

# Safety Council News

Happy Holidays!



FASC Newsletter Oct.-Nov.-Dec. 2010



**FASC** provides a forum for Florida Safety Councils to examine and act on issues impacting driving, occupational and public safety. FASC develops safety education programs available to member Councils individually or collectively.

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## Hosting Holiday Office Parties

Anyone working in an office environment knows the joy that spreads during the holiday season. Whether your office participates in Secret Santa, having dinner, or the ever so famous OFFICE PARTY; the holiday season is a gateway to a good time! Sometimes, however, the gate is too wide open and good times flow a little overboard. Holiday parties are an excellent opportunity for employees to celebrate and provide relief for the stress caused during the busy working season. Here are some tips to throw a party that all your employees can enjoy this holiday season and return home safe after:

1. Make attendance voluntary. This allows employees not to feel pressured into canceling previous engagements. This will likely increase the number in attendance because then your employees will really feel as if it's a party, not a work evaluation seminar.
2. If possible, do not serve alcohol. Not everyone knows when they've reached their limit. If you do decide to serve alcohol, always serve food, and plenty of tasteful non-alcoholic beverages as well.
3. If serving alcohol is a must, do not have an "open bar" which allows employees to consume as much as they please. There are other options such as a ticket bar where it limits the number of drinks per employee.
4. Avoid hanging mistletoes. These can cause uncomfortability in the party environment amongst employees.
5. Don't invite customers or clients. Keep in mind this is an office party, not a party to boost business. Relax, you can always return to social meetings after the holiday season is over.



6. Make travel arrangements for anyone who looks incapable of driving themselves home. The Florida Association of Safety Councils wants you to have a happy and safe holiday season.!

## Florida Safety Association Council Notes:

FASC is your source for:

- OSHA Compliance Training
- Forklift Certification Training
- Traffic/Driving Courses
- Online Internet Courses
- CPR/First Aid/AED Training



## Now Offering! Maintenance of Work Zone Training

- Intermediate
- Intermediate Refresher
- Restricted Activities
- Restricted Activities Refresher

For more information and class schedules call:

1 (877)-413-3272

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## NEW SAFETY RULE WILL TAKE EFFECT NOV. 8TH, 2010

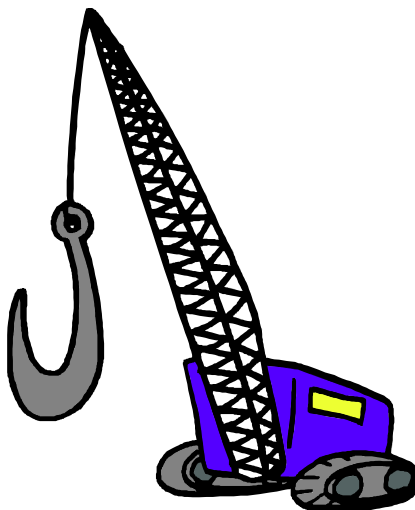
[www.osha.gov/cranes-derricks](http://www.osha.gov/cranes-derricks)

On July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010 the US Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, better known as OSHA, announced the newly issued rule pertaining to the use of cranes and derricks in the construction field. This update has been long awaited, considering the previous rule was dated back to 1971, and based on 40 year old standards. Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis said, *"The significant number of fatalities associated with the use of cranes in construction led the Labor Department to undertake this rulemaking. After years of extensive research, consultation and negotiation with industry experts, this long overdue rule will address the leading causes of fatalities related to cranes and derricks, including electrocution, boom collapse and overturning."*

**The purpose of this rule is to prevent the major causes of fatalities which are:**

- Electrocution
- Crushed-by/struck-by hazards during assembly/disassembly
- Collapse and overturn

In addition, this rule set requirements for ground conditions, and crane operator assessment. This rule also took on the subjects of tower crane hazards, the use of synthetic slings for assembly/disassembly work, and it clarified the direct purpose of the regulation by giving both a functional description and a list of examples for the equipment that is covered. The jurisdiction, and contents, of this rule was decided upon by the Cranes and Derricks Advisory Committee members representing manufacturers and trade associations. Contact your local safety council for a crane safety course near you!



