

MERIT SHOP

# CONTRACTOR

WISCONSIN

**MEWP STANDARDS**  
ARE YOU UP TO DATE?

**HEAT-RELATED HAZARDS**  
OSHA'S FOCUS IS INCREASING

**OSHA REPORTING &  
RECORDKEEPING  
REQUIREMENTS**



# SAFETY INNOVATIONS

UTILIZE ABC'S  
**STEP SAFETY  
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

**INNOVATION**  
WITH SAFETY IN MIND

**NEW LIFT TRAINING  
FROM ABC OF WISCONSIN**  
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**Pictured:** MRT 1840,  
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# SAFETY INNOVATIONS

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**FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

# New lift training from ABC of Wisconsin



**IT'S ALWAYS A PLEASURE WHEN WE CAN ANNOUNCE AN EXPANDED SERVICE THAT WILL ASSIST OUR MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO SAFETY.** The timing of this announcement could not be better with this being the safety issue of the Merit Shop Contractor magazine.

ABC of Wisconsin has been working with ABC National strategic partner JLG Industries to provide more options for mobile extension work platform (MEWP) and telehandler training. This will help ensure you are compliant with the most up to date ANSI and OSHA regulations for operation of this equipment.

JLG has been offering online MEWP and telehandler operator training for several years. However, ABC of Wisconsin recently sent our three safety managers, Dan Parks, Jared Weber and Evan Beine to the JLG headquarters in Pennsylvania for several days of intense train-the-trainer education. This means your ABC of Wisconsin safety managers are now certified to train your team members on the safe operation of this equipment according to the latest ANSI standards.

If you are going to operate an MEWP, such as a boom lift (you might call this a cherry picker or manlift) or scissor lift, you're required to have MEWP operator training as of December 2019.

During MEWP training, you'll learn:

- What agencies, regulations, and requirements govern MEWP operation
- MEWP manuals, decals, and placards
- Machine components and controls

- Inspection requirements
- Machine safety
- How to properly operate a MEWP

ABC of Wisconsin offers training that bundle MEWP and telehandler operation training, or standalone telehandler training for you or your team. Much like the boom lift and scissor lift operator training, telehandler operator training includes an online option and/or in-person option along with the in-person hands-on component. The telehandler course covers:

- Details on the guidelines governing telehandler operation
- Review of the machine's components, decals, manuals, and controls
- Proper inspection protocols
- Safe operation training for telehandlers

I hope you find this service valuable as these ladder replacement products become even more useful on your jobsites. Contact ABC of Wisconsin if you would like an ABC of Wisconsin safety expert to train your team members on MEWP and telehandler operation. [ABC Wisconsin](#)

“

**ABC OF WISCONSIN HAS BEEN WORKING WITH ABC NATIONAL STRATEGIC PARTNER JLG INDUSTRIES TO PROVIDE MORE OPTIONS FOR MOBILE EXTENSION WORK PLATFORM (MEWP) AND TELEHANDLER TRAINING.**

# UTILIZE ABC'S STEP SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

By Don Moen – ABC of WI HR & Safety Director

## INVEST IN YOUR EMPLOYEES' SAFETY — YOU WILL NOT REGRET IT

Owning or managing a construction company, chances are you have a lot on your mind from hiring employees to managing projects to paying bills. One thing that may not be top on your mind (but should be) is implementing safety policies and procedures. While no one would blame you for overlooking safety, that doesn't mean it is a good idea.

When you fail to put safety measures in place at your business, you run the risk of losing everything you have spent so many years to build. That's because one on-the-job accident can end up costing you a tremendous amount of money.

So how can you keep your jobsite safe when you know little to nothing about implementing safety procedures? Chances are you will probably need to enlist help. ABC of Wisconsin can assist you in making sure that you and your workers are protected from incidents/accidents. While you may believe you cannot afford such an investment, here are some important reasons why you cannot afford NOT to:

**1. Even small injuries cost big money.** According to the Department of Labor, if an employee has a lost time accident on the job, the business owner can be looking at nearly \$100,000 in direct and indirect costs.

**2. Insurance doesn't cover everything.** If you are counting on your insurance plan to pick up the tab, think again. Insurance carriers usually cover only a portion of the costs associated with on-the-job injuries.

**3. Worker compensation costs skyrocket after just one injury.**

If you think worker compensation insurance is high now, just wait until you have an accident. Just one claim can cause a huge spike in your premium.

**4. Injuries hurt more than an individual.** A good reputation is something that takes years to build, but only seconds to destroy. When people are injured at your site because you didn't do what was necessary to keep them safe, you can bet people are going to question your judgement.

