

# REGULATORY ASSISTANCE

## California OSHA (CalOSHA)

### Auditing and Training Services

Founded in 1974, Trinity Consultants helps organizations overcome complex, mission-critical challenges in EHS, engineering, and science through expertise in consulting, technology, training, and staffing. We support clients in geographies worldwide and across a broad range of sectors including industrial, energy, manufacturing, mining, life sciences, and commercial/institutional.

### California OSHA

Since August 19, 1977, California has operated a certified U.S. OSHA-approved State Plan covering most private sector workers and all state and local government workers. The California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH), better known as CalOSHA, protects and improves the health and safety of workers in California



and the safety of passengers riding on elevators, amusement rides, and tramways – through the following activities:

- ▶ Setting and enforcing standards
- ▶ Providing outreach, education, and assistance
- ▶ Issuing permits, licenses, certifications, registrations, and approvals

### Third-Party CalOSHA Audits

One way to minimize the potential for CalOSHA to conduct an on-site inspection, is to be proactive and have Trinity provide a third-party on-site audit of your CalOSHA programs. As with any “third-party,” non-regulatory agency audit, the results can provide a platform for improvement of your EHS systems. The results, used as an improvement tool, demonstrates to your employees your commitment to a safe workplace, free of recognized hazards to the best of your ability. Should there be an issue, or CalOSHA visits your facility, you can demonstrate the proactive measures your company has taken.

CalOSHA has the right to conduct an on-site inspection, without notice. As noted in the CalOSHA “Health & Safety Rights: Facts for California Workers,” June 2015:

*“Information that CalOSHA collects during the inspection may show that your employer violated health and safety requirements. If this happens, one or more citations will be issued to your employer. CalOSHA issues citations to employers only, not to employees.”*

In 2018 (the latest data available at this time), CalOSHA conducted 7,767 inspections, and issued 10,106 citations and assessed 19,916 civil penalties, collecting almost \$28MM.

### CalOSHA’s Process Safety Management

CalOSHA’s Process Safety Management (PSM) Unit is, “responsible for inspecting refineries and chemical plants that handle large quantities of toxic and flammable materials.” According to the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR), CalOSHA makes regular visits to facilities in order to conduct program quality reviews, respond to complaints, perform fatality investigations, evaluate chemical releases and fires, and investigate explosions.

This is compared to federal OSHA’s National Emphasis Program, which DIR asserts, “only provides a ‘snapshot’ of operations at the time of inspection.” The idea behind CalOSHA’s PSM Unit is that conducting inspections more regularly than the federal OSHA counterpart will result in more effective regulation of high-hazard workplace environments.

## State Plan Standards

CalOSHA has adopted occupational safety and health standards which are at least as effective as Federal OSHA standards. CalOSHA has also adopted the following unique standards:

- ▶ Toxic Chemical Handling and Exposure
- ▶ Agriculture
- ▶ Repetitive Motion Injuries
- ▶ Child Labor
- ▶ Heat Exposure
- ▶ Noise Exposure
- ▶ Injury and Illness Prevention Program
- ▶ Aerosol Transmissible Diseases
- ▶ Petroleum Drilling and Production
- ▶ Petroleum Refining, Transport, and Handling
- ▶ Workplace Violence Prevention in Health Care

## Promoting Business Improvement

The success of our clients is based on effective and efficient monitoring, implementation and correction to its existing compliance systems, characterized by clear policies and objectives, appropriate resources, structured processes, measurable results and continuous improvement. This is where Trinity, as an independent partner, assists our clients by providing value added objective assessments of CalOSHA processes and programs. In this process, improvement potential is revealed. Exploiting this potential, increases performance capability and enhances the satisfaction of our client's clients, regulatory, community and other stakeholders.

Trinity can assist in improving or establishing your CalOSHA program with some or all of these services.

- ▶ Training
- ▶ Operational Compliance Auditing
- ▶ CalOSHA specific program development, such as Injury and Illness Prevention Program (IIPP)
- ▶ Regulatory Review of General Industry Safety Orders
- ▶ Program Development

## CalOSHA Training

Trinity offers national education courses focused on the needs of the chemical industry several times annually as part of our extensive environmental, health and safety training services. These courses include Introduction to CalOSHA Regulations, and OSHA Internal Auditor Training, as well as custom courses and local seminars. Instructors are among our most senior technical staff whom also have exceptional teaching abilities.

## Trinity Audit Experience

Trinity is known for our skills in evaluating compliance with regulatory requirements and conformance with management system processes and practices. Using extensive permitting experience and in-depth knowledge of state and federal environmental regulations, Trinity is ideally suited to conduct effective compliance and conformance audits to ensure that all chemical, oil and gas sector regulations and CalOSHA requirements have been properly addressed, determine status, and suggest corrective actions where needed. The result is a complete picture of all regulatory and conformance requirements to help you attain or maintain compliance and conformance.

## Trinity Can Help

Whatever your challenge, Trinity has the experience and insights to provide intelligent solutions to optimize your health and safety programs, consistent with the CalOSHA requirements. Our knowledge and expertise across a wide range of related issues make us an excellent partner for addressing the CalOSHA requirements.

For assistance, contact Brad Skenfield PE, Managing Consultant at 412.552.7654.

***ISO 9001:2015 certified at our corporate office in Dallas, Texas***