

# Stark County Safety Council Newsletter

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## OSHA'S POSITION ON COMPLYING WITH NATIONAL CONSENSUS STANDARD

BY: JACQUELINE BOLLAS CALDWELL

OSHA recently issued a Standards Interpretation Letter discussing OSHA's position on complying with an updated national consensus standard. In June 2009, OSHA was asked to adopt American National Standard Instruction (ANSI) Z535.2-2007, Standard for Environmental and Facility Safety Signs, and to create a hyperlink to the Z535.2 Committee's web page on OSHA's safety and health topic pages entitled, "Accident Prevention Signs." In addition, OSHA was asked what its enforcement position would be if an employer complies with the most recent version of a voluntary consensus standard.

OSHA responded that it was appropriate to add the ANSI Z525.2 Committee link on its Safety and Health Topics section of its website, and that it would do so in accordance with the agency's policies regarding links to websites outside of the Department of Labor – these are offered for convenience but do not constitute an endorsement of the website or its content. In responding to the question concerning OSHA's position on complying with an updated national consensus standard, OSHA recognized that there is a difference between the national consensus standard process and OSHA's rule making. OSHA recognized that the national consensus standard process is informative and useful in the OSHA rule making process. However, OSHA stated that it requires employers to comply with OSHA standards. Thus, only national consensus standards that have been adopted as, or specifically incorporated by reference into, an OSHA standard pursuant to the Occupational Safety and Health Act provide a means of compliance with the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Thus, an employer needs to comply with the national consensus standard cited rather than an updated national consensus standard in terms of OSHA compliance.

*NOTE: This general summary of the law should not be used to solve individual problems since slight changes in the fact situation may require a material variance in the applicable legal advice.*



STARK COUNTY

SAFETY COUNCIL

A committee of the Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce

January 14, 2010

**"Assisting law enforcement in matters of:  
Personal Security, Abduction,  
Assault, etc."**

**Speakers: Detective Bryan Allen &  
Sgt. Doug Zartman from the Detective Bureau  
of the Canton Police Department**

**To be a spotlight company contact Mark Rossiter**  
mark.rossiter@anheuser-busch.com

### Safety Council Officers & Contributing Members

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### Safety Council Mission Statement

*To provide a forum for safety and health information, education and networking in Stark County, through leadership, innovation, facilitation, program, and support, in partnership with other public and private organizations.*

## A Message From The SCSC Chair

by Susan Walters

SCSC Members,

Although living in Northern Ohio the following safety tips may be "old news" to most of you, it never hurts to be reminded of winter safety while driving. Especially with the weather we are having the last couple weeks!

### Driving Safely In Winter Weather

*Snow, ice, and extreme cold can make driving treacherous. These safety tips from CDC, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and the National Safety Council can help make winter car travel safer.*

- Before winter driving, have your car tuned up, check the level of antifreeze, make sure the battery is good, and check your tire tread or put on snow tires.
- Keep emergency gear in your car for everyday trips:
  - cell phone
  - flashlight
  - jumper cables
  - sand or kitty litter (for traction)
  - ice scraper, snow brush, and small shovel
  - blankets
  - warning devices (e.g., flares, reflectors)
- For long car trips, keep food, water, extra blankets, and required medication on hand.
- Avoid driving in snow or ice storms. If you must travel in bad weather, drive slowly. Let someone know what route you're taking and when you plan to arrive so they can alert authorities if you don't get there.
- If your car is parked outside, make sure the exhaust pipe and the area around it are free of snow before you start the car. Snow packed in or around the exhaust pipe can cause high levels of carbon monoxide in the car.
- Don't sit in a parked car with the engine running unless a window is open. Do not let your car run while parked in a garage.
- If your car stalls or gets stuck in snow, light two flares and place one at each end of the car, a safe distance away. Make sure snow has not blocked the exhaust pipe. Then stay in your vehicle and open a window slightly to let in fresh air. Wrap yourself in blankets and run your vehicle's heater for a few minutes every hour to keep warm.

Finally, please respect those very hard working people who work many hours to keep the roads salted, plowed and clear. Give them plenty of room! We need to keep them safe!

Drive carefully and be prepared!

Regards,

*Susan*

### UPCOMING PROGRAM

## February 11, 2010

**"Crucial Confrontations Training: Learn Skills of How to Effectively Hold Each Other Accountable to Safety Expectations"**

**Speakers: Tim Bauserman, Southam Consulting**

Spotlight Company: **VocWorks**

To be a spotlight company contact Mark Rossiter  
mark.rossiter@anheuser-busch.com

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Jan. 21—8:15 a.m.-10:30 a.m. Stark County Safety Council and Stark County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) presents a seminar on Asbestos Awareness and Stark County LEPC: What & Why. All are welcome, CEOs, CFOs and safety or environmental specialists are encouraged to attend. Free, includes breakfast; register at [www.cantonchamber.org](http://www.cantonchamber.org).**

**March 16—7:30 a.m.-9:00 a.m. CEO/Senior Management Breakfast, Meyer's Lake Ballroom—Speaker: Bruce Hennes, Managing Partner, Hennes Paynter Communications. More details to follow.**

**March 30 to April 1 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center Ohio Safety Congress & Expo—Saving Lives...Saving Money Focus on Safety in Today's Economy register at [www.Ohiobwc.com](http://www.Ohiobwc.com); 800-OHIOBWC. Free event.**

### Important items to make note of:

1. **Semi-Annual Reports** are required to maintain your membership with the SCSC. Reports are due July 15th and January 15th each year.
2. **Don't forget to sign-in.** If you do not sign the "sign-in sheet" your company will not receive credit for attending. This could hurt your company's chances of receiving the BWC's discount. These are sent to the BWC.
3. **July 1, 2009 began a new 12 month period** for your attendance requirement with the State to be eligible for your rebate check. You must attend a minimum of 10 events, with your company's CEO or a senior level manager attending one of these 10, **and** submit two semi-annual reports to qualify for your rebate. See BWC website for complete rebate details.
4. **Please complete a Program Rating Form** following each luncheon meeting. Your input is important.