Take 10 Safety Committee Meetings:
New Resource for WBMA members

While it is recommended that all members engage in some sort of safety meetings, Washington, Oregon, and Montana require formal safety committee meetings (if you have more than 5 employees in MT, and more than 10 in OR and WA).

To help ensure the continued success of your safety committee meetings, WBMA has recently created TAKE 10; monthly safety committee PowerPoints covering common safety topics in just about 10 slides.

Safety committees don’t have to be long to be effective. They do however need to be applicable to our industry and topics like Seasonal Safety (Autumn), Safe Storage of Materials, and Near Miss Reporting aim to assist members in protecting workers while ensuring your yard is compliant with State/OSHA regulations.

Each topic comes with recordkeeping documents tailored to the requirements of your specific state. You can check out this new resource at http://wbma.org/index.php/reg.

Compliance Spotlight(s)…

Fall is almost here… What does that mean?

1. Autumn Hazards: With shorter days and wetter conditions just on the horizon, doing a review of your yard could help prevent a lot of overdue safety issues in order to prevent unnecessary injuries and accidents. As schools start back up, you’ll find more children and school buses out and about. Now is a great time to include your drivers in safety meetings in order to discuss distracted driving and to revisit safety policies and procedures.

2. OSHAs Out and About: Several WBMA members have recently been visited by inspectors in recent months in both OR & WA. Remember, there are several reasons OSHA and/or your state-run program (e.g. LNI in WA) would visit your yard for a safety inspection. 1. An anonymous tip. This is usually from a competitor or a disgruntled/former employee. 2. A planned program (e.g. If OSHA were to announce that in 2017 they are focusing on forklift safety because of rash of injuries in 2016); and 3. A death or other serious injury. In one of the cases, OSHA dropped in for anonymous report of unsafe forklift operation. The good news, one of the members had partnered with WBMA to get compliant previous to the visit, leading to a very nominal fine and a determination that the anonymous report could not be substantiated. If you have questions about compliance and/or would like WBMA to help with any aspect of your safety program, send an email to tom@wbma.org.

3. Hazard Communication Program: As mentioned in a few of these newsletters, continued on page 2
all WBMA members need to revise/create a new written Hazard Communication Program. With the introduction of the new Globally Harmonized System, MSDS’s have gone away and are being replaced by SDS’s (Safety Data Sheets). Under the new standard, which can be found here, as of June 1st, employers should have had in place an updated program that includes all employees being trained on it. Don’t think it applies to you? Remember that sawdust is considered a hazardous substance requiring an SDS.

4. **New Overtime Rule:** In May the U.S. Department of Labor finally issued the new rule for overtime pay. The new rule may greatly affect how and what you compensate salaried employees. It’s important to be aware of the changes in order to decide how best to compensate your employees. With the help of NLBMDA, you can find WBMA guidance on the new rule here: [http://wbma.org/images/NLBMDA%20Regulatory%20Guidance.pdf](http://wbma.org/images/NLBMDA%20Regulatory%20Guidance.pdf)

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**Quote of the Month:**

“Three men were laying brick. The first was asked: "'What are you doing?'" He answered: "'Laying some brick.'" The second man was asked: "'What are you working for?'" He answered: "'Five dollars a day.'" The third man was asked: "'What are you doing?'" He answered: "'I am helping to build a great cathedral.'" Which man are you?”
*Charles M. Schwab*

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**Upcoming Events:**

**Educational Opportunities:**

- **Oct. 4th – 5th**
  - *Estimating Workshop* (Olympia, WA)

- **October 6th**
  - Part 2 of WBMA’s Leadership Series: *Financials for Non-Financial Managers* (Olympia, WA)

**Dates to Remember:**

- **November 8-10**
  - *WBMA’s 114th Annual Convention*, Red Lion Jantzen Beach (Portland, OR)

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On Twitter? Look for reference to @_WBMA programs under the hashtag:

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**About the Author/Disclaimer:**

Tom Rider is Manager of Member Services for Western Building Material Association. He is committed to being a valued resource to its members particularly on regulatory compliance issues affecting building material suppliers. Unless stated otherwise, this regulatory newsletter is written by him. He is a lawyer, but respectfully he is not your lawyer (unless you have been in his office and signed a contract). This communication is not intended as legal advice, and no attorney client relationship results merely by reading it. Please consult your own attorney for legal advice. If you are a WBMA member and would like to contact Tom with questions and/or comments:

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