



SAFETY COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER



A quarterly publication of the AGC San Diego Safety Committee—Edited by: Sam Quigley, Barney & Barney LLC

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A New Type of Storm is Brewing

Stricter storm water permits set to take effect

Michael W. McGrath, President, McGrath Consulting

California has a new General Construction Storm Water Permit anticipated to be adopted by the end of this year and companies that are not prepared can easily get caught out in the rain. The new permit incorporates changes that may have a severe impact on a company's storm water program. Strict regulatory changes, in addition to higher reporting requirements, make this new permit an order of magnitude more stringent than the current permit.

The following are just a few of the changes associated with the new permit.

- **Effluent Monitoring and Reporting:** All discharges leaving a project site must be monitored for pH and Turbidity (turbidity = how clear the water appears).
- **Technology-based Numeric Action Levels (NALs) and Numeric Effluent Limitations (NELs):** Construction activities can have an impact on water quality by effecting pH and turbidity. NALs are thresholds that trigger an

action on the part of the contractor if they are exceeded. NELs are limits that cannot be exceeded for a certain sampling parameter (pH or turbidity).

- **A New Risk-based Approach at Registering Projects:** Now projects will be categorized according to their level of risk for impacting water quality.
- **New Minimum Best Management Practice (BMP) Requirements:** The new permit has minimum BMP requirements for projects as opposed to relying on the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan to specify BMPs.
- **Soil Characteristics Monitoring and Reporting:** Project site soil characteristics must now be monitored and the results submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB).

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Upcoming Safety Classes

Go to www.agcsd.org to see a complete list of safety classes thru December 2008.

December 3

CPR/First Aid

December 9

Accident Investigation

December 10

Trenching & Excavating (CPT)

December 12

Scaffolding CPT & Hazard Awareness

December 13

Hazard Awareness



A New Type of Storm is Brewing (cont'd)

- **Potential Receiving Water Monitoring and Reporting:** Depending on a project's risk level, sampling and reporting for receiving waters may be required under this new permit.
- **New Development/Re-development Performance Standards:** Development/Re-development projects will now be required to account for and reduce or mitigate post-construction runoff impacts.
- **Rain Even Action Plan (REAP):** Projects are now required to implement a plan to protect a project site in response to an anticipated rain event.
- **Annual Reporting:** Projects filing for coverage under this new permit will have to submit an annual report if the project lasts more than three consecutive months.
- **Training Requirements for Key Project Personnel:** Key personnel must have specific training or certifications to ensure their skills are adequate to maintain compliance with the new permit

These changes can affect a project's cost and profitability if measures are not taken to accommodate the changes under this new permit. Other factors that may affect project cost in relation to these changes may include:

- Site characteristics
- Proximity to sensitive geographical features
- More site personnel responsibilities
- Increased cost to properly train personnel
- More reporting requirements
- Potentially increased agency oversight

The new State of California General Construction Permit takes the next step in becoming a performance-based storm water program with measurable limits and guidelines. It gives inspectors the "teeth" they

need for enforcement action in areas that are lacking in the current permit. Getting ahead of the learning curve on the new permit will save time, headaches, and money.

Please contact Michael McGrath, 619.250.2025 with any questions.

For more information check out these storm water links:

www.mcswwppp.com

www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/constpermits.shtml



The new state permit plans to incorporate changes that may have a severe impact on a company's storm water program

New Products from DBI/SALA

Products satisfy OSHA requirements for fall protection programs

Jackson J. Dalton, Capital Safety

Contractors face fall hazards every day and are required to have an up to date and compliant fall protection program. There are two new products from DBI/SALA that can help to satisfy the needs of your fall protection program. These products address issues such as the need for prompt rescue as well as an Updated ANSI standard.

OSHA [1926.502(d) (20)] states that "The employer shall provide for prompt rescue of employees in the event of a fall or shall assure that employees are able to rescue themselves." The key word in this OSHA standard is "prompt". Not all jobsites and applications have easy access. When access is a concern it is important that the employer provide their employees with the means of self-rescue in the event of a fall. **Both the DBI/SALA Suspension Trauma Safety Straps and the Rollgliss Rescue Ladder satisfy OSHA's requirement to provide prompt rescue.**

While on the subject of standards, there has been a recent update of the ANSI Standard Z359. One of the major updates to the Z359.1 standard is new gate strength requirements. **Under the new standard snap hooks and carabineers must meet the following:**

- Gate Face must withstand a load of 3,600 lbs. (up from 220 lbs.)
- Side of Gate must withstand a load of 3,600 lbs. (up from 350 lbs.)
- Minor Axis of a snap hook or carabineer, except those with captive eyes, must withstand 3,600 lbs.
- Tensile load for the snap hook or carabineer must withstand 5,000lbs. (same as current).

