



7/01/2014 – OSHA Emphasizes Importance of Heat Acclimatization [RESOURCE]

The Department of Labor and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration have teamed-up to increase awareness with respect to preventable heat-related health concerns. Every year heat induced illnesses and even fatalities for outdoor workers can often be mitigated or prevented by proper precautions arising from awareness. OSHA estimates that in 2012 alone, at least 31 workers died of heat related incidents, with another 4,120 being made ill/sick. The agency points out that: “Seasonal workers can be considered new even if they have been working every season for several years. Gradually increasing the workload and giving workers time to acclimate allows them to build tolerance to the heat. This is critically important for workers who are new to working outdoors in the heat, who have been away from working in the heat for a week or more, or at the beginning of a heat wave.”

Visit OSHA's [Heat Illness Prevention page](#) for more information and to get OSHA's free [Heat Safety Tool smartphone app](#), which has been downloaded more than 138,000 time to date. To order quantities of OSHA's [heat illness educational materials](#) in English or Spanish, call OSHA's Office of Communications at (202) 693-1999.