Being an owner is exciting and can be very lucrative. However, it also brings with it a responsibility to keep your workers safe. And while it may be tough to shell out money for things like safety audits and training, it is well worth the money. Studies repeatedly show that employees that feel safe at work are more productive than those who do not. This means that investing in worker safety will pay off in more ways than one!

So how do you benefit from safety training? First, losing ten to thirty hours of labor, times the amount of people who need the training, is an awfully big expense. The first thing that comes to my mind is always, "You're crazy! If something were to go wrong with no training records, the expense will be immense." Furthermore, federal law requires that all employees are trained on the hazards they face prior to work commencing. Back to the question, the benefits your company will receive are:

- 1 Increased employee awareness of workplace safety hazards.
- 2 In depth training on the hazards that cause the most injuries.
- 3 Safety training promotes safer work practices.
- 4 Helps reduce accidents and injuries.



- 5 Increased awareness of the need for personal protective equipment.
- 6 Increased awareness to pre-operation inspections.
- 7 Daily safety best practices.
- 8 Knowledge learned in training will be used to prevent future accidents.
- 9 Encourages employees to take more responsibility for safety.
- 10 Reductions in accidents will reduce medical, insurance, and worker's compensation costs.

Many construction managers, general contractors, and subcontractors are now requiring every employee to receive at least a 10-hour OSHA Outreach Training card, and each management team member to receive at least a 30-hour OSHA Outreach Training card. An argument can be made that if a customer isn't requiring OSHA Outreach training, a program designed specifically for your organization may be more effective. In certain cases, this argument could hold true. However, if you are just starting or developing your safety program, OSHA Outreach Training is a great first step for knowledge and awareness to the hazards out there.

Clearly, your company can't afford to skip out on safety training. Fortunately, safety training can be completed via open enrollment classes, or you can schedule a class at your facility or project. The bottom line is that safety training is a wise investment so you should set up training for your employees today.

Now that you have training, how about developing a world-class safety program to ensure your company stays on the continuous path to safety excellence? Well, until now, relatively few studies have been conducted on the correlation between the use of measures companies can take to keep workers safe on jobsites — leading indicators and the number of incidents/accidents and injuries that occur — lagging indicators. Thus, to quantify the positive impact of proactive injury and hazard

elimination programs on the jobsite, ABC has gathered data from STEP Safety Management System participants in construction. ABC analyzed the aggregated data from STEP to determine how measures taken to prevent incidents actually improve lagging indicator performance. From this data we found STEP to be a great safety benchmarking and improvement tool, which you as a member can use to measure your safety programs and policies. STEP is a 28 Key Component detailed questionnaire to help you meet your goal of implementing and or enhancing safety programs that reduce jobsite incident rates. From STEP, now apply ABC's world-class processes to improve safety performance regardless of company size or type of work and you have the ultimate in safety programs. Our model for a world-class safety program utilizes STEP and contains the following elements:

■ **Leadership commitment – top management engagement and commitment matters**

Employer involvement at the highest level of company management produces a 63% reduction in TRIR, in high scoring ABC STEP member firms, the owner/CEO

■ **Cultural transformation – new hire safety orientation**

New-hire orientations are standard practice throughout the construction industry and are designed to onboard new employees into the culture, policies, and procedures of their new employer. This process is normally conducted before an employee sets foot on a jobsite or enters a training program and can vary in length. The onboarding process can take many forms, but the most important aspect is introducing a new employee to the culture and norms of the company; to indoctrinate them and help them understand the hows and whys of what a company does and expects of the new employee. Here the CEO or senior leadership delivers that introduction of the company's safety culture and core values. This process leads to nearly 50% lower incident rates than companies that limit their orientations to basic safety and health compliance topics.

## THE SAFETY ISSUE

CONDUCTING **WEEKLY SAFETY MEETINGS** WITH SUPERVISORS AND **DISTRIBUTING MINUTES** FOR REVIEW LEADS TO A

**56%** REDUCTION IN TRIR

AND A **59%** REDUCTION IN DART RATES.

COMPANIES THAT CONDUCT **DAILY TOOLBOX TALKS** REDUCE TRIR BY

**85%**

A LEADING INDICATOR IS A SYSTEM OR PROCESS USED TO IDENTIFY HAZARDS AND ELIMINATE OR MINIMIZE THE CONDITION TO PREVENT INJURY.

**1** OF **ALL INCIDENTS** ON CONSTRUCTION JOBSITES ARE **DRUG OR ALCOHOL-RELATED**

### ■ Best practices and core leading indicators

A leading indicator is a system or process used to identify hazards and eliminate or minimize the condition to prevent injury. ABC focuses on eight best practices/core leading indicators that have the most dramatic impact on safety performance.

