**Cal OSHA Semiannual Update**

**Cal OSHA Standards Board**

**Public Hearings**

**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE 8:**

**New Section 3345 of the General Industry Safety Orders**

**Hotel Housekeeping Musculoskeletal Injury Prevention**

**Public Hearing: 5/18/17**

**SUMMARY**

Existing occupational health and safety standards do not adequately address the hazards associated with housekeeping tasks. Section 3203, the Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP), establishes a general framework for the identification, evaluation, and correction of Hotel Housekeeping hazards, but it does not establish specific requirements to address the hazards or assess the risk factors which lead to the development of musculoskeletal injuries.

8CCR5110, Repetitive Motion Injuries (RMIs), requires a program that includes worksite evaluation, control of exposures and employee training. However, employers are not subjected to these requirements unless or until more than one repetitive motion injury, meeting certain conditions, occurs at their workplace within a twelve month period. Additionally, this section only addresses repetitive motion injuries and does not take into consideration other musculoskeletal injuries such as strains or sprains which are a result of acute trauma or other acute injuries caused by falls, slips or trips.

**TITLE 8 CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS**

**Article 1. Definitions, Section 2300**

**Article 3. Work Procedures, Sections 2320.2, 2320.7, and 2320.8; and New Section 2320.11**

**Article 4. Requirements for Electrical Installations, Section 2340.17 of the Low-Voltage Electrical Safety Orders**

**Article 1. Definitions, Section 2700**

**Article 23. Transformers, Section 2874**

**Article 29. Capacitors, Sections 2887 and 2893**

**Article 36. Work Procedures and Operating Procedures, Sections 2940, 2940.1, 2940.2, 2940.5, 2940.6, 2940.7, and 2940.8; New Sections 2940.11, 2940.12, 2940.13, 2940.14, 2940.15, and 2940.16; Sections 2941, 2941.1, and 2943; New Section 2943.1; Section 2944; and New Section 2944.1, New Appendix A, Appendix C, New Appendix D, and New Appendix E**

**Article 37. Provisions for Preventing Accidents Due to Proximity to Overhead Lines, Section 2946**

**Article 38. Line Clearance Tree Trimming Operations, Section 2951 of the High-Voltage Electrical Safety Orders**

**Article 7. Miscellaneous Safe Practices, Section 3314**

**Article 10. Personal Safety Devices and Safeguards, Section 3389**

**Article 12. Tree Work, Maintenance or Removal, Sections 3422 and 3425; and New Section 3428**

**Article 108. Confined Spaces, Section 5156 of the General Industry Safety Orders**

**Article 1. Telecommunications, Section 8617 of the Telecommunications Safety Orders**

**Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution;**

**Electrical Protective Equipment: Final Rule**

**Public Hearing: 3/16/17**

**SUMMARY**

On April 11, 2014, Federal OSHA issued a Final Rule relating to Electric Power Generation, Transmission, and Distribution and Electrical Protective Equipment with updated and new provisions that affect the General Industry Safety Orders, the Low-Voltage Electrical Safety Orders, and the High-Voltage Electrical Safety Orders. The main purpose of this rulemaking is to update the California Electrical Safety Orders to be at least as effective as the federal standards.

Federal OSHA last issued rules for the construction of transmission and distribution installations in 1972. Those provisions are out-of-date and inconsistent with the more recently promulgated general industry standards covering the operation and maintenance of electric power generation, transmission, and distribution lines and equipment. Federal OSHA revised the construction standards to make them more consistent with the general industry standards. They also revised some provisions to both construction and general industry requirements. The final rules for general industry and construction include new or revised provisions on host employers and contractors, training, job briefings, fall protection, insulation and working position of employees working on or near live parts, minimum approach distances, protection from electric arcs, deenergizing transmission and distribution lines and equipment, protective grounding, operating mechanical equipment near overhead power lines, and working in manholes and vaults. Federal OSHA also updated the standard for the design of electrical protective equipment replacing the incorporation of out-of-date consensus standards with a set of performance-oriented requirements that are consistent with the latest revisions of the relevant consensus standards. This proposal also includes new requirements for the safe use and care of electrical protective equipment.

