



SAFETY BULLETIN

Fall 2009

Are You Prepared for Flu Season?



The start of school each fall brings news reports cautioning to expect an outbreak of flu among students. But, flu season doesn't just impact school kids. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has offered guidance to businesses to help employers prepare now for the impact that seasonal and 2009 H1N1 influenza could have this fall and winter on their employees and their operations.

CDC says there are many actions that employers can take to help reduce the spread of flu. Among those actions are cleaning commonly touched surfaces, such as cash registers, sales counters and bathrooms routinely and encouraging employees to wash their hands frequently during the work day. The CDC also recommends that employees with flu-like symptoms or illness to stay home.

It is not known whether the 2009 H1N1 influenza virus will cause more illness or more severe illness in the coming months, but everyone should be prepared. Because seasonal and 2009 H1N1 influenza pose serious health threats, employers should work with employees to develop and implement plans that can reduce the spread of flu, and to encourage seasonal flu vaccination as well as H1N1 vaccination when the vaccine becomes available.



To review the federal guidelines encouraging employers how to plan now for the upcoming influenza season visit www.flu.gov.

Webcast on Flu Pandemic Scheduled

A **free** webcast, sponsored by the American Red Cross and the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), is scheduled for September 24 to help employers in preparing for a flu pandemic. The webcast will begin at 2 p.m.

Officials from the American Red Cross and OSHA will present information about educating employees and keeping businesses running in the face of the disease. In addition, participants will be told about OSHA's new pandemic-flu product and resources.

For those interested visit <http://columbus.redcross.org> for a link to the webcast registration site and information about flu planning.

OSHA issues final rule updating PPE Standards



OSHA recently published the final ruling in the *Federal Register* revising the personal protective equipment (PPE) section of its general industry standards concerning requirements for eye and face protective devices, and head and foot protection.

To review the final rule of the Federal Register notice go to this website <http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-21360.htm>. The final rule will become effective October 9, 2009.

New Ohio Air Regulations for controlling VOC Emissions for Flat Wood Paneling Companies

The Ohio EPA Division of Air Pollution Control (DAPC) recently enacted new and amended rules to control volatile organic compounds (VOCs) emitted by certain industrial processes in the Cleveland / Akron metropolitan areas. These rules follow U.S. EPA's guidance for reasonably available control technologies (RACT) and will help reduce ground-level ozone pollution.

These rule changes became effective on April 2, 2009. In most instances, facilities with affected operations that were installed before April 2, 2009, have one year, or until April 2, 2010, to demonstrate compliance. Operations installed on or after April 2, 2009, must comply with the new rules upon startup.

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Your facility is subject to rule if you are located in noted counties (Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Summit Counties), and if your facility emits 15.0 pounds of VOC or more in a day.

The new ruling applies to the following flat wood paneling manufacturers:

- Printed interior panels made of hardwood, plywood, or thin particleboard**
- Natural finish hardwood plywood panels**
- Class 2 finishes on hardboard panels**
- Tile board**
- Exterior siding**



For more information on the new ruling visit the EPA's website at www.epa.state.oh.us/dapc/regs/regs.aspx. The ruling number is 3745-21-24. Or if you prefer to talk to an EPA Environmental Engineer call Jim Carney at 614/728-1796, Office of Compliance Assistance and Pollution Prevention,.

[BWC/Safety Labels Available](#)

OCSA currently has a supply of the following BCW/Safety labels:

- Danger, Eye Protection Required (2 ½ x 3 1/2)**
- No Smoking, No Open Flames, No Sparks (8 ½ x 10 ½).**
- Forklift label - No Operators under 18 years of Age, It's the Law (3 ¾ x 4 7/8)**

The labels are self-adhesive, so you can easily affix them to work areas, machinery and equipment. Should you have need for any of these labels call Charlotte at 800/282-4632. All labels are free!

[OSHA's new program will mean more jail time](#)

OSHA is revving up enforcement and preparing to hand out more jail time for owners and supervisors that let safety take a back seat. Its part of the agency's new Severe Violators Inspection Program.

This program will replace the Enhanced Enforcement and come down harder on violators. OSHA administrators told Congress that the new program will lead to more jail sentences.

What else to expect:

More follow-up inspections, more inspections of other facilities run by the same company and tougher settlement offers. It's all part of the agency's new aim to crack down hard on employers with a track record of ignoring safety.

[Driver Qualifications - Please remember these important instructions for your drivers:](#)

- Every one of your for-hire drivers (vehicles over 10,000 lbs GVW) must carry a valid medical card. No exceptions! This applies for all local drivers, intrastate drivers, and interstate drivers.
- Anyone driving a vehicle more than 16,000 lbs. But less than 26,001 lbs., or towing another with a GVW of 10,000 lbs. or less must have a Class C license.
- Anyone driving a vehicle 26,001 lbs. (including combinations) must have a valid CDL and be enrolled in a drug-testing program.
- Be sure to keep accurate time records on all your drivers (even local) to protect yourself from "hours of service" violations. Accurate logs or time cards are necessary to satisfy an auditor.
- Every truck in your operation (including local) must have a daily inspection by the driver BEFORE going out on a job and you must keep documentation to prove it was done and that noted repairs were made.



Keep in mind, the state of Ohio needs money. Pay attention to the regulations so that they don't get it from you!

OCSA is your source for all your motor carrier supplies. Visit our website at www.myocsa.org and click on "Dealer Services" to view all the publications that we have to offer or call Charlotte at 800/282-4632 for all your trucking needs.

"Safety is like a lock – But you are the key."

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