**1 Toolbox safety talks** – Can you brief employees on safety too much? No matter what you may have heard, there is no negative effect to conducting daily toolbox safety talks – brief, single topic training session of 15 to 30 minutes held on the jobsite for all employees. The less frequently this type of training is conducted, the fewer safety topics covered, the higher the training indicators. Companies that conduct daily toolbox talks reduce TRIR by 85% compared to companies that hold them monthly.

**2 Substance abuse programs** – One-third of all incidents on construction jobsites are drug or alcohol-related. Companies with substance abuse programs/policies with provision for drug and alcohol testing where permitted are 60% safer than those without a program. Plus, substance abuse testing can be an effective method of incident prevention if used properly.

**3 Safety program performance review** – A biannual review of safety program performance by executive leadership that evaluates whether the program is producing expected results and identifies opportunities for improvement leads to a 59% reduction in TRIR and a 60% reduction in DART rates.

**4 Taking action on trailing indicators** – Training personnel to know the meaning and relevance of key safety rates and numbers such as EMR, TRIR and DART leads to a 57% reduction in TRIR and a 62% reduction in DART rates.

**5 Employer supervisory safety meetings** – Conducting weekly safety meetings with supervisors and distributing minutes for review leads to a 56% reduction in TRIR and a 59% reduction in DART rates.

**6 Use of personal protective equipment** – Having a written PPE Policy that is consistently and universally enforced, conducting an annual needs assessment, and continually investing in new equipment leads to a 55% reduction in TRIR and DART rates.

**7 Pre-planning for jobsite safety** – Integrating safety pre-planning into the estimating, bid and pre-mobilization phases of a project leads to a 53% reduction in TRIR and a 54% reduction in DART rates.

**8 Safety program goal setting** – Implementing a formal process to annually assess safety program need and establish safety goals lead to a 48% reduction in TRIR and a 50% reduction in DART rates.

The STEP Safety Management System provides a clear picture of what world-class looks like. Analysis of each of the key components' scores against lagging indicator performance will continue to provide statistical evidence of how individual elements of a safety program contribute to performance. Combined with the resources developed by ABC and the construction industry—and in development—companies will be able to identify and develop singular elements of their safety program to improve their safety performance further.

As construction industry professionals, we all have a moral obligation to protect ourselves and each other, to ensure that anyone who sets foot on our jobsites does so in the safest manner possible. Through this analysis, and by identifying the elements that lead to improved safety performance, we can achieve our ultimate goal—to send every single construction employee home in the same—or better—condition than which they arrived, every day. If you wish to learn more about STEP and the STEP Management system, please call ABC of Wisconsin and ask for the safety department. You will not regret it. 

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- **FA/CPR TRAINING**  
La Crosse, Dec. 2
- **QUALIFIED RIGGER & CRANE SIGNAL TRAINING**  
Madison, Dec. 5
- **CRITICAL SKILLS**  
Madison, Dec. 6
- **MSHA PART 46 REFRESHER**  
Wausau, Dec. 12
- **NETWORKING SOCIAL**  
Madison, Dec. 14
- **10-HOUR OSHA**  
West Bend Area, Jan. 3 & 17
- **10-HOUR OSHA**  
Appleton Area, Jan. 4 & 25
- **FA/CPR TRAINING**  
Green Bay Area, Jan. 6
- **MSHA PART 46 REFRESHER**  
Appleton Area, Jan. 9
- **HAPPY HOUR & BUCKS GAME**  
Milwaukee, Jan. 17
- **PROJECTS OF DISTINCTION BANQUET**  
Wis. Dells, Jan. 19
- **FA/CPR TRAINING**  
West Bend Area, Jan. 20
- **FA/CPR TRAINING**  
Appleton Area, Jan. 26
- **APPRENTICESHIP SKILL COMPETITION**  
West Bend, Jan. 27

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# HEAT-RELATED HAZARDS

## OSHA'S FOCUS IS INCREASING

By Charles B. Palmer and Bethany McCurdy – Michael Best & Friedrich, LLP



*In April of 2022, OSHA launched its National Emphasis Program (NEP) on heat-related hazards, which requires employers to implement steps to protect employees from potential sources of heat-related illnesses and injuries.*

OSHA launched its National Emphasis Program (NEP) on heat-related hazards, which requires employers to implement steps to protect em-

ployees from potential sources of heat-related illnesses and injuries. While industries like construction, landscaping, and agriculture have

# TO ENSURE EMPLOYERS ARE FOLLOWING THE NEP, OSHA OFFICES ARE DIRECTED TO SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASE THEIR HEAT INSPECTIONS.

always drawn some OSHA attention relative to the health risks of working in high heat, inspections typically arose out of a death or serious heat related incident. The NEP places much more attention on the topic and expands OSHA's enforcement efforts by generating inspection activity without a specific incident. This activity will be targeted toward work out of doors, as well as high hazard indoor worksites with radiant heat sources like foundries and steel mills, chemical manufacturers, and transportation equipment and repair. (For a complete list of targeted industries see NEP Appendix 1-A, Table one).

