



# Safety Update

Issue Date: May 29, 2018

## **REGISTER TODAY FOR THE AGC OF OHIO SAFETY LUNCHEON!**

The annual AGC of Ohio Safety Luncheon will be held on June 22 at J. Liu Restaurant in Worthington. The Luncheon will begin at 11:30 a.m. and will be followed by the awards presentation to this year's Ohio Construction Safety Excellence Award winners and the National AGC Safety Awards Certificates of Commendation for excellent safety records.

Prior to the lunch, a safety meeting will be held. Regular agenda items include an OSHA regulatory and enforcement update, BWC news, safety-related advocacy, and other pertinent safety-and-health matters of interest.

**Be a sponsor!** AGC is accepting sponsors for the event. Three levels of sponsorship are available: Safety Meeting - \$100; Luncheon - \$250; and Event - \$500.

**Register for the event and learn more about sponsorship opportunities [here](#). Direct questions to Andrea Ashley at (614) 486-6446 or [andrea@agcoho.com](mailto:andrea@agcoho.com).**

## **OSHA ISSUES PROPOSED RULE TO ADDRESS CRANE OPERATOR QUALIFICATION**

On May 21, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) to revise crane operator training, certification/licensing, and competency. The proposed changes would: (1) require comprehensive training of operators; (2) remove the provision that requires certification by capacity; (3) clarify and permanently extend the employer's responsibility to evaluate crane operator competency; and (4) require documentation of that evaluation.

The proposed rule was released ahead of the November 10 compliance deadline for enforcement of crane operator certification. AGC has been following this rulemaking closely and will be working with members to draft and submit comments by June 20.

## **OHIO BWC BOARD APPROVES A FOURTH "BILLION BACK"**

The Ohio BWC Board on May 24 formally approved \$1.5 billion in rebates for Ohio employers. Approximately 180,000 employers in the state will receive rebates over several weeks beginning in early July. The proposed rebate equals 85 percent of the premiums paid for the policy year that ended June 30, 2017. Eligible employers must pay any overdue premiums and submit outstanding payroll reports before June 8; they are also encouraged to verify contact information to ensure checks to go the correct address.

The BWC reported earning an average 6.7% return on its investments in the past five fiscal years, with the fund's net position at \$10.9 billion as of March 31. BWC Administrator Sarah Morrison has cautioned that despite recent history, strong investment returns and rebates are a goal, not a guarantee.

According to Governor Kasich's and BWC's press announcement about the proposal last month, the rebate is the BWC's largest in 20 years, and marks the fourth "billion back" under the Administration. BWC will have saved employers \$8 billion in workers' compensation costs since 2011 after considering other rebates, credits, greater efficiencies and several rate reductions. More details on the rebate can be found [here](#). An overview of the \$8 billion in workers' comp savings since 2011 can be found [here](#).

## **NATIONAL AGC SAFETY CONFERENCE IN INDIANAPOLIS - July 25-27**

If you haven't done so, be sure to register for the AGC of America Summer Safety & Health Conference at the JW Marriott Indianapolis. It's a great opportunity for Ohio contractors with the event being held close by!

Participants will:

- Hear from key OSHA representatives on the latest updates to regulations and OSHA activities
- Get the latest updates on congressional activities directly affecting construction safety and health.
- Participate on subcommittee and taskforce meetings
- Take an active role in improving safety and health in the construction industry
- Attend social events hosted by the sponsors and AGC and interact with other attendees

The complete agenda, registration materials, and hotel accommodation information can be found [here](#).

## **MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THIS FALL'S AGC OF OHIO SAFETY MEETINGS**

### **September 28 & November 16**

The fall AGC of Ohio Safety Meetings are scheduled for September 28 and November 16. The meetings usually run from 9:30 a.m. to noon and are held at the AGC office in Columbus. They are free of charge for AGC of Ohio members.

Each meeting will feature a presentation, and the presenters and topics will be announced in the near future. Other regular agenda items include OSHA regulatory and enforcement activities, silica update, AGC safety efforts, roundtable discussion on safety & health issues.

RSVP or direct questions to Andrea Ashley, AGC of Ohio's Safety Committee liaison, at (614) 486-6446 or [andrea@agcoho.com](mailto:andrea@agcoho.com).