

## On The Level - January 2018

### Upcoming Events & Deadlines

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Now

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[OSHA Cites South Jersey Manufacturer for Continued Safety Violations](#)  
(EHS Today)

[Construction Company Owner Faces Felony Charges for Workplace Fatality](#)  
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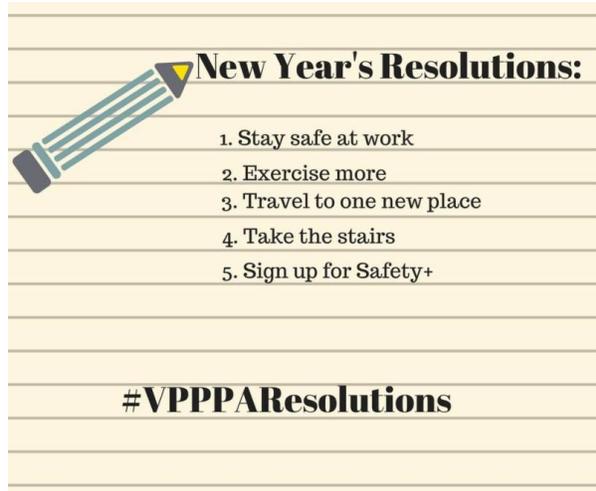
[Share Your Safety Story](#)

### Enter the #VPPPAResolutions Contest

New Year... New contest! Tell us your New Year's Resolution on our [Facebook page](#) and you will be entered to win a \$50 gift card!

Don't forget to use #VPPPAResolutions in your comment. Look for the #VPPPAResolutions post pinned to the top of our [Facebook page](#) to enter.

*\*One winner, determined at random from entries. Contest ends **January 24**. Winner will be notified on January 25.*



**New Year's Resolutions:**

1. Stay safe at work
2. Exercise more
3. Travel to one new place
4. Take the stairs
5. Sign up for Safety+

**#VPPPAResolutions**

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### Noise Measurement Webinar Series

The Council for Accreditation in Occupational Hearing Conservation and the National Hearing Conservation Association have partnered to produce a webinar series on noise measurement. These sessions aim to address questions relating to creating a comprehensive hearing loss prevention program. This unique training offers a seven part series and continuing education units are available. You can find more information about the webinar series and registration [here](#).

## OSHA Changes for 2018

Each new year brings a variety of updates in the safety and health world. Below are a few of the top OSHA changes to watch for this year:

- **Final Rule on Occupational Exposure to Beryllium (and proposed rule to modify standards)**
  - Beryllium is a strong metal commonly used for its electrical and thermal conductivity. Workers who inhale it can develop serious lung diseases and cancer. OSHA felt that the previous exposure limits for beryllium were outdated, so on January 9, 2017, a new final rule was established. Employers in general industry, shipyards or construction need to comply with the new beryllium exposure limits by **March 12, 2018**.
- **Final Rule on the Crane Operator Certification Extension**
  - OSHA initially issued a final rule on cranes and derricks in August 2010. This rule included standards for crane operator certification. Stakeholders believed that a certified crane operator needed additional training and evaluation, therefore, OSHA delayed the deadline for crane operator certification to November 10, 2017. In November of last year, the compliance deadline was delayed again until **November 10, 2018**.
- **Compliance with Certain Walking-Working Surfaces and Personal Fall Protection Systems Standards**
  - Slips, trips and falls are the leading cause of workplace injuries and fatalities in general industry. To reduce these injuries, OSHA revised its standards on walking-working surfaces, which includes floors, ladders, stairways, ramps and scaffolds. Most aspects of this rule became effective on January 17, 2017, but the requirement on fixed ladders comes into play on **November 19, 2018**.

## Safety+ Workshop Proposals Are Due Feb. 16

Submit a workshop proposal before it's too late! Share your story at Safety+ this year. The symposium will take place at the Gaylord Opryland in Nashville, TN, from August 28-31, 2018.

### Important Speaker Notes

- Proposals are for 1-hour long workshops.
- Proposals that are sales-focused or promote a commercial product will not be considered.
- Proposals will be reviewed and selected based on several criteria to include topic relevance, practicability, quality of proposal, etc.

### Deadlines & Dates

Proposal Deadline: February 16, 2018

Proposal Review: February-March, 2018

Speaker Notifications: March, 2018

If you have any questions regarding the workshop proposals, please call the National Office at (703) 761-1146 or email [conference@vpppa.org](mailto:conference@vpppa.org).

## Share Your Safety Story

### The VPPPA Blog

Want to write for us, but don't know where to start? Send us an article regarding any safety or health topic, and we might add you to our blog schedule for 2018.

## **The Leader Magazine**

The Spring 2018 issue will focus on profiles in safety and health. Do you have a safety lesson to teach from a personal experience? Share it with our readers. Articles for the Spring issue will be due on **March 16**.

## **Membership News**

If you have any news or pictures from your site that you would like to share (an award, a VPP approval, a member who went above and beyond, etc.), please send it to VPPPA. We would love to add your updates to the next *On The Level* newsletter or post it on our social media pages.

If you would like to write for a VPPPA publication, or know of someone who is interested, please email [communications@vpppa.org](mailto:communications@vpppa.org). We look forward to hearing from you!

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