

2007 International Telecommunications
Safety Conference



COMPLIANCE RESOURCES FOR THE EH & S PROFESSIONAL

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Areas of EH&S Involvement in the Telecommunications Arena (partial)

- Regulatory Compliance
- DOT
- Chemical exposures and MSDS accessibility requirements
- Contingent upon location, there are also possible Tribal Land considerations.
- Loss Prevention/Mitigation – Both for employees and structures
- Accident Investigation
- Pole Climbing and Pole Attachments (Owned vs. Leased and Liability Impacts)
- Equipment Inspections and Repairs (identification/training of appropriate personnel)
- Recurring Skills reviews.
- Ergonomics – both industrial and office

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Areas of EH&S Involvement in the Telecommunications Arena (partial)

- Recognition of HR Policies and Union considerations
- Employee Weight issues related to Equipment Weight Ratings
- Sharps Disposal
- Insect/Plant & Animal Exposures
- Working in extreme weather conditions
- Pre-employment screening for job candidates
- OTJ Injuries and reporting
- Workers' Comp and Return To Work Programs
- Vehicles and Defensive Driving Training (accidents/MVR checks/Drug & Alcohol screens)
- RF Exposure Risks

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Areas of EH&S Involvement in the Telecommunications Arena (partial)

- Familiarity with Electrical Codes
- Familiarity with Construction Codes (Trenching/Shoring/Excavation at worksites)
- First Aid
- Knowledge of ANSI Standards
- PPE purchasing/identification of appropriate equipment
- Working in Confined Spaces
- Indoor Air Quality Issues
- Recycling Programs/Equipment Disposal

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Areas of EH&S Involvement in the Telecommunications Arena (partial)

EPA Compliance

- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants (NESHAP)
- Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)
- Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA)
- National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)
- Clean Water Act (CWA)
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know Act (EPCRA)
- Clean Air Act (CAA)

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Even if your organization maintains a division charged with monitoring Regulatory and / or Legislative Activity, don't assume that EH & S issues are on the "radar screens".

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RESOURCES

National Telecommunications Safety Panel (NTSP)

<http://telsafe.org/>

National Safety Council

<http://www.nsc.org/>

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

OSHA has a COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE section on its Website including a resource tool and “Frequently Asked Questions” section.

http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance_assistance/index.html

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Many states have implemented their own job safety and health programs.

<http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/osp/index.html>

There are currently 22 States and jurisdictions operating complete State plans (covering both the private sector and State and local government employees) and 4 - Connecticut, New Jersey, New York and the Virgin Islands - which cover public sector employees only.

States must set job safety and health standards that are "at least as effective as" comparable federal standards. (Most States adopt standards identical to federal ones.) States have the option to promulgate standards covering hazards not addressed by federal standards.

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Traffic Control and Work Area Protection Issues

Federal Highway Administration

<http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/>

http://mutcd.fhwa.dot.gov/resources/state_info/index.htm

Available documents include State MUTCDs, State Supplements to the MUTCD, State policies and practices regarding traffic control devices, State sign/signal/markings manuals, drawings, and catalogs, and State standard drawings ("typicals") for traffic control devices

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Workers' Compensation

U.S. Department of Labor Employment Standards Administration

http://www.dol.gov/esa/owcp_org.htm

DOL Compliance Assistance

<http://www.dol.gov/compliance/>

Access to State DOL Resources

<http://www.dol.gov/dol/location.htm>

State Workers' Compensation Resources

<http://www.dol.gov/esa/regs/compliance/owcp/wc.htm>

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Environmental Obligations

Environmental Protection Agency

<http://www.epa.gov>

Access to Regional EPA Offices and State Environmental Programs:

<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/wherelive.htm>

EPA Tribal Resource Link

<http://www.epa.gov/epahome/tribal.htm>

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STATE LEGISLATION

There are many sites, which provide comprehensive links to the state legislatures. The following is hosted by the Federal Voting Assistance Program and the U.S. Department of Defense.

http://www.fvap.gov/links/legislative_links.html

The NTSP website also includes a link to access Legislative Information On the Internet.

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCE...

The Official Business Link to the U.S. Government. Managed by the U.S. Small Business Association in partnership with 21 other federal agencies. Great source for regulatory compliance and provides quick and easy access to business laws, government regulations, forms and agency contacts.

<http://www.business.gov/>

Includes Compliance Guides for many Business Areas and Industries.

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Within your organizations, determine who is responsible for HR Issues, Environmental Requirements, Union Negotiations, Purchasing and Regulatory Compliance. Educate them on your role within the company and how your tasks are inter-related.

Document EH & S Programs. Maintain Training Schedules and Training Documentation. Continue to pursue training opportunities available to you.

Find out if your organization is a member of a State Industry Association or Lobbying Group.

Routinely check these resources and search the Internet for others. There is much information available to you.