



CONSTRUCTION

Risk management tips brought to you by:
Atlantic Pacific Insurance

DID YOU KNOW?

According to an OSHA investigation of 25 incidents of heat-related illness in California, nearly half of the cases involved workers on their first day of work, and more than 80 percent involved workers who'd been on the job for four or fewer days.

When the heat index begins to climb, employers and supervisors should make sure to slowly increase workloads and allow more frequent breaks for new employees and those returning to the heat after time away.

OSHA Issues Final Rule for Construction in Confined Spaces

In May, OSHA released a final rule designed to protect construction workers in confined spaces.

Compliance with the final rule, which goes into effect Aug. 3, 2015, is estimated to prevent 780 injuries and five fatalities annually, resulting in a net savings of \$33 million a year.

"This rule emphasizes training, continuous worksite evaluation and communication requirements to further protect workers' safety and health," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Dr. David Michaels.

The rule requires employers to identify permit-required confined spaces, share timely information, create a written program and issue entry permits. General contractors, specialty trade contractors and other employers engaged in some residential construction work may all be affected.

The rule has been in development for the past decade and is intended to bring the construction industry in line with protections already in place for the manufacturing and general industries.

App Can Prevent Heat Illness

OSHA has developed an app that gives both supervisors and employees heat safety information that could save workers' lives. Every year, thousands of workers become sick—and a few even die—due to heat illness, in spite of the fact that it's completely preventable.

The app, available for both iOS and Android devices, can calculate the heat index, display the risk level of working outdoors and recommend preventive actions like scheduling breaks for rest and hydration.

For more information, visit [OSHA's website](#) and download the Heat Safety Tool today.