The goal of the NEP is two-fold. The first is to immediately address heat-related hazards by increasing inspections, employer outreach and compliance assistance. The second is to eventually establish a permanent heat-related hazard standard under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act). While OSHA always addressed heat-related hazards under the General Duty Clause of the OSH Act, President Biden's Executive Order Tackling the Climate Change at Home and Abroad pushed the effort into high gear. OSHA published an Advance Notice of Proposed Rule Making on October 27, 2021, held a public hearing on May 3, 2022, and accepted public comments through January of 2022.

The NEP is effective for three years, but given the Department of Labor's focus on this issue, it will likely be extended if a workplace rule is not established by the time the NEP expires.

To ensure employers are following the NEP, OSHA offices are directed to significantly increase their heat inspections, so even though temperatures have cooled, OSHA's focus on heat-related hazards has not. During the winter months when construction and landscaping work is slower, it is likely OSHA will increase its heat-related inspections on indoor worksites. It is important to note that this emphasis program allows OSHA to open-up inspections on this issue alone, or in conjunction with a complaint, injury or other type of inspection.

**Specifically, OSHA compliance officers will look for the following when conducting a heat-related inspection:**

- Is there a written program?
- How did the employer monitor ambient temperature(s) and levels of work exertion at the worksite?
- Was there unlimited cool water that was easily accessible to the employees?
- Did the employer require additional breaks for hydration?
- Were there scheduled rest breaks?
- Was there access to a shaded area?
- Did the employer provide time for acclimatization of new and returning workers?

- Was a "buddy" system in place on hot days?
- Were administrative controls used (earlier start times, and employee/job rotation) to limit heat exposures?
- Did the employer provide training on heat illness signs, how to report signs and symptoms, first aid, how to contact emergency personnel, prevention, and the importance of hydration?

**OSHA will also be on the lookout for:**

- Potential sources of heat-related illnesses (e.g., working in direct sunlight, a hot vehicle, or areas with hot air, near a gas engine, furnace, boiler, or steam lines)
- The use of heavy or bulky clothing or equipment, including personal protective equipment
- Estimating workload exertions by observing the types of job tasks performed by employees and whether those activities can be categorized as moderate, heavy, or very heavy work, considering both average workload and peak workload
- Duration of exposure during which a worker is continuously or repeatedly performing moderate to strenuous activities

**What this means for ABC contractors**

ABC contractors should remember that, even if they send their employees to another worksite as a contractor, and don't control the temperature, they are still required to be sure their employees are trained on heat illness signs, how to report signs and symptoms, first aid, how to contact emergency personnel, prevention, and the importance of hydration. Consulting with the employer who controls the physical worksite to learn how it addresses heat-related hazards for its employees and contractors, is an important step that should not be ignored. Remember that your best employees and new employees are likely to push themselves to keep your customer happy.



IF YOU HAVE  
**NOT YET  
IMPLEMENTED  
A PROGRAM**  
TO ADDRESS  
HEAT-RELATED  
HAZARDS, THE  
WINTER MONTHS  
PROVIDE AN  
OPPORTUNITY  
TO GET ONE IN  
PLACE.

You need to take proactive steps to protect them from over exertion because they may not protect themselves out of dedication to your company.

Look at the OSHA NEP list of targeted industries. As you bid jobs in those industries, consider including contract provisions addressing measures to protect your employees from heat hazards, including being compensated for special equipment, increased breaks, availability of hydration and requirements to wear protective equipment that may increase heat stress. A clause that says something like: in the event of high heat exposure to workers, work schedules may be adjusted, regardless of contract deadlines.

If you have not yet implemented a program to address heat-related hazards, the winter months provide an opportunity to get one in place. In addition to having a written program in place, employers should also consider other methods to help their employees mitigate heat-related risks. OSHA recommends implementing: Engineering Controls, Work Practices or Administrative Controls, and Personal Protective Equipment. What does that mean?

