OSHA Announces Another Heat Illness Campaign

Last year's OSHA Heat Illness Campaign generated $84,353.00 in our industry alone through General Duty Clause citations. So, here's your heads up, they're at it again. Take precautions to prevent heat illness on the part of your employees. First and foremost is worker safety. Compliance and avoiding fines comes second. The good news is: OSHA has provided some excellent and simple training and education materials in English, Spanish, Hmong, and Punjabi. These resources can be found at http://www.99calor.org/for-employers/

The Campaign is known as
“Water, Rest, Shade. The work can’t get done without them.”
The basic elements are the same as last year:

Provide plenty of cool, fresh water.
Provide a shaded area for workers to cool down.
Give workers a period of time to get used to the heat, especially during a heat wave or for new workers. This is known as "acclimatization."
Train workers about heat illness and how to prevent it.
Prepare an emergency heat plan and train workers on steps to take if someone gets sick.

And if you live in California, you have a California Heat Illness Prevention Standard (GISO 3395) on the books right now that you are responsible for complying with. For more info go to http://www.dir.ca.gov/title8/3395.html

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