

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Dept: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

#135

## LEAD

The construction industry is one in which some of the highest exposures to lead occurs. For this reason, OSHA released new rules in 1993 to reduce exposure to workers. This standard included any repair or renovation activities that disturb lead-containing material such as steel structure as well as repairing even insignificant damage to lead-based paints and coatings, lead-contaminated dust or replacing lead painted fixtures.

Employers are required to have a written compliance plan which must include the competent person on site, the specific conditions of the site, must be reviewed every six months, and must be available for review on the site at all times. The duty of the competent person is to inspect the site, determine the presence or extent of lead on site and to ensure that all employees have been supplied and are using personal protective equipment. Soiled clothing and materials must be stored in sealed containers and laundered or disposed of by the employer. Further, no clothing worn when exposed to lead shall be taken home or kept by the employee.

The Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) was reduced in the OSHA standard 200 micrograms per cubic meter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ ) to 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ . Employers are required to provide appropriate protective materials for their employees such as protective clothing, respiratory equipment, hand-washing facilities, etc. This equipment as well as biological monitoring is required to ensure that exposure levels are below the PEL. Site-specific training must be provided which includes the dangers of lead exposure. Medical surveillance, tests/exams, follow-up surveillance and record keeping are required.

Lead is a very serious and complex OSHA standard that requires diligence and regular monitoring to keep workers' exposure to lead at a minimum.

Meeting Conducted By:

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Print Name

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Signature

Meeting Attended By:

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Document Filing Reference

Notes & Suggestions