

**Regulatory Updates**  
**Compiled for the Pine Chemicals Association**  
**July 2, 2024**

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UPCOMING CONFERENCES

-ASSP Safety Conference and Expo, 8/7-9/2024, Denver CO

-NSC Fall Safety Conference and Expo, 9/13-19/2024, Orlando FL

-PCA 2024 International Conference, 10/13-15/2024, Helsinki Finland

## SAFETY

**OSHA’s Hazard Communication Standards Update [Webinar Recording]** – “This webinar explained the changes to the Hazard Communications Standard, identified key compliance deadlines, and explained what employers need to do to come into compliance. Specifically, participants in this webinar learned:

- Background about OSHA’s HCS and its relationship with the GHS
- The most important elements of the recent revisions that employers need to know
- Key implementation deadlines
- Best practices for coming into compliance with the revised HCS

. . . We are pleased to share these links to [a copy of the slides](#) and a [recording of the webinar.](#)” (The OSHA Defense Report, 6/27/2024.)

**Commentary on the Hazard Communication Standard from Bloomberg Law** – “OSHA’s latest update to its rules on communicating chemical hazards—or HazCom, for short—is receiving pushback from chemical manufacturers that say the new standard contains an overly complex requirement for flagging downstream dangers to employers that use the substances.” Read the full article [here](#). (news.bloomberglaw.com, Bruce Roflsen, 6/12/2024.)

### **Department of Labor Takes Critical Step in Heat Safety Rulemaking -**

“The Department of Labor has taken an important step in addressing the dangers of workplace heat and moved closer to publishing a proposed rule to reducing the significant health risks of heat exposure for U.S. workers in outdoor and indoor settings. On April 24, 2024, the department’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration presented the draft rule’s initial regulatory framework at a meeting of the [Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health](#). The committee, which advises the agency on safety and health standards and policy matters, unanimously recommended OSHA move forward expeditiously on the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. As part of the rulemaking process, the agency will seek and consider input from a wide range of stakeholders and the public at-large as it works to propose and finalize its rule. In the interim, OSHA continues to direct significant existing outreach and enforcement resources to educate employers and workers and hold businesses accountable for violations of the Occupational Safety and Health Act’s general duty clause, 29 U.S.C. § 654(a)(1) and other applicable regulations. Record-breaking temperatures across the nation have increased the risks people face on-the-job, especially in summer months. Every year, dozens of workers die and thousands more suffer illnesses related to hazardous heat exposure that, sadly, are most often preventable. . . The agency continues to conduct heat-related inspections under its [National Emphasis Program – Outdoor and Indoor Heat-Related Hazards](#), launched in 2022. The program inspects workplaces with the highest exposures to heat-related hazards proactively to prevent workers from suffering injury, illness or death needlessly. Since the launch, OSHA has conducted nearly 5,000 federal heat-related inspections.” (osha.gov, 5/8/2024.)

## ENVIRONMENT

### **CISA Confirms Hackers may have Accessed Data from Chemical Facilities -**

“Hackers may have accessed sensitive information about the nation’s chemical facilities during a cyberattack in January, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) confirmed on [June 24]. Recorded Future News first [reported on the incident](#) in March, and CISA confirmed at the time that two systems were taken offline in response to the attack, which was conducted through a [vulnerability in Ivanti IT products](#). In an [advisory](#) on [June 24], CISA explained that the Chemical Security Assessment Tool (CSAT) was the ‘target of a cybersecurity intrusion by a malicious actor from January 23-26.’ CISA said all of the data in CSAT, which houses some of the country’s most sensitive industrial information, was encrypted and the encryption keys were ‘hidden from the type of access the threat actor had to the system.’ Nonetheless, the agency is warning all impacted participants in the program ‘out of an abundance of caution that this information could have been inappropriately accessed.’” Read the full article [here](#). (therecordmedia.com, Jonathan Greig, 6/24/2024.)

### **EPA Announces New CDR Resource Portal and Reporting Tool Improvements –**

“On May 16, 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the creation of [CDR GuideME](#), a new resource portal, and improvements to the reporting tool to make the reporting process easier. According to EPA, CDR GuideME is part of its effort to develop ‘a user-friendly, single location for all CDR guidance documents and other training materials, including the reporting instructions, fact sheets, and selected EPA responses to industry inquiries.’ The Chemical Data Reporting (CDR) rule requires all companies to report data electronically using e-CDRweb through EPA’s Central Data Exchange (CDX) system. Updates to CDX include:

- Incorporating 2024 CDR reporting codes that can be used and the years covered by the reporting period;
- Providing an updated spreadsheet for uploading chemical information in bulk (available in the resources section of the reporting tool); and
- Improving the functionality to copy substantiations of confidential business information (CBI) claims between chemicals and for accessing and saving a copy of submitted records.

The CDR website has [updated guidance](#) on submitting information to the CDR database, as well as information about prior CDR reporting cycles. EPA notes that stakeholders must [register with CDX](#) and be approved by EPA before they can begin submitting forms. The 2024 CDR submission period began June 1, 2024, and will end September 30, 2024.” (Lexology, Bergeson & Campbell PC, 6/17/2024.)

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## TRANSPORTATION

**Reporting Hazmat Transportation Incidents** - “Do you know who to call when your hazardous materials are involved in a transportation incident or release? This 5-minute video details triggers for hazmat incident reporting, who submits and receives reports, and deadlines for written and immediate reporting.” Read the article and watch the video [here](#). (Lion Technology, Inc., Roseanne Bottone and Roger Marks, 4/11/2023.)

**NTSB Pinpoints Cause of Norfolk Southern Derailment** - “The National Transportation Safety Board has released its long-awaited report on the Norfolk Southern train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, finding that several issues contributed to the incident including failed wheel bearings and track-based monitoring systems. The railroad's behavior during the investigation was ‘unconscionable’ as reflected by delayed information-sharing, attempts to damage the NTSB's reputation and ‘manufacturing its own evidence,’ said NTSB chief Jennifer Homendy.’ Read the full article [here](#). (ACC SmartBrief, 6/26/2024.)

*Send your suggestions and comments to [ehs@pinechemicals.org](mailto:ehs@pinechemicals.org)*

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