**Engineering Controls**

- Air conditioning (such as air-conditioned crane or construction equipment cabs, air conditioning in break rooms)
- Increased general ventilation
- Cooling fans
- Local exhaust ventilation at points of high heat production or moisture (such as exhaust hoods in laundry rooms)
- Reflective shields to redirect radiant heat
- Insulation of hot surfaces (such as furnace walls)
- Elimination of steam leaks
- Cooled seats or benches for rest breaks
- Use of mechanical equipment to reduce manual work (such as conveyors and forklifts)
- Misting fans that produce a spray of fine water droplets

**Work Practices/Administrative Controls**

Some worksites cannot be cooled by engineering controls. At those locations, employers

should modify work practices when heat stress is too high to work safely. Consider the following activity modifications (also known as "administrative controls"):

- Modify work schedules and activities for workers who are new to warm environments
- Schedule shorter shifts for newly-hired workers and unacclimatized existing workers
- Gradually increase shift length over the first 1-2 weeks
- Require mandatory rest breaks in a cooler environment (such as a shady location or an air-conditioned building). The duration of the rest breaks should increase as heat stress rises
- Consider scheduling work at a cooler time of day, such as early morning or late afternoon
- Reduce physical demands as much as possible by planning the work to minimize manual effort (such as delivering material to the point of use so that manual handling is minimized)
- Rotate job functions among workers to help minimize exertion and heat exposure
- Ensure that workers drink an adequate amount of water or electrolyte-containing fluids
- Employers should have an emergency plan that specifies what to do if a worker has signs of heat-related illness, and ensures that medical services are available if needed
- Workers should watch out for each other for symptoms of heat-related illness, and be prepared to administer appropriate first aid to anyone who is developing a heat-related illness
- Administer appropriate first aid to any worker who is developing a heat-related illness
- In some situations, employers may need to conduct physiological monitoring of workers
- Implement a buddy system for new workers and in heat stress environments
- Avoid drinking hot beverages during lunch and afternoon breaks

**Personal Protective Equipment**

- Insulated suits
- Reflective clothing
- Infrared reflecting face shields

- Cooling neck wraps
- Cooling inserts for hardhats
- Vests that receive cooled air from a vortex tube connected to an external compressed air source
- Jackets or vests with reusable ice packs or phase change cooling packs in the pockets
- Workers should be aware that use of certain personal protective equipment (e.g., certain types of respirators, impermeable clothing, and head coverings) can increase the risk of heat-related illness

How workers respond to hot working conditions varies from person to person, so employees must know how to monitor themselves and to recognize the signs of heat-related stress. There are wearable devices that measure things like core temperature, heart rate and exertion that can help employees track their physical conditions and note when they may be suffering from heat stress. Employers should also educate their employees on risk factors that increase the chances of heat-related illnesses or injuries, including age, high blood pressure, obesity, diabetes, medical conditions, drug and alcohol use, and overall poor physical fitness.

One of the work practices that is often overlooked is acclimatization. As a vast majority of heat-related fatalities happen in an employee's first week on the job, OSHA emphasizes the need for employers to allow time for an employee to become acclimatized to a hot work environment. Employers should not assign new employees to a full day of work in a

high-heat environment, but instead give them a chance to get used to the conditions. This may be especially challenging when working on a deadline or when your employees are contracted out to work at another company's worksite.

Regardless, it is the employer's responsibility to make sure that its workers are protected from all hazards, including those they are exposed to at other worksites.

**Conclusion**

OSHA issued its NEP on Heat Stress in 2022. Compliance officers are being trained on that program, and we expect significant inspection activity in 2023. Therefore, during the next few months, ABC contractors should:

- Review the above recommendations for heat stress management ideas for your jobs
- Research clothing and hydration equipment options and supply. (demand/prices will increase)
- Develop a training program on the subject prior to going into the warmer months
- Plan/bid projects to allow time and space for acclimatization of new workers, and sufficient breaks for all employees during high heat
- Determine whether inside work will expose employees to high temperatures, even in winter months
- Implement contract clauses to address high heat work, so that deadlines and schedules can be adjusted accordingly and without penalty





# CHEERS TO 50 YEARS



# OSHA REPORTING & RECORDKEEPING REQUIREMENTS

By Mary Bauer – OSHA (Eau Claire Office) Compliance Assistant

OSHA receives more recordkeeping calls in December and January than any other time of year. It is not that more workers are injured during that time, it is that record keepers procrastinate in making entries and the summary needs to be posted by February 1. (Note: A case must be logged within 7 days.)

Here are some recordkeeping reminders, tips and hints:

1. Hopefully, COVID is behind us but there still may be case(s) of work-related spread of COVID-19 amongst workers. COVID-19 is not the 'common flu' and may be recordable if three conditions exist: (1) the case is a confirmed case of COVID-19; (2) the case is work-related; and (3) the case involves one or more relevant recording criteria, e.g., medical treatment or days away from work. Employers must evaluate laboratory confirmed cases of COVID-19 to determine work-relatedness and if they met the general recording criteria.

