



eNewsletter



Fall 2017

November, 2017

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**Save these
2018 Dates!**

**Crane Operator
Certification
Springboro
Feb 4-9**

**Annual Conference
Columbus
March 20-21**

**We're on the web!
www.ohioprecast.org**

Coming February, 2018!

Crane Operator Certification Class

The Mid-America OSHA Education Center in Springboro, Ohio, is offering a week-long Mobile Crane Operator Certification Class February 4-9, 2018. The course will cover Articulating (Knuckle-Boom) and Under 21-Ton Boom cranes. Priority registration will be given to OPCA members through December 15, 2017. The course consists of thorough 2 1/2-day training and test

prep, followed by 2 days of written and practical exams for both crane types. Cost is \$1,500 per person. A Hampton Inn hotel is located next to the Education Center. A discounted room rate of \$109 plus tax is being offered to guests who attend the class (includes free hot breakfast and Wi-Fi). Watch for official registration materials in your mail, email, and on our website soon! Space is limited.

OPCA Annual Conference 2018

Mark your calendar for Tuesday-Wednesday, March 20-21, 2018! Our annual conference and trade show will convene once again at the Crowne Plaza Hotel and Conference Center in Dublin, Ohio. Our association has reserved the 5,000 square foot ballroom and another classroom to allow for two tracts of educational sessions occurring simultaneously. As in recent years, we plan to offer ODH STS Contractor CEUs for some of the courses, which provides added value for an exceptionally low cost of attendance. OPCA members are entitled to discounted registration and exhibitor packages. New for 2018, will be



the option to pay electronically via our website:

<http://www.ohioprecast.org/members.html>

with PayPal or a major credit card.

Registration packets will be mailed in January. Hope to see everyone there!

Compliance 101-Don't Wait for the Fine

Part 2 - "The potential cost of an OSHA citation and why you should be concerned about much more than the certified crane operator law" by Sam Lines, OPCA Technical Consultant and Engineering Manager for Concrete Sealants.

Recently, I visited a precast plant to resolve an issue with cracks in concrete tanks. While I was there, the manager noted that he was aware of my background in safety, and he asked if I

would solve a debate that was raised regarding whether a mezzanine required a hand rail or not. In the next 10 minutes, I answered that question and then, with permission, proceeded to find another 8-10 obvious OSHA citable conditions in the area where we were standing. He was a little more than shocked. He asked me how much I thought the citations could be, and I was unable to speculate, but what I could tell him is what the potential risk is: more than \$100,000.

Continued on p.2

Compliance 101 (continued from p.1)

In this part of the series, I will address the potential cost of an OSHA citation, and why you should be very concerned about much more than just the certified crane operator law. To start with, there are basically two levels of a citation: Serious and Other Than Serious. From OSHA: "A Serious Violation exists when the workplace hazard could cause an accident or illness that would most likely result in death or serious physical harm, unless the employer did not know or could not have known of the violation." Anything that does not fall into this definition is cited as Other Than Serious.

There are two additional levels of a citation that can occur if certain conditions exist: Willful and Repeat. According to OSHA, "A Willful Violation is defined as a violation in which the employer either knowingly failed to comply with a legal requirement (purposeful disregard) or acted with plain indifference to employee safety." For instance, you know that it is unsafe to clean the mixer without performing lockout/tagout, but as the supervisor, you knowingly allow employees to put all or part of their body in the mixer bowl without properly de-energizing the equipment. OSHA visits and holds a private

A Serious or Other Than Serious violation can carry a maximum fine of \$12,675 per violation. If the violation results in a Willful or Repeat designation, multiply that number by 10.

interview with several employees and discovers that this is occurring. Expect this to result in a Willful Violation. A Willful Violation is often issued too late; an employee has been severely injured or killed due to the hazard. Not only are the financial implications painful, but the emotional pain on the employees and owners can have a tremendous impact on the business.

Another type of citation that can be issued is called a Repeat Violation. OSHA defines this as, "An employer may be cited for a repeated violation if that employer has been cited previously for the same or a substantially similar condition or hazard and the citation has become a final order of the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission." The time limit is typically five years after the citation has been abated.

So how much will the citation cost you? The answer can be found on the OSHA website [HERE](#). A Serious or Other Than Serious violation can carry a maximum fine of \$12,675 per violation. If the violation results in a Willful or Repeat designation, multiply that number by 10. Yes folks, that makes the Willful and Repeat violations a whopping \$126,750 PER violation.

Next Issue - Part 3 will explore the top five most cited safety violations in the precast industry.

Safety Brief: Are your Safety Posters up to date?

The Ohio Department of Commerce, the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation, and OSHA require the posting of certain information in the workplace. Often this information is updated. Be up to date with your posters by checking the links below.

<http://das.ohio.gov/Divisions/HumanResources/HRDOCBPolicy/LaborEmploymentLawPostingRequirements.aspx>

<https://www.osha.gov/Publications/poster.html>

Monthly Tool Box Talks Starting in January



Let's talk Safety!

Monthly safety meetings can be challenging to plan and schedule, but they are a critical necessity to keep you and your staff up to date and in compliance with OSHA Safety laws. And, if you are an NPCA Certified Plant, these Safety Talks are mandatory (as stated in the Manual).

Beginning January 8, 2018, the OPCA website will provide links to resources for employee leaders to prepare for the first of 12 safety talks for the year. Topic #1 will be Fall Protection. The information provided will include a brief overview, dangers to look for around the plant, questions to ask the group, and additional information such as video clips or mini webinars.

