Government Affairs

The 2025 NSC Spring Safety Conference & Expo - set for April 23-25 in Charlotte, NC.

Emergency Petition on Residential Fall Protection

History ... in 2013, Fed-OSHA demanded that Cal-OSHA adopt a uniform 6-foot fall protection standard for residential construction. Fed-OSHA also wants the state to implement this regulation for all construction. In the meantime, the Housing Contractors of California, California Framing Contractors Assoc., and Residential Contractors Associations have petitioned the Cal-OSHA Standards Board to delay implementation of the 6-foot trigger, which is scheduled to take effect on July 1st. Moreover, Fed-OSHA contends that the lack of fatality and injury data is irrelevant – referring to the current California residential construction trigger height is 15-ft. The threat from Fed-OSHA ... If Cal-OSHA doesn't comply with its demands, Fed-OSHA would assume enforcement jurisdiction of California construction. STAND-BY

Tesla fined for 'serious' heat violation at California plan

Tesla has been fined for violating California's workplace heat protection rules at its Fremont plant. Although the \$13,500 penalty is a pittance for the electric car maker that boasts a market cap of more than \$1 trillion, state regulators categorized the company's violation as "serious," meaning it could result in injury, illness or death. The findings stem from Tesla's failure to provide employees working outdoors with adequate cooldown breaks in shaded areas, according to a citation issued by the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health, known as Cal/OSHA, in December. REF: https://www.latimes.com/business/story/2025-02-11/tesla-fined-for-serious-heat-violations-at-fremont

The deadliest workplace in America.

Phenix Lumber Co., Phoenix City, Alabama - Workers had lost fingers, broken bones and been mangled by machines. At least 28 employees had reportable injuries since 2010, and 3 had fatal injuries, at a company with 50 people on the payroll. Fed-OSHA inspectors issued more than 100 safety violations and millions in fines. Yet deaths and injuries continued.

 $\underline{https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/interactive/2025/osha-workplace-deaths-safety-sawmill/?itid=hptop-table-main p001 f006$

U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) Releases Update into Fatal Hydrogen Sulfide Release at PEMEX Refinery in Deer Park, Texas

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) released a <u>second update</u> on its ongoing investigation into the fatal hydrogen sulfide release that occurred on October 10, 2024, at the PEMEX Deer Park Refinery in Deer Park, Texas. Two contract workers died during the incident, and over 27,000 pounds of hydrogen sulfide gas were released. Local authorities issued shelter-in-place orders lasting several hours for the neighboring cities of Deer Park and Pasadena, Texas.

CSB Releases New Safety Video on the 2020 Fatal Propylene Release and Explosion at the Watson Grinding Facility in Houston, Texas

The U.S. Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board (CSB) released a <u>new safety video</u> on its investigation into the January 24, 2020, fatal propylene release and explosion at the Watson Grinding and Manufacturing Company facility in Houston, Texas. The explosion resulted in the death of two workers, a nearby resident, and damaged hundreds of neighboring homes.