



## **Audit Finds Problems with OSHA's Fatality, Injuring Reporting Program Discovered**

WASHINGTON D.C., (October 3, 2018) - A report by the US Department of Labor Office of Inspector General (OIG) proclaims that OSHA's revised fatality and severe injury reporting requirements are failing to produce accurate data which hinders the agency's ability to effectively target compliance assistance and enforcement efforts with widespread problems with OSHA's implementation of the regulation, which went through significant changes in 2015 that require employers to report all work-related fatalities and certain injuries, inpatient hospitalizations, amputations and losses of eyes within specific timeframes.

Although implementation efforts by OSHA resulted in employers performing nearly 15,000 investigations and OSHA conducting nearly 11,000 on-site investigations in response to employer reported incidents OSHA did not have controls to ensure it had complete information on the number of work-related fatalities and severe injuries. Estimates show that employers do not report 50 percent or more of severe injuries. Furthermore, OSHA has limited assurance employers abated hazards properly. The OIG attributes this to unclear guidance and poorly documented case files.

OSHA commented on a number of results and recommendations, but nothing in the agency's response change the report.

More Information:

<https://www.ishn.com/articles/109475-oshas-fatality-injury-reporting-program-gets-a-hard-fail-in-an-audit>

## **What to Expect from a Proposed Alignment with GHS (Globally Harmonized System) – Revision 7**

The United Nations publishes updates to the Globally Harmonized System of Classifications and Labeling of Chemicals every two years. In the most recent edition – Revision 7 has particular significance as the agency plans to publish a notice of proposed rulemaking in February 2019 that will detail the changes to the HazCom Standard to align with Revision 7.

GHS adopting entities have the flexibility to choose which elements of the system to adopt based on what works best within their particular regulatory framework. This approach aims a greater global system adoption therefore OSHA may elect not to adopt all parts of Revision 7 and may choose to include provisions that aren't currently included.

What does this mean for a HazCom-covered business? Although stakeholders should be aware of OSHA's Revision 7 alignment plans, it remains critical that businesses continue to adhere to the current HazCom 2012 (Revision3-aligned) requirements and not make and presumptive changes. **HazCom 2012 will remain the law until OSHA communicates differently.**

For more information on the potential changes with Revision 7 and a quick checklist of HazCom compliance considerations click on the link.

More Information:

<https://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/17276-preparing-for-the-hazcom-update>

### **IPCC Special Report on Global Warming**

Incheon, Republic of Korea (October 8, 2018) – A special report on Global Warming of 1.5°C was approved by the IPCC (International Panel on Climate Change). It is a key scientific input into the Katowice Climate Change Conference that will be held in Poland in December 2018 when governments review the Paris Agreement to tackle climate change.

The report highlights a number of climate change impacts that could be avoided by limiting global warming to 1.5°C compared to 2°C or more. Hans-Otto Portner, Co-Chair of IPCC Working Group II stated “Every extra bit of warming matters, especially since warming of 1.5°C or higher increases the risk associated with long-lasting or irreversible changes, such as loss of some ecosystems.” Limiting global warming would also give people and ecosystems more room to adapt and remain below relevant risk thresholds, added Portner.

For more information on click on the link IPCC Special Report on Global Warming

<http://www.ipcc.ch/report/sr15/>