We are pleased to offer this new educational resource for our members. Future topics will include: Walking & Working Surfaces, Hazard Communication, Respiratory

Safety, Lockout/Tagout, Electrical Safety, Machine Guarding, Personal Protective Equipment, Housekeeping Safety, Ladders, Reacting to a Worker's Emergency, and Mechanical Lifting Devices. We will email a reminder as each topic goes live on the website.

New! Sam's BAD JOKE of the Quarter

Q "In what season are most workers likely to get injured?"

A "In the FALL"



New Members – Here we grow Again!

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association welcomed two new members last quarter. Norwalk Precast Molds, Inc., joins as an associate member, and Migchelbrink, Inc., joins as a producer member.

In 1906, Norwalk Vault Company was founded to manufacture precast concrete burial vault molds. The company was reorganized in 1972 to become **Norwalk Precast Molds, Inc.**, and immediately set out to establish precast as the economical, versatile choice over poured in place concrete. Today, they offer a product line of over 150 designs and a trained engineering staff capable of meeting customers’

individual needs. With over 75,000 square feet located in Norwalk, Ohio, Norwalk Precast Molds, Inc., has become an industry leader in precast concrete molds and equipment. They are represented by Loren Schild.

Migchelbrink, Inc., is located in Uniontown, Ohio, southeast of Akron. Established in 1970, by Richard J. Migchelbrink this precast producer continues an outstanding reputation for quality and innovation under the leadership of Richard’s son Dan Migchelbrink.

We welcome these new members to our Association.

PayPal & Credit Card Payments Now Accepted!

At their annual Fall meeting, the OPCA Board of Directors voted unanimously to allow expansion of membership and event registration payment methods to include PayPal and major credit cards. If paying by check, membership rates will not change. Payment through PayPal or by credit card can be made directly from the OPCA website (a nominal fee will be added to recover PayPal and bank card fees). The payment portal can be accessed at the link below.

<http://www.ohioprecast.org/members.html>

<u>Member Type</u>	<u>Checks</u>	<u>PayPal/CCard</u>
Producer	\$500	\$510
Associate	\$300	\$306
Professional	\$ 75	\$ 76.50

The website also shows the registration pricing structure for the Annual Conference in March.

Membership in OPCA continues to be an exceptional value, compared to other state/regional precast associations. Benefits include corporate listings in the quarterly eNewsletter and on our website, as well as discounted registration fees for the annual conference and other events! Associate members who register for the trade show at the annual conference receive special exhibitor package pricing.

Thank you to all our loyal members! Watch for Renewal invoices in your mail the end of December.



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OUR PURPOSE

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association (OPCA) is a group of producer members and associated industries cooperating together as an association. The intent being to bring pertinent issues and information that impact the Precast Concrete Industry, to the attention of government agencies which participate in the origination of these issues.

The OPCA is interested in assisting these agencies by providing expert advice and counsel in the development of regulations involving the industry and the general public.

The OPCA producer and associate members whose products and services range from the construction of buildings and highways to the manufacture of precast concrete products for the treatment of commercial and residential waste water. The OPCA member products and services affect the lives of nearly every Ohioan on a daily basis.

Some specific areas of interest being pursued by the OPCA are as follows:

The introduction of new sewage guidelines relating to the specific construction and operation of home waste water treatment products (septic tanks, aerators, etc.) by the Ohio department of health and the Ohio EPA.

The introduction of programs and policies relating to the testing of materials and products being used on Ohio Department of Transportation projects.

The development of quality control procedures and inspections services training by the Ohio Department of Transportation.

The Ohio Precast Concrete Association will be expanding its' scope of interest as membership roles grow and diversify. The need for input, regarding issues and regulations which effect the large segment of the public which it serves, comes to the forefront.

OPCA Member Companies

PRODUCER MEMBERS

Carey Precast Concrete
E.C. Babbert, Inc.
Encore Precast, LLC
Everly Concrete Products, Inc.
Forterra Pipe and Precast
J.K. Precast, LLC
Lindsay Precast
Mack Industries
Migchelbrink, Inc.
MW Concrete
Norwalk Concrete Industries
Portage Septic Tank
Premier Precast Products
Quaker City Concrete Products, LLC
Scioto Valley Precast
Sickels Septic Tanks, Inc.
Spoerr Precast Concrete, Inc.
Stiger Precast, Inc.
Uniontown Septic Tank, Inc.
United Precast Industries, LLC
USA Precast Concrete, Ltd.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

A-lok Products, Inc.
ALP Supply, Inc.
Baughman Tile Company, Inc.
Blackthorn, LLC
Cavert Wire Company
Champion Pump Company
Concrete Sealants, Inc.
Consolidated Treatment Systems, Inc.
EJ USA, Inc.
EMH, Inc.
Engineered Wire Products, Inc.
Euclid Chemical
EZG Manufacturing
GCP Applied Technologies
Gotham Staple Co., Inc.
Hamilton Kent, LLC
Haarup North America, Inc.
Hill and Griffith Company
Infiltrator Systems, Inc.
Irving Equipment , LLC

Jet, Inc.
Lehigh Cement Co.
M.A. Industries
MEVA Formwork Systems, Inc.
Mixer Systems, Inc.
Norwalk Precast Molds, Inc.
Ohio Electric Control, Inc.
Polylock, Inc. / Zabel Environmental
Premiere Concrete Admixtures, LLC
Press-Seal Corporation
St. Mary's Cement / Votorantim
Sika Corporation
Tuf-Tite, Inc.
W.P. Hilts & Company

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERS

Concrete Engineering Solutions
Delta Engineers
Knight Insurance, Matt Werner