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HIGHLIGHTS OF CURRENT REPORT

LEAD STANDARD REQUIREMENTS for detailed employer compliance plans on engineering control and work practice provisions are proposed to be stayed by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which defers their effective date two months to allow for notice and comment. OSHA says it will still require general plans but maintains that detailed plans may be rendered unnecessary by the outcome of the agency's current reconsideration of the rule (p. 83) ... Text of OSHA notice (p. 102).

A FIELD SANITATION RULE must be developed by OSHA, with work beginning immediately, according to the terms of a settlement approved by a federal district court. Judge June Green accepts the agreement between the agency and lawyers for migrant workers after rejecting it five days earlier (p. 83).

ASBESTOS-RELATED CANCER will account for some 200,000 deaths by the end of the century, according to a Mount Sinai School of Medicine study performed for the Labor Department. The study also finds that public and private benefit payments have replaced only 20 percent of the income lost by a group of asbestos insulation workers who died between 1967 and 1975 (p. 84).

THE SUPREME COURT denies an employer's petition for review of an appeals court decision that the secretary of labor does not have to demonstrate a "significant risk of harm" to employees in order to establish a violation of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (p. 84).

A NATIONAL COMPENSATION SYSTEM for victims of occupational disease is endorsed by the executive council of the AFL-CIO Industrial Union Department in a resolution approved in Atlanta (p. 85).

OSHA TRAINING OFFICE EMPLOYEES file suit in a federal district court, challenging their transfer from the agency's national office to its training institute near Chicago. Fair labor practices were not observed in the move, which imposed "severe" hardships. 19 employees and a union local charge (p. 85).

USE OF VIDEO DISPLAY TERMINALS is associated with headaches and blurring of vision experienced by some writers in a Baltimore newspaper office, according to a preliminary report by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. NIOSH finds "no significant association" between VDT use and incidence of cataracts in some of the employees, however (p. 86).

CHEMICAL LABELING LAWS in states and localities will be sought by labor unions "as long as we can and until such time as we see a strong federal standard," AFL-CIO Safety and Health Director George H.R. Taylor states in OSHA rulemaking hearings, predicting continued activity throughout OSHA rulemaking and subsequent court challenges. (p. 87).

AN OIL RIG SAFETY STANDARD is under development at OSHA, which plans to publish it for comment early in 1983. Safety Standards Director Barry J. White tells a House subcommittee hearing (p. 89) ... The same Government Operations panel hears a safety and health coalition testify in Chicago that OSHA enforcement patterns threaten lives and harmonious labor relations (p. 87).

10 STATE PLANS are granted approval by OSHA to enforce their own safety and health standards without concurrent federal enforcement (p. 93).

CANCER DEATHS due to disease types linked to workplace exposure and cigarette smoking rose among older men from 1968 to 1978, a mortality trend analysis concludes. Rates declined among men under 45, however, the study finds (p. 91).

THE REFERENCE FILE SUPPLEMENT with this issue of Occupational Safety & Health Reporter includes a correction to a table in the OSHA noise standard under Subpart G, an updated Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission directory, and amendments to several state plans.

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PLAINTIFF'S EXHIBIT

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