

# World Safety Organization NEWSLETTER



WSO Memberships & Certifications are accredited by ICAC



October 2021

## October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month

### America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion

The theme for NDEAM 2021, "America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion," reflects the importance of ensuring that people with disabilities have full access to employment and community involvement during the national recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. NDEAM is held each October to commemorate the many and varied contributions of people with disabilities to America's workplaces and economy. Browse our website for ideas and resources for employers, community organizations, state and local governments, advocacy groups and schools to participate in celebrating NDEAM through events and activities centered around the theme of "America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion."



### Plan NDEAM Observances

What can YOU do to celebrate NDEAM? There are lots of ways! Explore the ideas below designed for:

- Social Media.
- Employers.
- Educators and youth service professionals.
- State governors, legislators and other policymakers.
- Associations and unions.
- Disability related organizations.
- Federal agencies.

### NDEAM every day

How about a plan for Every. Single. Day. of National Disability Employment Month? Start here with day one and plan for 31 days of NDEAM.

### Get NDEAM Materials

ODEP offers a range of resources to help employers and other organizations plan NDEAM observances, including not only the official poster, but also sample articles, a press release, proclamation and social media content.

*More information regarding NDEAM can be found on OSHA's website at [osha.gov](https://www.osha.gov)*

from the desk of

**DR. CHARLES H. BAKER**

*Chief Operations Officer*



Welcome to the World Safety Organization October Newsletter. I hope this newsletter finds everyone safe and well. It seems like forever since we have been able to talk about anything but the COVID Virus. We can only hope that the day comes when things will be back to normal, whatever that is or will be.

Without our yearly symposium, it feels like something is missing. As in the past years we are planning for next years symposium and will keep you advised of those plans. In the past if we cannot get together with our associates and colleagues in a safe and productive manner, the symposium will be put off. We hope the state of the virus will allow us all to get together in 2022. Again, our plans are for the location to be Las Vegas.

We continue to expand our membership ranks and hope everyone is taking this opportunity to talk to their co-workers and friends in the safety business about joining World Safety Organization. This is a good step on a professional level. If you have not done so, look around and help the organization by inviting someone to apply for membership.

We had another milestone recently. With all the things going on I did not mention that recently World Safety underwent its Midterm ICAC Accreditation audit. The organization passed and our accreditation was extended for another 2.5 years. Accreditations are for 5 year with a midterm audit. Failure of the midterm audit cancels the accreditation.

As always, we look forward to our members' comments for how we can improve and service our membership base. Suggestions and comments are always welcome.

Stay Safe!!!!!!!!!!

CHB

# WE NEED YOU

*Do you blog?*

*Do you write articles for your company's newsletter?*

*Do you have relevant information to share?*

*Did your company or agency sponsor a special safety-focused event?*

*Does your company or agency have an upcoming safety-focused event you wish to promote?*

*If so, we would love to feature your content in a future WSO NewsLetter or TechLetter!*

*Just email your article/ blog, author(s) byline, brief bio, and photo to us: [editorialstaff@worldsafety.org](mailto:editorialstaff@worldsafety.org)*

*Please request a publication release form if required by your employer or co-author(s). Authors/ Companies will maintain all proprietary rights, and WSO will state where the original content was posted or published, if applicable.*

The WSO NewsLetter is Published by WSO WORLD MANAGEMENT CENTER 106 W Young St #F, Warrensburg, Missouri 64093 USA | +1 (660) 747-3132 | [info@worldsafety.org](mailto:info@worldsafety.org) | [editorialstaff@worldsafety.org](mailto:editorialstaff@worldsafety.org) | <https://worldsafety.org>

Statement of Publishing Policy/Publisher: World Safety Organization Inc., World Management Center, 106 W. Young St, Warrensburg, Missouri 64093 USA. Editorial Board: Dr. Lon S. McDaniel WSO-CSE/CSS/CHMS/CSI(ML), Dr. Charles H. Baker, Dr. Zdena Zajickova-Hudson, and Dr. Michael L. Thomas WSO-CSE. The WSO NewsLetter (ISSN 1070-311X) is published by the World Safety Organization for its members and other interested individuals involved in environmental and occupational safety and health, security, public health, transportation, construction, and related professions. Copies are distributed to Missions of the United Nations, Libraries, WSO members, attendees of conferences/ seminars and other interested individuals. The information, data and comments contained in this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the WSO or its policies and programs. Data, articles, etc., offered for this publication, are provided only for information purposes and the WSO is not responsible for the accuracy of content and data in this publication. ©2020, WSO.

