On March 11, OSHA began enforcing additional provisions of its general industry beryllium standard, specifically the requirements for change rooms and showers.

OSHA will begin enforcing general industry requirements for engineering controls to limit worker beryllium dust exposures a year later, on March 10, 2020. At construction and shipyard workplaces, the agency is only enforcing the permissible exposure limit (PEL), which is 0.2 micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m³) of air averaged over 8 hours.

Inspection procedures for enforcing the PEL include:
- Using the agency’s new sampling and analytical method for beryllium, OSHA Method 1023;
- Using Method 1023 to assess beryllium exposure levels if beryllium is found when sampling welding fumes using OSHA Method 125G (which cannot adequately assess exposure levels);
- Collecting one or more personal breathing zone samples on the first day of the inspection;
- Placing a sampling cassette outside of the helmet/hood to monitor for abrasive blasting exposures when an employee is wearing an abrasive blast respirator with a hood/helmet; and
- When collecting an air sample on a welder wearing a protective helmet, positioning a sampling cassette inside the helmet.

Avetta and BROWZ, two leading providers of SaaS-based supply-chain risk management software, announced they have combined to form a new, market-leading organization focused on delivering the best in supply chain risk management services to companies worldwide. The transaction further solidifies Avetta’s position as a world-class organization, innovator, and thought leader, expanding the company’s global network to 85,000 customers in over 100 countries in the fast-growing $14 billion global marketplace for supply-chain risk management solutions.

Avetta and BROWZ combine more than 3 decades of experience in making industries safer, more sustainable, and compliant by vetting and qualifying the suppliers that support their global clients. Avetta’s and BROWZ’s 450 combined clients include blue chip companies in industry verticals such as energy, chemicals, manufacturing, utilities, construction materials, facilities management, communications, transportation, logistics and retail, mining, aerospace and defense, and food and beverage. These industry leaders require better visibility into supply-chain risks, such as workplace health and safety, sustainability, modern slavery, data privacy, antibribery and corruption, and regulatory and insurance compliance.

Read our profile of Avetta CEO John Herr in this issue of Safety Decisions!