

New Part 1904 reporting requirements effective January 1

Reports of severe injuries or illnesses will be made public on OSHA's website

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OSHA's final rule revising the reporting requirements for serious work-related injuries and illnesses, announced September 11, 2014, goes into effect on January 1, 2015. Under the revised rule, all employers must report:

- All work-related fatalities within 8 hours;
- All work-related inpatient hospitalizations, amputations, or losses of an eye within 24 hours.

Previously, OSHA's regulations required an employer to report only work-related fatalities and in-patient hospitalizations of three or more employees. Reporting single hospitalizations, amputations, or loss of an eye was not required.

Employers must report these incidents to OSHA by:

- Calling 1-800-321-OSHA,
- Calling their nearest OSHA area office during normal business hours, or
- Going online to www.osha.gov/report_online. (This option is still under development.)

Reports made to the agency of severe injuries or illnesses will be made public on the OSHA website.

In addition to the new reporting requirements, OSHA has updated the list of industries that, due to relatively low occupational injury and illness rates, are exempt from the requirement to routinely keep injury and illness records. The previous list of exempt industries was based on the old Standard Industrial Classification system (SIC) and the new rule uses the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) to classify establishments by industry. The new rule maintains the exemption for any employer with 10 or fewer employees, regardless of their industry classification, from the requirement to routinely keep records of worker injuries and illnesses.

Establishments located in states that operate their own safety and health programs (State Plan States) should check with their state for the implementation date of