

IN THE NEWS

OSHA proposes crane operator safety rule

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has proposed a rule regarding crane operator certification. In addition to providing long-term clarity regarding crane operator certification requirements, the proposal reinstates the employer's duty to ensure that a crane operator is qualified to safely operate equipment.

Under the proposed rule, a change to the categories of certifications for crane operators would ensure that more operators are able to meet the requirement. The proposal discontinues a 2010 requirement that never went into effect. The requirement stated that crane operator certification must include the crane lifting capacity for which the operator is certified. The proposal would expand the type of certification programs for crane operators.

OSHA recently published a final rule, viewable at <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/federalregister/2017-11-09>, that extends the operator certification compliance date to November 10, 2018, to provide the agency with additional time to complete this rulemaking to address stakeholder concerns related to the Cranes and Derricks in Construction standard.

—Source: OSHA

Silica standard goes into effect June 23

General industry and maritime employers are required to comply with the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) silica standard, 29 CFR § 1910.1053, as of June 23, 2018, when most of the provisions in the standard become enforceable. The standard establishes a new eight-hour time-weighted average permissible exposure limit, action level, and associated ancillary requirements.

On June 8, OSHA also issued a memorandum outlining the initial enforcement of the standard. To view this memorandum, visit <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/standardinterpretations/2018-06-07>.

For guidance on complying with the standard, as well as information on silica sampling and analysis, the health effects of silica exposure, and answers to frequently asked questions, visit the silica webpage at https://www.osha.gov/dsg/topics/silicacrystalline/gi_maritime.html.

—Source: OSHA

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INDUSTRY CALENDAR

Events

For the most current information on events, visit <http://www.pci.org/events>.

9th International Conference on Bridge Maintenance, Safety and Management (IABMAS2018)

Melbourne, Australia

July 9–13, 2018

2018 AASHTO Annual Meeting

Westin Peachtree, Atlanta, Ga.

September 20–24, 2018

Fifth International *fib* Congress: Better – Smarter – Stronger

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, Melbourne, Australia

October 6–12, 2018

ASCE 2018 Convention

Denver, Colo.

October 12–15, 2018

ACI Fall Convention

Rio All-Suites Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nev.

October 14–18, 2018

SynerCrete '18

Funchal, Portugal

October 24–26, 2018

30th Annual ASBI Convention

Loews Chicago O'Hare, Chicago, Ill.

November 6–7, 2018