**Approved Regulations**

**TITLE 8. CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS**

**Construction Safety Orders**

**8CCR Section 1637(n)**

**Access - Use of Hook-On and Attachable Ladders with Scaffolds and Rest Platforms (HORCHER)**

**Public Hearing: 2/16/17**

**Filed: 6/5/17**

**Effective: 6/5/17**

**SUMMARY**

In a memo dated January 27, 2016 from Juliann Sum, Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH), to Marley Hart, Standards Board, the Division requested (DOSH F9-85) to add a new paragraph under Section 1637(n)(2)(A) to require rest platforms when hook-on and attachable ladders are used on supported scaffolds that are more than 35 feet high. Board staff also believes it is necessary to restrict the height of the bottom rung of the ladders from the scaffold supporting level to prevent employee slips and falls while transitioning from the support level to the ladder and vice versa. Such restriction is not currently present in the state standard.

At the February 16, 2017 Public Hearing, the Occupational Safety and Standards Board considered revisions to California Code of Regulations, Title 8, General Industry Safety Orders, Section 1637, General Requirements. These standards are substantially the same as federal standards.

**TITLE 8. CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS**

**General Industry Safety Orders**

**Section 3220(b) Elements**

**Emergency Action Plan (HORCHER)**

**Public Hearing: 2/16/17**

**Filed: 6/5/16**

**Effective: 6/5/17**

**SUMMARY**

In 2002, Federal OSHA amended its standard for Emergency Action Plans (EAP). One of the changes to the EAP standard concerned procedures for employees performing rescue or medical duties. After consultation with stakeholders, Federal OSHA realized that rescue personnel and medical personnel might only perform a single function but not necessarily both. Federal Register, Volume 67, No. 216, November 7, 2002, states “… The Agency has also changed ‘rescue and medical duties’ in the proposal to ‘rescue or medical duties’ since employees may do one or the other but not necessarily both.”

The current state standard does not require, like its federal counterpart does, the employers to have an EAP that contains procedures for performing individual duties – rescue or medical. Therefore, the current state standard is not commensurate with the federal standard. Board staff proposes an amendment in order to render it commensurate with the federal standard.

California also proposes to replace language contained in Section 3220(b)(1) in its entirety with federal language contained in 29 CFR 1910.38(c)(2) verbatim because the state’s language does not require the emergency evacuation procedures to identify the type of evacuation; and is therefore, not at least as effective as the federal language.

**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS TITLE 8:**

**Section 4306 of the General industry Safety Orders**

**Underhung/Slung (Jump) Saw Guarding**

**Public Hearing: 1/19/17**

**Filed: 3/20/17**

**Effective: 7/1/17**

**SUMMARY**

This rulemaking is the result of an Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board review of guarding requirements for underhung swing cutoff saws, inverted swing cutoff saws, jump saws and underhung saws contained in Section 4306 of the General Industry Safety Orders (GISO). These are types of circular woodworking saws where the blade emerges from underneath the stock or table and swings or slides upward to make the cut. The term jump saw derives from the fact that the blade in making the cut on the work piece “jumps up” from beneath the table to enter the wood.

Section 4306(b) requires blade guarding. Manufacturers provide blade guards in conformance with this standard. These saws are also typically provided with one or more additional point-of operation guards such as but not limited to: tunnel guards, foot pedals, windshields, wrist restraints, passive detection and two-handed controls.

The inherently hazardous nature of these saws and the accident documentation suggests that blade guarding alone is insufficient to prevent contact. Performance-based point-of-operation guarding (POG) standards are contained in Sections 4184 and 4186. Title 8 point-of-operation guarding standards apply to Section 4306. However, other than a requirement for effective guarding and guarding the blade, point-of-operation guarding is not mentioned in Section 4306.

The proposal will clarify that the point-of-operation guarding requirements in Section 4184 and 4186 apply to the underhung type saws in addition to the blade guarding required by Section 4306.

**CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS Title 8:**

**Section 5155 of the General Industry Safety Orders Airborne Contaminants -**

**Wood Dust and Western Red Cedar**

**Public Hearing: 4/21/16**

**Filed: 4/4/17**

**Effective: 7/1/17**

**SUMMARY**

Reduced the existing 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) PEL of 5 milligrams per cubic meter of air (mg/M3 ) to 2 mg/M3 for wood dust (all soft and hard woods, except Western Red Cedar), and the existing 15-minute short term exposure limit (STEL) of 10 mg/M3 to 5 mg/M3 . For Western Red Cedar reduced the existing PEL of 2.5 mg/M3 (8-hour TWA) to 0.5 mg/M3 .