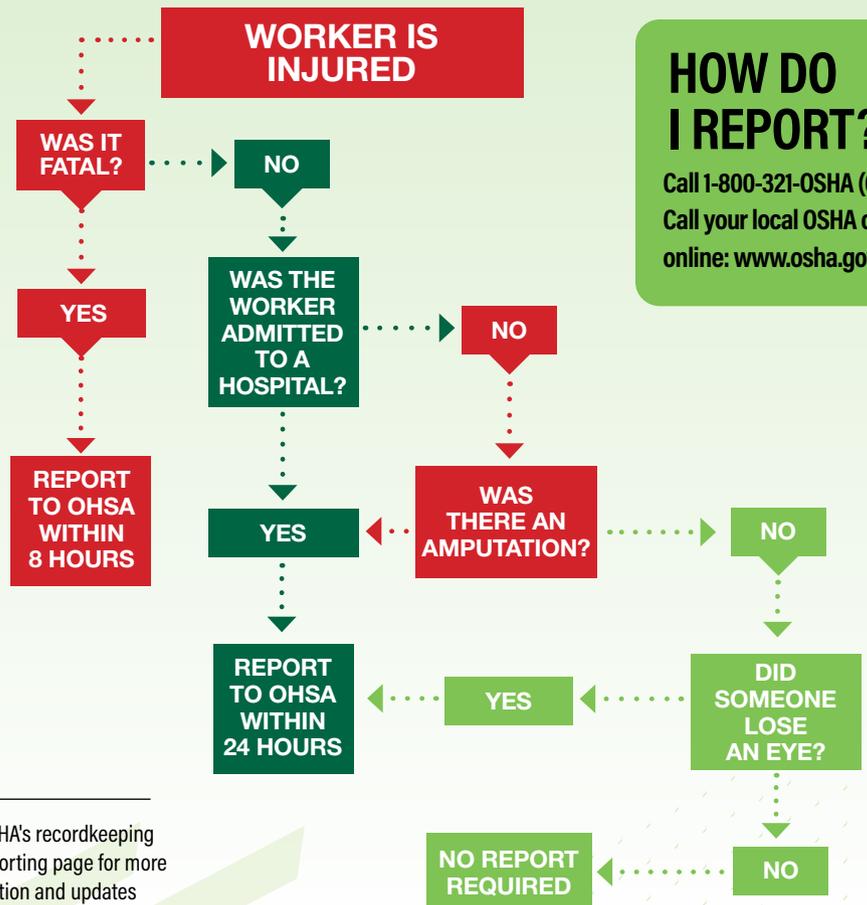
2. OSHA recently sent out emails to the account holders for ITA (Electronic Reporting) with updated login information. This was not spam email!

**Keeping your “Rs” straight!**

1. There is “recordkeeping,” which is three forms: OSHA Log (OSHA 300), First Report of Injury (WKC-12 or OSHA 301) and the Annual Summary (OSHA 300A).

2. Then there is “reporting” to OSHA if a fatality or severe injury/illness occurs.

## OSHA® NEW REPORTING EXPLAINED



**HOW DO I REPORT?**  
 Call 1-800-321-OSHA (6742)  
 Call your local OSHA office  
 online: [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

Visit OSHA's recordkeeping and reporting page for more information and updates  
[www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014/inided.html](http://www.osha.gov/recordkeeping2014/inided.html)

3. "Electronic reporting" for establishments with 20 or more employees to electronically submit their annual summary to OSHA by March 2.

**OSHA injury and illness recordkeeping and reporting requirements**

Many employers with more than 10 employees are required to keep a record of serious work-related injuries and illnesses. (Certain low-risk industries are exempted.) Minor injuries requiring first aid only do not need to be recorded. OSHA's Recordkeeping webpage has Q&A, letters of interpretation, training, and tutorials. Your local OSHA office can be contacted if you have questions.

**Reporting Fatalities and Severe Injuries/ Illnesses**

Employers have always been required to report work-related fatalities to OSHA. Since January 1, 2015, employers are required to notify OSHA of work-related in-patient hospitalization, amputations, or losses of an eye within 24 hours. All employers covered by OSHA, even those who are exempt from maintaining injury and illness records are required to comply with OSHA's severe injury and illness reporting requirements. Employers have three options for reporting these severe incidents to OSHA. They can call their nearest area office during normal business hours; call the 24-hour OSHA hotline at 1-800-321-OSHA (1-800-321-6742), or they can report online at <https://www.osha.gov/pls/ser/serform.html>.

