

Ready, Set, Grow!

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Video Tools for Your Toolbox

As you focus on important growing systems on your farms, don't forget to put some time and effort into the safety of your employees. AMI has an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Committee that meets regularly to create the first mushroom safety project through an Alliance that goes back to 2007. The Committee works with Jim Touey, OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist from Philadelphia, to sort through the numerous fact sheets and standards to clarify rules and regulations that affect mushroom farms.

OSHA recently posted a series of 17 videos to help employees learn about the proper use of respirators on the job. These short videos, nine in English and eight in Spanish, provide valuable information to workers on mushroom farms, general industry and construction. Topics include OSHA's Respiratory Standard, respirator use, training, fit-testing and detecting counterfeit respirators. The videos are available with closed captioning for streaming or download from OSHA's Web site.

OSHA's Safety and Health topics page on respiratory protection also includes additional training materials, information about occupational respiratory hazards in different industries, and details of OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard (29 CFR 1910.134 and 29 CFR 1926.103).

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to assure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit <http://www.osha.gov>. To join our committee, email genedrich@aol.com.