



# Safety Meeting Outline



SMO 10-0101

## ANNUAL WORKPLACE FATALITIES

*By SeaBright Insurance Loss Control*

United States workplace fatalities fell to the lowest level on record in 2008. Based on preliminary data the year tallied 5071 fatal work injuries. There were 5,657 fatal work injuries for 2007, a decline from 5,840 in 2006 and 6,217 in 1992. Fourteen States had more fatal injuries in 2008 than in 2007 but 35 States (plus the District of Columbia) had fewer.

On an absolute basis (as opposed to a per capita basis), highway fatalities are the number one killer of people of the job. In fact, workplace fatalities involving transportation typically account for two-fifths (40%) of all on-the-job fatalities. That is why drivers (truckers and salespeople) are consistently among the top ten most dangerous jobs. Highway incidents equal almost one fourth (23%) of fatalities recorded.

After a spike in 2007, workplace homicides fell again for 2008, continuing a 50% decline trend since 1994. Fatal falls in the workplace also took a drop from their 2007 peak of 847, numbering 680 in 2008.

For 2008, the four occupations with the highest fatality rates were commercial fishing with a rate of 128.9 per 100,000 FTE hours, logging workers (115.7), aircraft pilots and flight engineers (72.4), and structural iron and steel workers (46.4). By occupational group (for civilians) the most dangerous jobs were in farming, fishing and forestry; followed by transportation and material moving; with construction and extraction coming in third.

Men totaled 93% of the fatalities for all hours worked, with women counting as 368 of the 5071 on-the-job deaths. The fatality rate for all workers was 3.6 per 100,000 FTE hours. Workers over age 45 had higher fatality rates than all workers as a whole, while those age 44 and under had rates below the 3.6 mark.

Try this: Name the similarities between the OSHA standards cited and the workplace fatalities. You'll see that the most commonly cited OSHA standards line up pretty closely with the most common causes of workplace fatalities [after road/highway accidents]. Here are the top 5 most frequently cited standards in fiscal year 2008 (Oct. 2007 - Sept. 2008):

1. Scaffolding, general requirements, construction (29 CFR 1926.451)
2. Fall protection, construction (29 CFR 1926.501)
3. Hazard communication standard, general industry (29 CFR 1910.1200)
4. Control of hazardous energy (lockout/tagout), general industry (29 CFR 1910.147)
5. Respiratory protection, general industry (29 CFR 1910.134)

As a final note, did you know the U.S. Department of Labor used over 20,000 source documents to verify the information disseminated in the fatal work injury reports.

**SOURCE: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, 2009. Also [www.OSHA.gov](http://www.OSHA.gov)**

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# SAFETY MEETING AGENDA



DEPARTMENT/JOB SITE: \_\_\_\_\_ MEETING DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

1. **Open Meeting & Present safety topic:** \_\_\_\_\_
2. Read minutes from previous meeting.
3. **Persons present:**

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
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4. **Old Business** – Status of previous recommendations. Discuss pending old business if any.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
5. **Accidents** – Discuss accidents and near misses that have occurred since the last meeting. Brief summary of accidents to date by number and type. Note any trends. Discuss corrective action taken, or needed. Concentrate on accident causes to make everyone more aware.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. **Inspection Reports** – Report on findings and recommendations of any inspection reports made since last meeting.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. **New Business** – Solicit employee suggestions. Discuss new procedures, changes to company safety policy, etc.

TIME MEETING STARTED: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME FINISHED: \_\_\_\_\_  
MEETING CHAIRED BY: \_\_\_\_\_ TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_