# Injuries and Illnesses Can Make Workers Leave the Labor Force



***Each year, millions of American workers experience an injury or illness that puts them at risk of leaving the workforce.***

Many injuries and illnesses are work-related; however, many also occur off-the-job. Tracking the number of off-the-job injuries and illnesses is challenging, but estimates suggest that there are many more off-the-job incidents requiring medical attention than work-related incidents.

When workers leave the labor force because of an illness or injury, it can have any number of negative impacts – for the workers, their families, their employers, and for the economy. Workers experience adverse effects on their health, family finances, and quality of life. Employers shoulder the direct and indirect costs that come with the loss of valuable employees. And all levels of government face reductions in the tax base, decreased economic activity, and hundreds of thousands of these workers go on to receive state or federal disability benefits.

## **Effective Help Can Keep Injured Workers on the Job**

However, many injured or ill workers could remain in their jobs or the workforce if they received timely, effective help. Early stay-at-work/return-to-work (SAW/RTW) strategies and programs succeed by returning injured workers to productivity as soon as medically possible during their recovery process. Since 2013, ODEP has invested resources to research this topic area, shine a spotlight on promising and successful strategies, and launch its largest ever demonstration project—RETAIN. Explore these past and current efforts on this section of the website and contact us at [saw-rtw@dol.gov](mailto:saw-rtw@dol.gov) with questions or comments.





# WHO's 10 calls for climate action to assure sustained recovery from COVID-19

## *Global health workforce urges action to avert health catastrophe*

Countries must set ambitious national climate commitments if they are to sustain a healthy and green recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The WHO COP26 *Special Report on Climate Change and Health*, launched today, in the lead-up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow, Scotland, spells out the global health community's prescription for climate action based on a growing body of research that establishes the many and inseparable links between climate and health.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has shone a light on the intimate and delicate links between humans, animals and our environment," said Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General. "The same unsustainable choices that are killing our planet are killing people. WHO calls on all countries to commit to decisive action at COP26 to limit global warming to 1.5°C – not just because it's the right thing to do, but because it's in our own interests. WHO's new report highlights 10 priorities for safeguarding the health of people and the planet that sustains us."

The WHO report is launched at the same time as an open letter, signed by over two thirds of the global health workforce - 300 organizations representing at least 45 million doctors and health professionals worldwide, calling for national leaders and COP26 country delegations to step up climate action.

"Wherever we deliver care, in our hospitals, clinics and communities around the world, we are already responding to the health harms caused by climate change," the letter from health professionals reads. "We call on the leaders of every country and their representatives at COP26 to avert the impending health catastrophe by limiting global warming to 1.5°C, and to make human health and equity central to all climate change mitigation and adaptation actions."

The report and open letter come as unprecedented extreme weather events and other climate impacts are taking a rising toll on people's lives and health. Increasingly frequent extreme weather events, such as heatwaves, storms and floods, kill thousands and disrupt millions of lives, while threatening healthcare systems and facilities when they are needed most. Changes in weather and climate are threatening food security and driving up food-, water- and vector-borne diseases, such as malaria, while climate impacts are also negatively affecting mental health.

The WHO report states: "The burning of fossil fuels is killing us. Climate change is the single biggest health threat facing humanity. While no one is safe from the health impacts of climate change, they are disproportionately felt by the most vulnerable and disadvantaged."

Meanwhile, air pollution, primarily the result of burning fossil fuels, which also drives climate change, causes 13 deaths per minute worldwide.

The report concludes that protecting people's health requires transformational action in every sector, including on energy, transport, nature, food systems and finance. And it states clearly that the public health benefits from implementing ambitious climate actions far outweigh the costs.

