McClure, Senior Training Manager of LPR Construction, delivered the first of two parts of a webinar on crane safety. The second part will be delivered on October 8 with a presentation of the basics of rigging. Our thanks to Bryan and those of you who listened in. More registration information is available at www.aisc.org

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration today issued a final rule extending the deadline for crane operator certification requirements in the Cranes and Derricks in Construction final rule* published Aug. 9, 2010 by three years to Nov. 10, 2017. The rule also extends by three years the employer's responsibility to ensure that crane operators are competent to operate a crane safely. The final rule becomes effective Nov. 9, 2014.

During the three-year period, OSHA will address operator qualification requirements for the cranes standards including the role of operator certification. The final cranes and derricks rule required crane operators on construction sites to meet one of four qualification/certification options by Nov. 10, 2014. After publishing the final rule, a number of parties raised concerns about the Standard's requirement to certify operators by type and capacity of crane and questioned whether crane operator certification was sufficient for determining whether an operator could operate their equipment safely on a construction site.

OSHA updated their reporting rule. The rule expands the list of severe work-related injuries that all covered employers must report to OSHA. The revised rule retains the current requirement to report all work-related fatalities within 8 hours and adds the requirement to report all work-related in-patient hospitalizations, amputations and loss of an eye within 24 hours to OSHA. A link explaining reporting requirements is <https://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014/OSHA3745.pdf>

If you are involved in electrical work including maintenance you need to know that rules regarding PPE for 1910.269 - Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution. Have been changed. OSHA made extensive revisions and provides specific dates when the requirements of 1910.269(l)(8) are to be

incorporated into PPE programs:

(vi) Dates. (A) The obligation in paragraph (l)(8)(iii) of this section for the employer to make reasonable estimates of incident energy commences January 1, 2015.

(B) The obligation in paragraph (l)(8)(iv)(D) of this section for the employer to ensure that the outer layer of clothing worn by an employee is flame-resistant when the estimated incident heat energy exceeds 2.0 cal/cm² commences April 1, 2015. (C) The obligation in paragraph (l)(8)(v) of this section for the employer to ensure that each employee exposed to hazards from electric arcs wears the required arc-rated protective equipment commences April 1, 2015.

Because the requirements for estimating incident energy of an arc flash and providing arc-rated clothing and PPE have been required by NFPA 70E, "Standard for Electrical Safety in the Workplace," since the 2000 edition and required by ANSI/IEEE C2, "National Electrical Safety Code," since 2007, it is advisable to perform an arc flash hazard analysis as soon as possible to adequately protect employees in all segments of electric utilities, construction and general industry.

The daily safety reminders provided by Kathi Dobson of Alberici are made available at <http://www.aisc.org/dailysafetyfocus>.

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