



Occupational Safety
and Health Administration

*The Pennsylvania
Consultation Connection*
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**Rynone Manufacturing Corporation
Earns SHARP Recertification**

"Safety First" are not just words at **Rynone Manufacturing Corporation**, a manufacturer of cultured marble vanity tops with 121 employees located in Sayre, Pennsylvania. This company actually "walks the talk". This is the sixth year **Rynone Manufacturing** has been working with the PA/ OSHA Consultation Program and once again has earned their re-certification of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) coveted SHARP award. SHARP status is the highest safety designation bestowed on small businesses by OSHA and is achieved by demonstrating exceptional commitment and dedication to effective safety and occupational health management systems. **Rynone Manufacturing Corporation** is one of approximately 1,100 businesses in America to earn the coveted SHARP award.

Rynone Manufacturing made the commitment six years ago to become a SHARP company. Through this commitment they implemented a number of engineering and operational improvements that made many of their processes easier and safer for their employees. These improvements not only showed in their operations, but also in their safety statistics. While the industry NAICS Incident Rate was 5.9 for the 3 years, 2007-2009, **Rynone Manufacturing Corporation's** Total Recordable Case Rate was significantly below every year--an impressive achievement of 3.4, 4.0 and 4.0 for these 3 years. And while the Days Away, Restricted, and/or Transfer Rate for the industry was 3.6 for 2007, 2008 and 2009, **Rynone** maintained

ratings significantly below: 0.0, 2.0, 0.0, respectively.

Cynthia Mellen, the safety consultant from the PA/ OSHA Consultation Program has been working with **Rynone Manufacturing** from the beginning. She said *"Ever since Rynone has been in the SHARP Program they continue to improve even when it seems like there is little room for improvement. Achieving and being recognized for certification under the SHARP program, for the third consecutive time, reaffirms their commitment to safety."*

Jim Rieker, Human Resource and Safety Manager, said *"Since we started the implementation of the SHARP program our incident rate decreased over 82 percent. Saving money from worker's comp dollars is important, but there are many other savings more important to the plant in reference to production. Just the amount of work involved in a work-related incident can be a good afternoon's worth of time. Until all reports are filled out and proper investigation to the root cause of the incident, to the implementation of the safety mechanism, so we are able to prevent a re-occurrence."* Jim has also noted *"that working with the entire staff at IUP is a real pleasure. The safety consultants make you feel very comfortable and express their concerns in a very professional manner, so they don't make you feel like you are doing something out of neglect. There is never a time spent with the consultants that I do not learn something."* "I would highly recommend this IUP program to any qualified business that really does want **safety first.**"

President Richard Rynone acknowledged the teamwork--employee involvement and management commitment--that it takes to earn the SHARP award. He said, *"The employees of Rynone Manufacturing Corporation are continually striving towards safety excellence in the workplace on a daily basis. It is through this collaborative effort that we will continue to maintain and improve our safety culture at Rynone."*

GREAT JOB **Rynone Manufacturing Corporation** on your re-certification of the SHARP award!



What's OSHA looking for?

By Bryan Brougher, CSP, Health Consultant



Q *We operate a paid ambulance service company (or medical facility); what is OSHA likely to look at when they arrive at our facility?*

A The following requirements include those that normally apply to ambulance, emergency medical transportation or rescue services, whether there are two or 200 employees. Additional OSHA standards may apply to some offices.

Bloodborne Pathogens Standard (29 CFR 1910.1030)

This is the most frequently requested and referenced OSHA standard affecting ambulance, emergency medical transportation or rescue services. Some basic requirements of the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens standard include:

- A written exposure control plan, to be updated annually.
- Use of universal precautions.
- Consideration, implementation and use of safer engineered needles and sharps. Also add annual review and employee involvement
- Use of engineering and work practice controls and appropriate personal protective equipment (gloves, face and eye protection, gowns).
- Hepatitis B vaccine provided to exposed employees at no cost.
- Medical follow-up in the event of an "exposure incident".
- Use of labels or color-coding for items such as sharps disposal boxes and containers for regulated waste, contaminated laundry and certain specimens.
- Employee training.
- Proper containment of all regulated waste.

Recording and Reporting Occupational Injuries and Illnesses (29 CFR 1904)

Employers with 11 or more employees are required to prepare and maintain pertinent injury and illness records of accidents affecting their employees. Moreover, all employers are required to report to the nearest OSHA office, within 8 hours, all accidents resulting in a work-related death or in five or more hospitalizations. Records must be retained for five calendar years.

The OSHA recordkeeping system has five steps:

- Obtain a report on every injury or job-related illness requiring medical treatment (other than basic first aid).
- Record each injury or job-related illness on OSHA Form 300 (*Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses*) using the instructions provided.
- Prepare a supplementary record of occupational injuries and illnesses for recordable cases on OSHA Form 301 (Injury and Illness Incident Report).
- Every year, prepare an annual summary using OSHA Form 300A (*Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses*). Post it no later than February 1, and keep it posted until May 1. A good place to post it is next to the OSHA Workplace Poster.
- Retain these records for at least five years. Periodically review these records to look for any patterns or repeat situations. These records can help you to identify high-risk areas that require your immediate attention.