Capital Safety has responded to the standard update and now ships ANSI Z359 compliant snap hooks and carabineers on all DBI/SALA equipment. Capital Safety will also replace your old snaphook with a new ANSI Z359 compliant snaphook when your retractable or winch is sent in for service.

For more information regarding Capital Safety rescue products and the servicing of your retractable or winch please contact **RJ Safety at 858-541-2880.**



DBI/SALA Suspension Trauma Safety Straps (left) and the Rollgliss Rescue Ladder (above) are new products you should consider incorporating in your fall protection program.



Safety Internship Program Update

Jim Jonas, Safety Director, TC Construction

As the new semester kicks off at Cuyamaca College the members of AGC San Diego Safety Committee have continued to work at placing students from the Environmental Health and Safety Management Program in contact with potential Internship Mentoring Companies. Through this cooperation it is exciting to tell you that Erin Deryck, a student in the program, has been placed with Hensel Phelps on their down town San Diego Hotel Indigo Project.

Erin started her indoctrination with Hensel Phelps on November 3rd and will continue to train and support the project under the guidance of David Graham, Director of Safety. According to David, "Erin will be learning about HPCC's procedures, along with the California Codes, various training classes, and a multitude of other such related Safety topics." Erin has a background in construction and possesses her general contractor's license. She is currently working on her associate's degree at Cuyamaca College and is looking forward in a career in the construction safety industry.

As the committee coordinator for this program I am very excited to see the first of what we hope are many interns to come through this program. There has been a great deal of time put into getting this program started and now it is up to us in the AGC San Diego to keep this dream alive. There is a need for bright and talented young professionals in Construction Safety and the AGC has always been at the forefront of bringing fresh new energetic talent to the industry.

If you have an interest in participating in either a payroll or non-payroll internship please let Sam Iler, Pete Lupo or Jim Jonas know and we can work out the details.

Jim Jonas, TC Construction Safety Director, (619)726-3082(Cell)

Reminder - 2009 OSHA Postings

It's that time of the year again, time to replace those postings. There are changes to the 2009 postings that make all of your old stuff out of date. An inexpensive way to get these are to go to the Cal Chamber (CalBiz) at the link below:

<http://www.calbizcentral.com/Store/Products/Pages/PLE2009.aspx>

- Equal employment opportunity - **MANDATORY CHANGE FOR 2009**
- EDD notice to employees - **MANDATORY CHANGE FOR 2009**
- Minimum wage (federal and state)
- USERRA military leave benefits
- Safety and health (Cal/OSHA) requirements
- Workers' Compensation guidelines
- Discrimination and harassment (DFEH)
- Family/medical leave and pregnancy leave (federal and state)
- Whistleblower protection
- Time off for voting
- Polygraph protection
- Unemployment insurance, disability insurance and paid family leave
- Emergency and Cal/OSHA contacts
- Payday schedule



National AGC Safety and Health Committee Comes to San Diego

January 14-16, 2009 the National AGC Safety and Health Committee will meet here in San Diego at the Omni San Diego Hotel. The Safety and Health Committee serves to assist the President of AGC with safety and health issues in the construction industry by assisting Federal agencies with regulatory development, recognition of safe contractors with awards programs, educating members through AGC-sponsored safety training programs, and the development of videos and publications.

Each January and July, the AGC Safety and Health Committee meet to network and discuss various occupational safety and health issues affecting the construction industry. The AGC safety and health meeting is open to all who are interested and with more than 150 construction safety professionals in attendance, you will have an opportunity to network with seasoned safety professionals and influence regulatory and legislative activity on a national and local level.

Benefits of attending the AGC Safety and Health Committee Meeting include:

- Network with veteran safety and health professionals in the construction industry from across the country
- Hear the latest updates on congressional activity which directly effects construction safety and health
- Hear the latest updates on OSHA regulations and activities, guest speakers from OSHA.
- Participate on Subcommittee and Taskforce meetings - Government, Education, Performance, Promotions and Marketing
- Take on an active role in improving safety and health in the construction industry

Registration is \$100.00 for AGC Members and \$300.00 for Non-AGC Members

Safety & Health Committee Meeting

When: January 14 - 16, 2009

Where: Omni San Diego Hotel

675 L Street

San Diego CA 92101.

Registration: \$100 AGC Members
\$300 Non-AGC Members

For more information, visit:

www.agc.org/cs/event_details?eventId=703



Upcoming 2009 Events

SAVE THE DATE!

January 29, 2009
AGC Installation of Officers & Directors
Hyatt Regency La Jolla
3777 La Jolla Village Drive
San Diego, California

February 4 - 8, 2009
AGC Winter Conference
Cliff Lodge & Spa
Snow Bird, Utah

March 4 - 7, 2009
AGC of America's 90th Annual Convention
San Diego Convention Center

April 16 - 19, 2009
AGC Spring Conference
Rancho Las Palmas
Palm Springs, California

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