The rule allows OSHA to focus its efforts more effectively to prevent fatalities and serious work-related injuries and illnesses. The final rule will also improve access by employers, employees, researchers, and the public to information about workplace safety and health and increase their ability to identify and abate serious hazards

**Improve Tracking of Workplace Injuries and Illnesses**

Employers with 20 or more employees submit their OSHA 300A (summary) information electronically to OSHA by March 2. The collection of injury and illness data will improve OSHA's ability to identify establishments that experience high rates of occupational injuries and illnesses for outreach and enforcement purposes. This regulation requires employers to have policies in place that do not deter or discourage workers to report injuries or



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IN THE U.S., THE  
**ANSI STANDARDS**  
CONTINUE TO BE THE  
NUMBER ONE RESOURCE FOR  
SAFETY GUIDANCE AND  
BEST PRACTICES INFLUENCING  
THE MEWP MARKET.

# MEWP STANDARDS ARE YOU UP TO DATE?

By Rick Smith – Senior Director of Product Training, JLG

Although no longer new (went into effect June 2020), JLG Industries continues to get lots of questions about how the updated ANSI A92.20 standards affect machine (re) designs, training programs and other initiatives.

It is important for the industry to know that these standards continue to influence machine designs, as well as training and safe use requirements — these were not a one-and-done implementation.

Thanks to the numerous delays prior to the effective date, JLG had plenty of time to plan for, test and even evolve the equipment design changes required to meet the A92 suite of standards, including load and terrain sensing, as well as indoor/outdoor restrictions. JLG brought industry leading modifications to market; those that add tangible value to our customers.

The focus wasn't only on equipment modifications, but to educate our customers and the industry about the new standards — something JLG continues to do.

At this point, everyone should be trained to the current standards. Written safe use programs should be in place and used daily. Familiarization should be taking place on any A92.20-designed machine to cover the new controls and operating characteristics including load sensing, and equipment owners have implemented programs to regularly evaluate operators.

Looking ahead, these standards aren't the only industry trends impacting the market today. What we see coming are a lot of changes in environmental regulations, particularly in urban areas and city centers where there are increasingly more restrictions on emissions and noise pollution, that will impact how MEWPs

are selected, as well as used, in certain areas/regions. These regulations are accelerating the drive towards electrified products.

Electrification is not new — in fact, many JLG products, including the slab scissor lifts and vertical lifts, have been electrified for more than 20 years — but mainly in industrial applications. Today, demand for more eco-friendly (i.e. “green”) products is pushing for the adoption of electric products into heavier construction applications, where the rough terrain scissor lift models, as well as the boom lifts are used. Over the next decade, that's where JLG anticipates seeing significant growth in the industry's portfolio of electrified machines.

JLG also frequently gets asked about what other safety concerns may be affecting the MEWP market, and of course, what training is out there to help.



In the U.S., the ANSI standards continue to be the number one resource for safety guidance and best practices influencing the MEWP market. These standards are routinely reviewed and updated (the most recent going into effect June 2020) so equipment owners and end users should make themselves aware of the most current requirements.

As an industry leader, JLG feels it's their obligation to continue to talk about and educate the industry on the impact of these standards updates in all three areas: Machine Design, Safe Use, and Training.

In doing so, JLG continues to hear that many equipment end users are not aware of the standards changes. In fact, one question the JLG sales team gets frequently asked regarding the new standards, as they relate to training, is: "How do I get certified?" This falls under A92.24 which covers MEWP training

materials, defines how theoretical and practical training should be delivered and identifies required elements for proper training and familiarization.

To address this need, JLG's AccessReady® website offers online and in-person training for supervisors and operators. All of the courses are compliant with OSHA regulations and ANSI/CSA best practices.

JLG also has a Train-the-Trainer program, which allows companies to send one safety professional to complete the course. Then, that individual can take what they've learned to train new and existing machine operators. Three of ABC of Wisconsin's safety managers recently completed the program and can now train individual member employees. Trainees can learn the right ways to tackle tasks in an environment where mistakes won't prove costly. [ABC of Wisconsin](#)

## UPDATE ON THE INDUSTRY STANDARDS

At this point, everyone should be trained to the current standards.

Written Safety Use programs should be in place and used daily.

Familiarization should be taking place on any A92.20-designed machine to cover the new controls and operating characteristics, including load sensing.

Equipment owners should have implemented programs to regularly evaluate operators.

## THE SAFETY ISSUE



# INNOVATION WITH SAFETY IN MIND

With a track record that goes back almost one hundred years, Milwaukee Tool has rightly established itself as an industry leader when it comes to durable, innovative, and productive tools; all with the end user in mind. It comes from ongoing collaboration with stakeholders across the construction industry.

“We invest the time to work side-by-side with real users to understand the demands of a constantly changing workplace and how we can best deliver solutions for a safer, more productive jobsite.”

