



WisCon Words of Wisdom

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Awareness Topics for September

September 4-8: [Construction Suicide Prevention Week](#)

September 10-16: [National Truck Driver Appreciation Week](#)

September 15: [National Concussion Awareness Day](#)

September 17-23: [National Farm Safety and Health Week](#)

All month long: [National Preparedness Month](#)

Upcoming WisCon Monthly Webinars

Private Sector:

September 28th: Fall Prevention/ Protection
[Registration Link](#)

October 19th: Respiratory Protection
[Registration Link](#)

Public Sector:

September 26th: Respiratory Protection and Other PPE
[Registration Link](#)

October 31st: Ventilation
[Registration Link](#)

November 18th: Workplace Violence
[Registration Link](#)

Construction Suicide Prevention Week

Powerful things happen when multiple people with the same vision come together and make it possible. This happened within the construction industry back in 2020 when the Construction Suicide Prevention Week was born. Since then, every year in September – the nation’s Suicide Prevention month—the construction industry dedicates a week for activities to raise awareness regarding the unique challenges that employees in their industry face while on the job that could lead them to commit suicide.

This year Construction Suicide Prevention Week is September 4-8th. Register your organization to participate and you’ll be sent an OSHA-recognized, industry-endorsed certificate of participation and an electronic badge that you can display on your website.

Visit [construction-suicideprevention.com](https://www.construction-suicideprevention.com) to register, download participation resources, order materials, and view this year’s sponsors.

Here Today, Maybe Gone Next Week – Temporary Workers

Who are “Temporary Workers”? Workers employed through staffing agencies are generally called temporary or supplied workers. These workers are supplied to a host employer and paid by a staffing agency. Regardless of whether an employee is temporary or permanent, all workers have a right to a safe and healthy workplace, always.

Both the staffing agency and the host employer are joint employers of the temporary worker; therefore, both are responsible for providing a safe work environment. For examples, staffing agencies need to provide some general health and safety training while the host employer needs to provide site or task specific training.

Additionally, host employers are required to include recordable injuries and illnesses of temporary workers on their OSHA 300 log. In turn, the host employer can also count the number of hours worked by temporary workers when calculating the “Total hours worked by all employees last year” on the Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses (Form 300A).

To learn more about the shared responsibility of a staffing agency and host employer, visit OSHA’s [Protecting Temporary Workers](#) webpage.

Falls – Another OSHA National Emphasis Program

Here at WisCon, we've been seeing a lot of requests for service following OSHA inspections related to fall prevention and protection. The reason for this uptick? OSHA's National Emphasis Program (NEP) on Falls. This NEP was signed in April and became effective on May 1st.

The purpose of the Falls NEP is to identify and reduce hazards that are causing or likely to cause serious or fatal injuries from falls when working at heights. This NEP will be applied to all construction inspections related to falls. Additionally, the NEP targets the following non-construction activities:

- Roof top mechanical work/maintenance,
- Utility line work/maintenance (electrical, cable),
- Arborist/tree trimming,
- Holiday light installation,

- Road sign maintenance/billboards,
- Power washing buildings (not connected to painting),
- Gutter cleaning,
- Chimney cleaning,
- Window cleaning,
- Communication towers, and
- Any non-construction work activity where a worker is observed working at height with approval from OSHA area office management.

To learn more about this NEP, please refer to OSHA's Directive Number [CPL 03-00-025](#). To learn more about fall protection and prevention, register for our upcoming monthly webinar! The registration link is on the front page of this newsletter.

OSHA's Newest NEP Targets Warehouses and Distribution Centers

Over the past 10 years, warehouse and distribution center operations have experienced immense growth, accounting for close to [2 million people within the U.S. workforce](#). For establishments within the Warehousing and Storage NAICS code (4931), the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports a total recordable case (TRC) incident rate of 5.5 per 100 full-time workers for the [2021](#) calendar year. When compared to the TRC of 2.9 for all industries (private, state, and local government), it is almost double. Comparing the industry's days away, restricted, or transferred (DART) incident rate of 4.6 to all industries at 1.8, employees in this industry are 2.5 times more likely to experience injuries and illnesses resulting in lost work days or work restrictions than employees in all industries within the U.S.

OSHA has made efforts to protect this industry's workforce. Within the last five years, OSHA has completed over 1,500 inspections at big name establishments such as Amazon, FedEx, UPS, USPS, and DHL, collectively. To continue

their mission of protecting the safety and health of this part of America's workforce, OSHA implemented a National Emphasis Program (NEP) on Warehousing and Distribution Center Operations, effective July 13, 2023.

This NEP expires 3 years from the effective date. Targeted industries include warehousing and distribution center operations, mail/postal processing and distribution centers, parcel delivery/courier services, and certain high injury rate retail establishments. Inspections covered under this NEP are to be comprehensive safety inspections, with few exceptions. These inspections will focus on common workplace hazards within the named industry, such as powered industrial vehicle (PIV), material handling/storage, walking-working surfaces, means of egress, and fire protections. If heat or ergonomic hazards are identified, a health-focused inspection will also be conducted.

For additional information regarding this new NEP, please refer to OSHA's Directive Number [CPL 03-00-26](#).

Wisconsin Safety and Health Consultation Program

Phone: (800) 947-0553 | Email: wiscon@slh.wisc.edu

<http://slh.wisc.edu/wiscon>

WisCon Public Sector Consultation

Phone: (608) 262-6763 | Email: publicsectorconsulting@slh.wisc.edu

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