Lesson Review: Introduction to OSHA

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) was created within the Department of Labor.

OSHA:

- Is responsible for worker safety and health protection.
- Determines which standards apply to your workplace.
- States that employers must provide a safe and healthful workplace free of recognized hazards and follow OSHA standards.
- States that employees must read the OSHA poster, follow the employer's safety and health rules and practices, and report hazardous conditions.

Note the following key points from the OSH Acts:

- Section 5 (a) (1) states that both employment and place of employment must be free of hazards.
- Section 8 (a) enables the Secretary of Labor to inspect job sites at any reasonable time and anywhere work is performed.
- Section 9 describes the Secretary's authority and allows him or her to issue citations to employers when requirements are violated.
- Section 11 (c) discusses employees rights if they file or testify to a health or safety complaint.
- Section 13 describes procedures to deal with imminent danger and how it is the in spector's responsibilities to inform employer and employees where dangerous conditions or practices are found.
- Section 17 describes the penalties for violations of the OSH Act, including citations for any violation of a standard rule or regulation.



Employers must provide a safe and healthful workplace free of recognized hazards and follow OSHA standards.