The CSHM / CSM P re-certification process is always one of trials and tears. :) It is recommended that you keep track of your activities that can accrue COC points as they occur. Then when it is time to submit, all the heavy lifting is done.
Did you know that ISHM offers 10 quizzes annually for ONLY $50.00/yr? Each quiz, when successfully completed is worth 0.2 points. So in 5 years you can accumulate 10 COC points without leaving your desk.

CSHM s, would you be willing to write CSHM exam questions? The questions must come from one of the references listed on ishm.org. Valuable COC points await those who submit accepted questions. Let me know.

A reminder that we will be sending renewal invoices earlier than in past years. Some have indicated they need extra time to get the invoice through their company process and make payment in time.

Don't miss the position available near the end of the article.

Visit the ISHM Website
Question:
I noticed that some groups are challenging OSHA's new silica rule. Does that mean my company does not have to comply with the new silica rule while the challenge is pending?

Response:
On March 24, 2016, OSHA published its long-awaited silica rule. The rule will go into effect on June 23, 2016. Employers subject to the construction standard must come into compliance by June 23, 2017, and employers subject to the general industry standard must come into compliance by June 23, 2018. The fracking industry has until June 23, 2021 to come into compliance. Under the new rule, the exposure limit is reduced to 50 mg per cubic meter of air, and the new action level is 25 mg. Employers are also required to implement numerous measures, including installing or utilizing engineering controls, providing respirators, conducting exposure assessments, performing medical surveillance, among other things.

Given the questions raised by industry regarding the technical feasibility and economic reasonableness of the new rule, a number of industry groups have filed appeals in federal court, challenging the construction and general industry standards. The appeals will likely be consolidated, and the industry groups will then ask the court to stay enforcement of the new rule pending the court's final determination. Unless a stay is granted, the new silica rule will be enforceable, pending the court's final ruling. The court is unlikely to issue its ruling until 2017 or later.

While I cannot predict if the court will grant a stay, it is important to keep in mind that courts, as a general rule, rarely stay rule makings. Nonetheless, employers should follow the appeals to confirm whether the court grants a
stay in this case. If a stay is not granted, employers should take steps to come into compliance with the new silica rule by June 23, 2017 for construction and June 23, 2018 for general industry. If the court ultimately overturns the rule either partially or completely, employers can then take other steps consistent with the court's ruling. In the meantime, however, employers should focus on compliance.

Darren Hunter is a partner and an experienced OSHA practitioner in the Chicago law firm of Rooney Rippie & Ratnaswamy LLP. This column does not constitute legal advice or the formation or proposal of an attorney-client relationship to or with any person or entity. In addition, this column should not be understood to represent the views of ISHM, the law firm, the individual attorneys at the firm, or of any of the firm's clients or former clients.

Oh-Oh An OSHA inspection at our workplace

During an OSHA inspection both employers and employees have rights. In his article Joe DeMaria, ISHM board member, outlines some workers rights, This informative article starts here.

Electronic Gadgets and Eye Strain

With everyone spending so much time in front of computers, tablets, and smart phones there just has to be a downside. Read an interesting article recently published in ISHN here.

Position Available
Environmental Health and Safety Manager
Fresh Express - Salinas, California

**Position Overview:** At Chiquita/Fresh Express, the Safety Manager is responsible for all facets of Safety/Health/Security and regulatory compliance. The Safety Manager will act as a resource to all Fresh Express Plants and will ensure compliance to all local, state and federal laws.

**Detailed duties and responsibilities:**

* Champion safety health environmental issues for fresh food processing/distribution facilities with more than 500 unionized or/and non-union employees.
  * Standardize safety processes, safety policies, and reports.
* Develop new strategies to improve management education, accountability, coaching and support.
  * Develop active and well-focused incentive programs that reward safe behavior and accident prevention without creating culture of entitlement.
  * Help with capital justifications regarding compliance issues.
  * Positioning safety in a broader context, integrating with food safety and quality
  * Approve safety engineering project upgrades
  * Help to instill management accountability for safety and health issues within their department/facilities
* Conduct mock OSHA inspections and serve as the regulatory liaison for both safety and environmental regulators.
  * Drive environmental compliance issues.
  * Conduct management level training in safety and health
  * Administer workers compensation insurance programs.
  * Manage on site Security for facilities
* Ensure that the exposure Control Plan in accordance with the Bloodborne pathogen standard codified as 29 CFR 1910.1030 and with the first aid standard codified at 29 CFR 1910.151 is thoroughly followed and provides the necessary support to the Occupational Health Nurse, as needed.
  * Perform other duties as assigned.

**Minimum Qualifications:**

* Bachelor of Science in Safety, Occupational Health, Industrial Engineering or related field
  * 3 - 5 years of management and safety/health/security experience
    * Knowledge of OSHA, DOT, and Environmental regulations.
    * Effective written and verbal communication skills.
* Ability to train associates at all levels of the organization.
* Must work well with others in a team atmosphere.
* Must be able to understand and respond to a diverse population.
  * Must have strong multi-tasking skills.
* Computer literacy including specialized databases and programs used to manage safety and security at the site.
* Must be able to withstand frequent exposure to a cold/wet environment
  * Bilingual English/Spanish preferred.

Contact:

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