

Accidents in Power Presses

A new reporting requirement covering accidents involving mechanical power presses has been issued by the U.S. Department of Labor, announced James W. Lake, assistant regional director for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) in Seattle.

Lake said that employers are now required to make a written report within 30 days whenever an employee is injured in a mechanical power press accident and that employers' records will be checked during routine safety and health inspections to make sure that such injury reports have been filed.

Forms for reporting these accidents are available from OSHA area offices, but Lake says any written format will suffice as long as all the required information is supplied.

The reports should be sent to: Director of the Office of Standards Development, OSHA, U.S. Dept. of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210.

Lake explained that this requirement has been established to initiate a thorough accident investigation on the number and types of injuries which may lead to possible revisions of the standards relating to mechanical power presses.

OSHA's concern, he said, is to make sure that the standard protects workers without imposing undue burdens on employers.

The new reporting requirements were published in the Federal Register of December 3, 1974, and failure to comply will be considered a violation of safety standards.

Anyone having questions on this requirement should contact the nearest OSHA area office in Bellevue, Wash.; Boise, Idaho; Portland, Ore.; or Anchorage, Alaska.