

[Regulatory Roundup]

Your Pipeline to Oil and Gas Safety News

Regulatory Roundup is a digest of oil and gas industry safety news brought to you by TxOGA and Texas Mutual Insurance Company.

OSHA issues hot work safety alert

Between 2005 and 2015, fires and explosions caused 85 oilfield fatalities. Hot work accounted for 28 of those fatalities. OSHA responded by issuing a safety alert with tips for employers and workers...MORE

OSHA proposes rule to streamline 18 standards

In an effort to ease burdens on employers, OSHA has issued a proposed rule that would "remove or revise outdated, duplicative, unnecessary and inconsistent requirements" in 18 standards concerning recordkeeping, general industry, maritime and construction. One proposal removes the word "unexpected" from the lockout/tagout standard...MORE

Electronic logging, hours of service top truckers' list of concerns

A federal mandate to use electronic logging devices in place of paper logs to record hours of service is the top issue affecting motor carriers, commercial motor vehicle drivers and other industry stakeholders, according to a new survey. Electronic logging was followed by hours of service and the cumulative effect of trucking regulations on the list of drivers' concerns...MORE

Coast Guard issues autopilot safety alert

The Coast Guard has issued a safety alert in response to multiple incidents in the Gulf of Mexico in which a vessel on autopilot collided with oil rigs, structures or other vessels. The alert advises that when vessels use automatic pilot in high traffic, restricted visibility or other hazardous navigational situations, the master must ensure it is possible to immediately establish manual control of the vessel's steering...MORE

OSHA, Permian Basin STEPS network renew alliance

OSHA and the Permian Basin STEPS network have renewed for three years their alliance to address hazardous chemical exposure and increase safety culture in the oil and gas industry...MORE

FRA issues rail car safety directive

A new Federal Railroad Administrative safety directive targets owners of certain tank cars that may have been manufactured using non-conforming welding practices...MORE

Field service safety and training go digital

GE Oil & Gas has released two digital technologies that provide safe training environments and connect field technicians to senior headquarter staff in real time. GE's Smart Helmets allow headquarters staff to see what field technicians see, helping them troubleshoot issues and get equipment back on line sooner. The company's Virtual Training Solutions provide an immersive 3D environment where customers' equipment can be uploaded to enable immersive virtual training experiences...MORE

Committee offers recommendations for strengthening offshore oil and gas safety

Offshore oil and gas industry leaders can foster a safety culture by collaborating with federal regulatory groups to develop guidance for safety expectations among operators, contractors and subcontractors, according to a Transportation Research Board report. The report acknowledges the need for an independent organization solely focused on safety and pollution protection, without taking an advocacy role...MORE