### General Contractors

As an industry leader since 1924 and with connections that date back many years working with the top General Contractors in New York City, it is no surprise that those at Milwaukee Tool are leading the way in terms of jobsite requirements. The company has consolidated its close ties to GCs to ensure that they are supported and compliant when it comes to jobsite safety. With ever increasing safety standards comes a responsibility at every stage of the project to “ensure the worker can leave the

jobsite in the same condition they entered it.” At a minimum, the company uses the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health’s “Hierarchy of Controls” as the basis for every tool; Elimination, Substitution, Engineering Controls, Administrative Controls and PPE. In addition to massive cost and time savings, the resulting products ensure that workers and passersbys are safer through less jobsite related accidents.

According to John Randazzo, Territory Manager at Milwaukee Tool, the end result is



the “disruptive innovation” of the construction industry by developing safer and greener tools for the jobsite; always the driving force for any new product or project the company develops.

“It’s disrupting the status quo because workers can complete tasks faster, more efficiently, and they are not putting as much stress and wear and tear on their own bodies,” Randazzo said. “Our philosophy of disruptive innovation really starts with engagement with our end users at the jobsite level, then taking our findings and their direct feedback to our engineers to develop solutions. Battery solutions are also naturally a greener solution. So, as the industry changes and building techniques evolve, we are going to be there in lockstep with our end users,” he said.

#### **MX Fuel**

It goes without saying that Milwaukee Tool has been an industry leader for generations, pushing the industry into innovative territory with each new development and its MX Fuel products are no different. With an approach that has moved from gas to a battery-operated solution, the company has developed a range that covers lighting, saws, vibrators, and

chisels to name a few. Again, as is standard with this company, both safety and end use were at the forefront of all decisions when the products were being designed and rolled out. From a sustainability standpoint, the products speak for themselves. Using battery power, the carbon footprint from the jobsite is immediately removed. Of equal importance, however, is the minimizing of risk for workers using this equipment. The MX Fuel Breaker Kit is lightest in class and can break two tons of concrete on a single charge. The 14” Cut-Off Saw has power to cut an impressive 5” depth in reinforced concrete. These, astonishingly, are only a handful of examples. The list goes on.

For Kevin Gee, Director of Product Management, the process can be simplified to one thing: the end user.

“I think with anything we do at Milwaukee Tool, it always starts with understanding the user and most importantly understanding the issues and frustrations they deal with on a job site. If you look at our history, and we’ve historically tried to flip things from corded to cordless. We’ve been on the forefront of driving this conversion of the job site from AC to DC and now more recently to air pneumatic

ULTIMATELY,  
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COMPUTERS.

## THE SAFETY ISSUE



products and hydraulics. MX fuel products does bring new challenges in terms of duty cycle, but it also means that we can drive safety and we can also drive productivity,” Gee said.

For Gee, meeting the end user is where the company does all its learning.

“Ultimately, we need to be on the jobsite. We don’t learn anything sitting at our desk behind our computers. The way that we learn is by getting out in the field. It doesn’t matter the trade; working with them on the jobsite, understanding what they’re doing and if we can understand where they’re having issues or challenges or things that

are frustrating them, we don’t just create a product, we can create a solution,” Gee said.

### Safety

The safety and well-being of the individuals on each and every jobsite is a crucial element of all key decisions and feeds into every conversation. Product lines, training, and liaising with jobsite managers; every element of the design and production processes are viewed through the lens of safety and positive workplace outcomes. For Zach Richman, Director of Product Marketing, the relationship with the jobsite worker is communicative and very much two-sided.

“First and foremost, we want to focus on our end users and make sure that we’re looking at their problems and frustrations as a solution provider,” Richman said.

This leads to exceeding safety requirements in areas such as helmets, headlamps, lanyards and PPE.

While it is commonly accepted that construction is an industry with an unacceptable safety record, Richman believes by listening to those on the ground, and spending “thousands of hours in the field on jobsites,” real changes can be made.

“We’re hearing that issues like slips, trips and falls are some of the most common injuries on job sites. With that in mind, we are not taking the typical approach where people say, ‘Hey, we only need hardhats.’ We are looking at a whole shift in the market,” Richman said.

One example is the launching of ANSI Type 2 safety helmet, protecting the sides and the back of the head in addition to the top of the head. According to Richman, industry requirements are the bare minimum.

“We look at how we can go above and beyond in terms of testing requirements, for better productivity, better safety, better comfort. We are looking at this holistically for our end users and making sure that we have the best products and solutions out there for them,” Richman said. [abc.wisconsin](#)

*The above is an article written by David O’Neill, Aperion Construction, adapted and reprinted with permission from Milwaukee Tool.*

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