



## ILA-USMX JOINT SAFETY COMMITTEE

# OSH ALERT 2024-05 [12 June 2024]

## National Weather Service & Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Launch New Heat Index Tool

A few days ago, the ILA~USMX Joint Safety Committee (JSC) published its June 2024 OSH Circular (“**Occupational Heat Stress**”). We provide a link to it here:

[OSH Circular 2024-06](#)

The JSC has learned that in April of this year, the National Weather Service (in collaboration with NOAA and the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention) launched a web site known as “**NWS Heat Risk**.” The new website is designed to provide geographically specific information that considers several important factors in the assessment and communication of intelligence that may come in very handy for port workers and managers in combating rising temperatures and humidity indexes.

Users can search a map of the contiguous United States or input [their own town or address](#) [active link] to figure out their own level of threat, ranging between **One** (little to no risk) and **Four** (extreme risk).

The new National Weather Service system considers three factors. First, it tracks how unusual the heat is for the time of year (because hot days in, say, May are often harder on your body than when you’re acclimated to heat that’s occurring in July). It also accounts for the duration of the heat wave, as longer heat waves tend to create more public health problems, and it incorporates how the CDC evaluates a given day’s heat-related hazards.

The new website represents another tool that we all can use to become better informed and to create and maintain a safe work environment.

The JSC is pleased to provide a link to it here: [NWS Heat Risk Website](#)

Got a question about this particular subject? Write to the JSC at: [blueoceana@optonline.net](mailto:blueoceana@optonline.net)

## Working Together For The Benefit Of All

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