

CBS Corporate Safety and Environmental Affairs

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OSHA's Temporary Worker Initiative

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has launched the Temporary Worker Initiative aimed at preventing work-related injuries and illnesses among temporary workers. One aspect of this initiative is the prompt and accurate recording of these work-related injuries and illnesses, as covered in the May issue of this newsletter.

In addition to these recordkeeping responsibilities, OSHA views CBS as also being responsible for ensuring that temporary workers are protected from workplace hazards in the same way as CBS employees. Temporary workers are entitled to the same protections under OSHA's rules and regulations as CBS employees. Failure to provide this protection can result in fines and/or penalties. Approximately 40% of the CBS workforce is comprised of temporary workers.

When a staffing agency provides temporary workers to CBS, OSHA considers the staffing agency and CBS as joint employers, with both CBS and the agency having responsibility for protecting the safety and health of these temporary workers. The agency may provide general safety and health training, but CBS is responsible for providing the safety training on the specific hazards in the workplace. These hazards may include, but are not limited to, exposure to noise or toxic substances; fall protection; and arc flash potential. CBS is also considered responsible for providing any personal protective equipment that is required to be worn on the job.

In recent months, OSHA has investigated many reports of temporary workers suffering serious or fatal injuries. They issued a bulletin on recordkeeping requirements, which we addressed in the earlier newsletter. Future OSHA bulletins are expected to address whistleblower protection rights; personal protective equipment; hazard communication; hearing conservation; exposure to heat; and powered industrial trucks.

Please contact Mark.Perriello@cbs.com for additional information or with any questions.

NIOSH Approved Respirators

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) recently rescinded the approval of several respirators manufactured by Suzhou Fangtian Industries; FIDO Manufacturing; and priMedMedical Products, Inc.

NIOSH is a Federal agency that is part of The Center for Disease Control and Prevention that conducts research and makes recommendations for the prevention of work-related injuries and illnesses.

If any respirators supplied by these manufacturers are in use at your location, they must be immediately replaced by a NIOSH-approved respirator. The validity of a respirator can be verified on the [NIOSH Certified Equipment List](#).