- **Employers must record all work-related needlestick injuries and cuts from sharp objects that are contaminated with another person's blood or other potentially infectious material.**

The case must be entered on the OSHA 300 Log as an injury. To protect the employee's privacy, the employee's name may be omitted on the OSHA 300 Log. In addition, the employer shall establish and maintain a



sharps injury log for the recording of percutaneous injuries from contaminated sharps. The

information in the sharps injury log shall be recorded and maintained in such manner as to protect the confidentiality of the injured employee. The sharps injury log shall contain, at a minimum:

- The type and brand of device involved in the incident,
- The department or work area where the exposure incident occurred, and
- An explanation of how the incident occurred.

Hazard Communication Standard (29 CFR 1910.1200)

The hazard communication standard is sometimes called the "employee right-to-know" standard. It requires employee access to hazard information. The basic requirements include:

- A written hazard communication program.
- A list of hazardous chemicals (such as alcohol, disinfectants, anesthetic agents, sterilants and mercury) used or stored in the office.
- A copy of the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) for each



chemical (obtained from the manufacturer) used or stored in the office.

- Employee training.

Compressed gases (29 CFR 1910.101(b))

Compressed gas cylinders should not be stored near exits, stairways, or in areas normally used, or intended to be used, for the safe exit of people. Designate a specific area for storage of cylinders. Cylinders should be located so as to minimize exposure to excessive temperature, physical damage or tampering. Empty containers should be stored outside. If stored inside, however, they should be considered full, and protected from damage. Cylinders should be properly secured to prevent them from being knocked over by material handling equipment or employees. The use of chain or wire to secure cylinders to the building structure is acceptable.

Respiratory Protection (29 CFR 1910.134)

Some basic requirements of the Respiratory protection standard include:

- Determining an administrator
- Written program (mandatory or optional use)
- Respirator selection
- Cleaning and disinfecting
- Storage
- Inspection
- Repairs

- Disposal/replacement of canisters
- Breathing air quality (if applicable)
- Medical evaluation
- Fit testing (not required for optional use)
- Use of respirators
- Training (only Appendix D of the respirator standard required for optional use)
- Recordkeeping

Exit Routes Standards (29 CFR 1910.35 to 1910.39)

These standards include the requirements for providing safe and accessible building exits in case of fire or other emergency. It is important to become familiar with the full text of these standards because they provide details about signage and other issues. OSHA consultation services can help, or your insurance company or local fire/police service may be able to assist you.



The basic responsibilities include:

- Exit routes sufficient for the number of employees in any occupied space.
- A diagram of evacuation routes posted in a visible location.

Personal Protective equipment (29 CFR 1910.132)

In general, this standard requires that employers:

- Perform a "hazard assessment" of the workplace to identify and control physical and health hazards.
- Identify and providing appropriate PPE for employees.
- Train employees in the use and care of the PPE.
- Maintain PPE, including replacing worn or damaged PPE.
- Periodically reviewing, updating and evaluating the effectiveness of the PPE program.



OSHA Poster

Every workplace must display the OSHA poster (OSHA Publication 3165), or the state plan equivalent. The poster explains worker rights to a safe workplace and how to file a complaint. The poster must be placed where employees will see it. You can download a copy or order one free copy from OSHA's website at www.osha.gov or by calling (800) 321-OSHA

Consultation Services and Information

This information provides only a glimpse of the most frequently found hazards in ambulance, emergency medical transportation or rescue services. Many other standards may apply. This information should not be used as a substitute for reading and becoming familiar with all applicable OSHA standards. As you have probably gathered, many safety concerns need to be assessed by safety and health professionals with regulatory experience in identifying and applying applicable standards. Our health and safety consultants provide professional advice and help in maintaining continued, effective worker protection. They also provide industrial hygiene sampling as well as guidance in establishing or improving an effective safety and health program. Let us know how we can help you.

Call us at **1-800-382-1241**.



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In the Know...

OSHA's bloodborne review looks at the standard's value in protecting workers.

Healthcare and emergency personnel are workers regularly at risk of contracting diseases from exposures to bloodborne pathogens including hepatitis B and C and the human immunodeficiency viruses. OSHA issued a Bloodborne Pathogens standard in 1991 to protect healthcare workers from exposure to potentially infectious blood. The agency is now conducting a review to determine the standard's effectiveness.

OSHA is conducting this review in accordance with the "Regulatory Flexibility Act". Part of the review involves evaluating public comments to determine whether the standard causes a burden to small businesses and industry in general, and if the costs for putting the standard into practice are necessary for protecting workers' health. OSHA also considers if the standard conflicts with other federal, state and local government rules, and whether advancements in technology and economic conditions have changed the risks of exposure to bloodborne pathogens. These factors will help the agency decide if the rule should change or remain the same.

Comments may be submitted electronically at <http://www.regulations.gov>. If submitting comments by mail, hand delivery or courier service, send to *OSHA Docket Office*, Docket No. OSHA-2007-0080, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N-2625, 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210. Submissions of 10 pages or less may be faxed to 202-693-1648. Comments must be postmarked by August 12, 2010.

Questions?

PA/OSHA Consultation Program provides **FREE** and confidential on-site safety and health services for Pennsylvania employers.. **Call us Toll free: 1-800-382-1241**