

## GUZI-WEST INSPECTION & CONSULTING NEWSLETTER | Q1 2024

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AND MORE!

Greetings from Guzi-West Inspection and Consulting! We are thrilled to present our first quarterly newsletter of the new year. Last year was a landmark year for Guzi-West, and we're aiming to make 2024 even better! We are excited to announce that one of our esteemed team members, Zack Maldonado, has achieved certification as a Certified Asbestos Consultant (CAC). He recently passed his CAC exam, adding to our current roster of CACs at Guzi-West.

In this edition of our quarterly newsletter, we will delve into the new lead regulations passed in February 2024. These regulations will impact employers and employees who work around lead-painted products and surfaces. Additionally, we will explore the applications of drones in hazardous materials surveys. With the increase in natural disasters across California, drones may prove to be invaluable tools in surveying inaccessible or hazardous areas. Finally, enjoy an exclusive glimpse into our on-site endeavors and experiences as we take you behind the scenes with "Guzi-West in the Field."

We believe this newsletter will provide valuable insights and information for you, our esteemed readers. Thank you for accompanying us on this journey as we explore the latest developments in environmental inspection and consulting. Your hard work and dedication are deeply appreciated, and we eagerly anticipate staying connected with you in the months ahead!

Clay Guzi  
President/CEO  
Guzi-West Inspection and Consulting, LLC



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# California's New Lead Standards for 2025

In a groundbreaking move on February 15, 2024, the Cal/OSHA Standards Board passed significant updates to California's lead regulations, despite facing skepticism regarding feasibility and cost estimates from key industries. The new regulations, set to take effect on January 1, 2025, mark a paradigm shift in occupational safety standards.

## Key Changes:

- 1. Threshold Reductions:** The revisions dramatically lower the Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL) and Action Level (AL) for lead exposure, representing an 80% reduction in PEL and a staggering 93% drop in AL.
  - Old PEL: 50 micrograms per cubic meter of air
  - New PEL: 10 micrograms per cubic meter of air
  - Old AL: 30 micrograms per cubic meter of air
  - New AL: 2 micrograms per cubic meter of air
- 2. Impact on Industries:** Even industries not traditionally associated with lead exposure must now adhere to the regulations. For instance, workplaces dealing with brass components or fixtures containing lead should assess their activities for compliance.
- 3. Implementation Challenges:** While the move is hailed as a critical step in safeguarding worker health, concerns have been raised regarding the practicality of implementation. Industries, particularly construction and battery manufacturing, cite unrealistic timelines and underestimated costs as significant hurdles.
- 4. Regulatory Process:** The approval process was marked by extensive stakeholder engagement and debate. Despite opposition, the Standards Board approved the revisions, acknowledging concerns but emphasizing the urgency of updating outdated standards.
- 5. Exposure Assessment and Monitoring:** Employers who do not perform an employee exposure assessment and determine actual employee exposure must provide interim protection that consists of respiratory protection, protective work clothing and equipment, medical surveillance, training and posted warning signs. Exposure levels dictate the frequency of monitoring.
- 6. Medical Surveillance Program:** If employees may be or are exposed at or above the AL, the employer must institute a medical surveillance program. All medical examinations and procedures required by the program will be provided at no cost to employees, and at a time and place that is reasonable and convenient for employees.
- 7. Medical Removal Protection:** Employees who have exposure at or above the AL based on blood tests must be temporarily removed from work. Such employees will have "medical removal protection benefits," and will not lose earnings, seniority and other employment rights.
- 8. Other Requirements:** Triggering the AL also requires employers to provide respirators and protective work clothing and equipment, institute hygiene and housekeeping practices, offer training, and maintain monitoring and medical records for at least 40 years.

The approval of California's new lead standards underscores the importance of proactive compliance planning for businesses across industries. As your trusted partner, Guzi-West is here to support you every step of the way, providing the expertise, resources, and guidance you need to achieve compliance and safeguard the well-being of your employees.

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# Drone Monitoring

Did you know that Guzi-West boasts certified remote drone pilots accredited by the USA Department of Transportation and the Federal Aviation Administration? Drones have heralded a new era across various industries, including building inspections, offering a safer, more efficient, and cost-effective alternative to traditional methods. Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (SUAVs), or drones, are compact aircraft controlled by ground pilots and serve a multitude of functions.

Primarily utilized for aerial photography and videography, drones excel in capturing imagery from heights and distances unattainable on foot. Their versatility extends to monitoring inaccessible or hazardous sites, making them invaluable for inspecting and documenting areas such as inaccessible or unsafe roofs, structures damaged by fire, or those over bodies of water.

Drones are particularly suited for large-scale project documentation, as the data and photos they collect can be utilized to generate GIS shapefiles reflecting the current site conditions. Moreover, this data can be leveraged to create detailed maps illustrating the current landscape, proving especially beneficial in areas affected by large wildfires or other natural disasters where accessibility is compromised.

The integration of drones into Guzi-West's operations marks a significant advancement in safety, efficiency, and cost-effectiveness for various inspection tasks. From inaccessible roofs to disaster-stricken landscapes, drones offer unparalleled access and data collection capabilities. If you're interested in discovering how Guzi-West can leverage drones for your project needs, don't hesitate to reach out. Let's explore the possibilities together.



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# GUZI-WEST IN THE FIELD

Guzi-West certified personnel conducted hazardous material surveys at the McKinleyville Shopping Center. The surveys aim was to determine the presence or absence of hazardous materials, as part of project plans for renovating the structure's roofs.



Guzi-West crew surveyed the roof of the Eureka strip mall in order to determine the presence or absence of hazardous materials. Proposed project plans include renovating the structures roof.



Guzi-West sponsored the Arcata youth recreational basketball team in Humboldt County. We wish them luck in their future games, and look forward to supporting these young athletes from the sidelines!