"It has never been clearer that the climate crisis is one of the most urgent health emergencies we all face," said Dr Maria Neira, WHO Director of Environment, Climate Change and Health. "Bringing down air pollution to WHO guideline levels, for example, would reduce the total number of global deaths from air pollution by 80% while dramatically reducing the greenhouse gas emissions that fuel climate change. A shift to more nutritious, plant-based diets in line with WHO recommendations, as another example, could reduce global emissions significantly, ensure more resilient food systems, and avoid up to 5.1 million diet-related deaths a year by 2050."

Achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement would save millions of lives every year due to improvements in air quality, diet, and physical activity, among other benefits. However, most climate decision-making processes currently do not account for these health co-benefits and their economic valuation.

*Shared from the World Health Organization website at [who.int](https://www.who.int)*

## LIFE SAVING RULES: LINE OF FIRE

Submitted by Scott Masters, WSO-CSM; Contract Employee, Construction Lead Safety Specialist, Alliant Corporation;  
Tennessee and South Carolina USA

When it comes to preventing line of fire injuries in the workplace, it is often good to start with the basic types of injuries that commonly occur. These can be broken down into three categories. As you analyze the potential hazards of the task or work area, consider the following as the main ways workers can be hurt while in the line of fire:

- ▶ Caught-in
  - Unguarded Machinery that could pull in clothing or body parts.
  - Working/moving within the swing radius of construction equipment.
  - Caught between a fixed object and moving vehicles or equipment.
- ▶ Struck by
  - Dropped/Falling Objects
  - Traveling vehicles or equipment
  - Slipped tools or components
- ▶ Energy Released
  - Stored Mechanical (springs, dampers, rotating parts)
  - Electrical
  - Stored Air/Fluids (Hydraulic, Pressurized Water, Pneumatic)

### Keep yourself and others out of the Line of Fire -

- ◆ I position myself to avoid:
  - Moving objects
  - Vehicles
  - Pressure Releases
  - Dropped Objects
- ◆ I establish and obey barriers & exclusion zones
- ◆ I take action to secure loose objects and report potential dropped objects.

Once you understand the above, the next step is to determine which types of activities or settings cause many workplace injuries.

Line of Fire hazards affect workers by virtue of the type of work they do. This can occur in operations & maintenance, manufacturing, and construction. Line of Fire injuries can occur in any of the following areas.

### Target Areas:

- ▶ Human Machine Interface (HMI) - i.e., moving construction equipment, vehicles, etc.
- ▶ Machinery
- ▶ Hand and Power Tools
- ▶ Material Handling
- ▶ Excavations
- ▶ Unsafe Behaviors

It is important to always remember that Line of Fire hazards are one of the deadliest hazard categories found in the workplace - second only to Slip, Trips, and Falls. Each year, hundreds of workers are injured by Line of Fire accidents. Hundreds of workplace deaths (appx 27%) are related to Line of Fire accidents.

As our projects consider their safety assessments, the objective should be:

***No one gets hurt because of a Line of Fire hazards, whether they are performing the task or simply in the area.***

Caught-in hazards occur when a worker could be caught inside of or in between different objects. Struck by hazards occur when a worker could be struck by an object. Energy Released hazards occur when a worker is in the path of Released Hazardous Energy.

EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, EVERY DAY: SAFE HOME





# RECOGNIZING POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARDS IN YOUR WORKPLACE

Submitted by Scott Masters, WSO-CSM; Contract Employee, Construction Lead Safety Specialist, Alliant Corporation;  
Tennessee and South Carolina USA

***Workers need to recognize potential fire hazards and take every safety precaution to avoid potentially deadly situations on their job sites. The best thing any employer can do is hold regular safety meetings.***

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, in recent years, more than 200 workers die annually as a result of fires and explosions. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA.org) reports that during 2009-2013 an estimated 37,000 fires were reported to U.S. fire departments per year and these included: 26,300 outside or unclassified fires, 7,220 structure fires, and 3,440 vehicle fires. In addition, these fires caused \$1 billion in property damage, 18+ deaths and 270+ injuries per year. OSHA Construction Standard 1926.152(g)(8) says that *there shall be no smoking or open flames in the areas used for fueling, servicing fuel systems for internal combustion engines, receiving or dispensing of flammable liquids.* And OSHA Construction Standard 1926.152(g)(9) states *conspicuous and legible signs prohibiting smoking shall be posted.*



