

# Reguletter

## Reminder: Time to Post Your 300A

It's time to complete your 2014 injury and illness recordkeeping obligations by posting the Summary of Work- Related Injuries and Illnesses (OSHA Form 300A). OSHA requires that the notice be displayed from February 1st to April 30th of each year in a conspicuous place where employee notices are customarily posted. Businesses with no injuries or illnesses for the year must still post the form. A company official must certify the information in Form 300A was examined and is believed to be correct and complete.

## ResponsibleAg Registration is Open

The ResponsibleAg Certification Program began registering participants on Monday, December 8, 2014. We encourage you to register your facilities and support the program. The following information will help you in understanding more about the mission of ResponsibleAg:

- Frequently Asked Questions: <http://www.responsibleag.org/FAQ.cgi>
- Short Tutorial on ResponsibleAg: <http://www.responsibleag.org/Tutorial/>
- Download the ResponsibleAg Assessment: <http://www.responsibleag.org/documents/RAChecklist.pdf?20141215>
- Check out the Compliance Assistance Library: <http://www.responsibleag.org/ComplianceManual.cgi>
- Start preparing for your assessment by completing the Compliance Assessment Tool: <http://www.responsibleag.org/ComplianceAssessmentTool/>

ResponsibleAg anticipates facility assessments will begin in 2015 as the supply of credentialed auditors becomes available and the audit schedules are announced. ResponsibleAg allows you to select a credentialed auditor to perform your assessment. Please don't hesitate to contact the ResponsibleAg Helpdesk at 270-683-6777 or by E-mail at [helpdesk@responsibleag.org](mailto:helpdesk@responsibleag.org) if you have questions or need additional information. (Asmark Institute)

## Reminder: New OSHA Reporting Requirements Went Into Effect January 1st

Starting January 1, 2015, all employers must report all work-related fatalities within 8 hours and all in-patient hospitalizations, amputations and losses of an eye within 24 hours of finding out about the incident. Employers can report an incident by calling 1-800-321-OSHA (6742), calling your nearest OSHA area office, during normal business hours ([www.osha.gov/html/RAmap.html](http://www.osha.gov/html/RAmap.html)) or online at: [http://www.osha.gov/report\\_online](http://www.osha.gov/report_online). (Asmark Institute)

## SARA Tier II Report - Heads Up!

Several State Emergency Response Commissions advise they have received questions from people who installed the new Tier2Submit2014 program and received a "Win32" error message. Tier2Submit2014 requires Windows 7 (Service Pack 1), Windows 8, or Windows 8.1. Operating systems not listed here have not been tested and are not supported. They advise if you receive a "Win32" error message to determine what operating system is being used. They believe the error message is prompted by using Windows XP which is no longer supported by Microsoft. The only fix for this is to upgrade the operating system or use a different computer. (Asmark Institute)

## No-Defect Driver Vehicle Inspection Report Rule - Results in Paperwork Reduction

Effective December 18, 2014, DOT eliminated the requirement for written Daily Vehicle Inspection Reports (DVIRs), commonly known as "post trips" when no safety defects or mechanical deficiencies are identified, resulting in eliminating about 95% of the DVIRs required. The rule DOES NOT change a commercial motor vehicle driver's obligation to record/write the daily DVIRs when there are vehicle defects and deficiencies.

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This process entails both pre- and post-trip daily inspections of their vehicles to identify safety defects, mechanical deficiencies and maintenance concerns. DOT has a prescribed list of items to check.

Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx announced that, effective December 18, 2014, truck drivers will no longer have to comply with a burdensome daily paperwork requirement, saving the trucking industry an estimated \$1.7 billion annually without compromising safety. (Asmark Institute)

### **ANSI K61.1 Updated - Now Known as CGA 2.1-2014**

The long-awaited update of the ANSI K61.1 Requirements for the Storage and Handling of Anhydrous Ammonia is published by the Compressed Gas Association. The new edition was published as the CGA 2.1-2014 edition. The new edition, which is number six in the history of the standard, is considered the recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices associated with the safe storage and handling of anhydrous ammonia. The last time this standard was updated was in 1999.

EPA advises all facilities, including retailers and farmers, that store or handle anhydrous ammonia, they have a general duty to work toward conformance of the most current version of these requirements. EPA considers these requirements the basis for General Duty Clause compliance under the Clean Air Act, which governs the Risk Management Program (RMP). Facilities with anhydrous ammonia should compare their existing practices to the most current requirements or specifications, which in this case would be the new CGA 2.1-2014. The latest revision of myRMP Suite of Guidance Materials, developed cooperatively by The Fertilizer Institute, the Asmark Institute and U.S. EPA, includes these latest changes and may be accessed free of charge.

Visit: [http://www.cganet.com/customer/publication\\_detail.aspx?id=G-2.1](http://www.cganet.com/customer/publication_detail.aspx?id=G-2.1) to purchase a copy of the new standard. The cost varies depending on membership to either organization and/or if a paper or electronic copy is purchased. (Asmark Institute)

### **Decline in Workplace Injuries and Illnesses Continues**

The Bureau of Labor Statistics published their annual report on workplace injuries and illnesses recently, which stated that three million workers sustained nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses in 2013. Dr. David Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor, issued a statement on the report. "We are encouraged that the rates continue to decline over the past few years, but we cannot ignore those three million workers. The severity of their injuries and illnesses varies widely; some are amputees, some suffer back injuries, while others have to struggle for each breath. Work injuries can instantly pull the rug out from a family striving for a good middleclass life," Michaels said. (Asmark Institute)

### **OSHA Drops Dust Rule**

While industry fought for changes and delays in OSHA's proposed update of its hazardous dust rule, the agency delivered industry a major holiday gift when OSHA said it's pretty much walking away from the rulemaking. In November, OSHA quietly said it was putting the long-delayed rulemaking on a list of "longterm projects," planning no action for at least a year. The agency now says it's going to further study the impact of any new dust regulations on small businesses during 2016, meaning for all intents and purposes the proposed rulemaking is dead, at least during the Obama Administration. (Asmark Institute)

### **IRS Released Standard Mileage Rates for 2015**

IRS issued the 2015 optional standard mileage rates used to calculate the deductible costs of operating an automobile for business, charitable, medical or moving purposes. Beginning on January 1, 2015, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car, van, pickup or panel truck are 57.5 cents per mile for business miles driven (up from 56 cents in 2014), 23 cents per mile driven for medical or moving purposes (down half a cent from 2014), and 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations (unchanged). (Asmark Institute)