## Principles of Safety Management Courses, Available Online:

The Florida Association of Safety Councils Principles of Safety Management (PSM) Courses are available, in the classroom or online. The PSM courses are continuing education tools designed for safety professionals. The PSM Courses consists of :

- ⇒ How To Develop A Safety Program
- ⇒ Preparing For Emergencies
- ⇒ Employee Screening & Safety Orientation
- ⇒ Understanding Behavior And Stress Strategies
- ⇒ Ergonomics
- ⇒ Methods and Techniques of Training
- ⇒ Record keeping & Documentation
- ⇒ Loss Control Part I
- ⇒ Loss Control Part II
- ⇒ Incident Reporting & Investigation
- ⇒ Managing a Drug Free Workplace
- ⇒ Managing Workers' Compensation

**Contact your local safety council for more information or to register for an online course visit our website at [www.fascsafety.org](http://www.fascsafety.org)!**

# OSHA Tells Employers to "Stop The Texting!"

Motor vehicle crashes are a leading cause of worker fatalities. Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis announced a partnership between the U.S. Dept. of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the U.S. Dept. of Transportation to combat distracted driving.



OSHA's aim is to make employers eliminate financial and other incentives that encourage workers to text while driving. Last year, President Barack Obama signed an executive order for federal employees, which bans them from cell phone usage while driving. OSHA is launching a multifaceted campaign which includes an education campaign for employers. OSHA will issue citations and penalties where necessary when they receive a credible complaint against an employer that requires texting while driving. New communications technologies are helping businesses work smarter and faster, but getting work done faster does not justify the dramatically increased risk of injury and death that comes with texting while driving.

Part of OSHA's education outreach is a new web page aimed at those whose workplaces are the cars, vans and trucks that deliver the goods and services on which the nation's economy depends. This online resource will inform workers of their rights, and employers of their responsibility to provide safe workplaces, and offer best practices and policies on achieving safe workplaces in motor vehicles. Information and continual updates are available at <http://www.osha.gov/distracted-driving>.

## Injury & Illness Prevention Program (I2P2)

On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010 Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) held a meeting regarding the Injury and Illness Prevention Program (I2P2). This meeting was held in order to gather information from a variety of direct interest holders to create an Injury and Illness Prevention Program rule. This rule is intended to reduce workplace injuries and illnesses by making it mandatory that employers implement injury and illness prevention programs.

The primary goal of this new rule is to make mandatory of employers to comply with the safety specifications set forth by this new ruling, regardless of your businesses previous safety rating. These specifications would be the guideline for safety and health programs. The rule is going through its developmental stages, as with any other rule.



OSHA wishes to make imperative. OSHA encourages attendees to continue to submit comments and resources along the way to assist them in developing the best and most effective rule possible. For more info on the topic visit [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

## MISSION STATEMENT

The **Florida Association of Safety Councils (FASC)** members are private, not-for-profit, public service organizations.

The objective of the Safety Councils is to promote safety education for businesses, government, traffic, home and recreation. Our goal is to reduce accidents, injuries and deaths.

The Florida Association of Safety Councils provides a forum for Safety Councils to examine and act on issues impacting Floridians on driving, safety and health issues.



FASC is affiliated with the **American Association of Safety Councils (AASC)**, an international association of independent safety councils.

The *Safety Council News* is published six times a year to keep business and industry informed of the Florida Association of Safety Council's activities and safety and health news and developments. NOTE: The information herein was obtained from sources believed reliable and the Association has exercised reasonable care to assure its accuracy. However, the Florida Association of Safety Councils does not guarantee that the contents of the *Safety Council News* are correct and statements from other sources do not necessarily reflect the