Fire Prevention Signs ([mysafetysign.com](http://mysafetysign.com))

OSHA General Industry Standard 1910.106(b)(6) "Sources of ignition." *In locations where flammable vapors may be present, precautions shall be taken to prevent ignition by eliminating or controlling sources of ignition. Sources of ignition may include open flames, lightning, smoking, cutting and welding, hot surfaces, frictional heat, sparks (static, electrical, and mechanical), spontaneous ignition, chemical and physical-chemical reactions, and radiant heat.*

Incorporate the topic of fire prevention into your safety meeting schedule. Ensure that the following important issues are part of your fire prevention meeting.

- Fire prevention is every workers' responsibility!
- Be alert to your activities and avoid creating fire hazards.
- Only smoke in designated areas.

OSHA Construction Standard 1926.150(a)(1) The employer shall be responsible for the development of a fire protection program to be followed throughout all phases of the construction and demolition work, and he shall provide for the firefighting equipment as specified in this subpart. As fire hazards occur, there shall be no delay in providing the necessary equipment.

(cont. on pg. 7)

## RECOGNIZING POTENTIAL FIRE HAZARDS IN YOUR WORKPLACE (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

Submitted by Scott Masters, WSO-CSM; Contract Employee, Construction Lead Safety Specialist, Alliant Corporation; Tennessee and South Carolina USA

More points to cover during any fire prevention safety meeting:

- Ensure that all employees know where the fire extinguishers are located at the work site.
- Employees should report any missing, damaged, or spent fire extinguishers immediately.
- All team members should be familiar with the parts of a fire extinguisher and how to tell if it has been discharged.
- No one should attempt to use a fire extinguisher unless they have been trained to do so! Setting up fire extinguisher training is a great idea for every employer.
- Always use the correct containers for using, storing, or transporting fuel.
- Report any fires or possible fires immediately!

Many fire extinguishers have a pressure gauge showing if it is charged or used.

**OSHA General Industry Standard 1910.157(d)(1)** *Portable fire extinguishers shall be provided for employee use and selected and distributed based on the classes of anticipated workplace fires and on the size and degree of hazard which would affect their use.*



EVERYONE, EVERYWHERE, EVERY DAY: **SAFE HOME**





# World Safety Organization Student Membership

The WSO Student Membership category is available for any student in middle or high school (grades 6-12) or enrolled full time (12+ hours per semester/term) in a college/university undergraduate or graduate/postgraduate degree program. There is no cost associated with the WSO Student Membership as long as the member provides annual documentation of full-time student status.



## WSO Student Membership Benefits



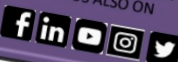
The WSO members (active) receive WSO News-Letters, WSO Tech-Letters, and other membership publications of the WSO.  
The WSO members receive a discount on the subscription for the semi-annual publication of the World Safety Journal, published by the WSO.  
The WSO members are entitled to reduced fees at seminars, conferences, and classes given by the WSO. This includes local, regional, and international programs. When Continuing Education Units are applicable, an appropriate certificate is issued.  
The WSO members who attend conferences, seminars, and classes receive a Certificate of Attendance from the WSO. For individuals attending courses sponsored by the WSO, a Certificate of Completion is issued upon completion of the course(s).  
The WSO members receive special hotel rates and assistance when attending safety programs, conferences, etc., sponsored by the WSO.  
Students Membership has Mentorships available, along with being a part of the WSO Organization, which will aid in applying for jobs in the future. You may apply online at: <https://worldsafety.org/wso-student-membership-program/>

The World Safety Organization provides a network system to its members whereby professional assistance may be requested by an individual, organization, state, or country on a personal basis. Members needing assistance may write to the WSO with a specific request, and the WSO, through its membership and other professional resources, will try to link the requestor with a person, organization, or resource which may be of assistance.



**"Making Safety a Way of Life... Worldwide"**  
**since 1975**

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