

## VT Occupational Safety & Health Administration (VOSHA) Overview For the Auto Salvage Sector

OSHA was established to protect the health and safety of workers in the United States. The safety and health standards and regulations were implemented to ensure that places of employment would be free of recognized hazards that may cause death or physical injury to workers. There are many potential VOSHA issues that could affect your auto salvage business. This is not a comprehensive VOSHA guide. The types of regulations that affect your business are governed by your operating practices and the physical layout and structure of your facility. Therefore, each business owner should obtain a copy of the “OSHA Handbook for Small Businesses,” OSHA 2209 (1996), which contains a more comprehensive self-inspection checklist. A copy can be obtained from your VOSHA office at **800-287-2765**.

Whether or not you fall under the VOSHA umbrella, these are practical and safe standards we should all follow.

<b>Health &amp; Safety</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
Are all walking surfaces kept free from grease, oil, parts and tools?	_____	_____
Are stairs and surfaces maintained free of tripping and slipping hazards?	_____	_____
Is your “housekeeping” preventing the accumulation of materials?	_____	_____
Are all building exits clear of obstruction?	_____	_____
Do you have all exits adequately marked and lighted and other doors identified?	_____	_____
Is all electrical equipment either double insulated or grounded?	_____	_____
Do you inspect extension cords regularly and replace those that are worn or broken?	_____	_____
Have employees been told not to use gasoline for cleaning purposes, including hands?	_____	_____
Do you have emergency phone numbers posted?	_____	_____
Is at least one employee trained in first aid if emergency medical help is not close at hand?	_____	_____
Is eye protection used during all dismantling operations?	_____	_____
Are there handrails on all stairs with four or more risers?	_____	_____

**Health & Safety****YES****NO**

Is the “No Smoking” rule enforced and are “No Smoking” signs posted near gas and chemical storage and areas where work is done on batteries? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the battery charging area well ventilated and away from flammable liquids? \_\_\_\_\_

Are compressed gas cylinders separated by a non-combustible barrier and securely held in a cart or against a wall or work bench to prevent them from falling? \_\_\_\_\_

Are all solvent-soaked, greasy, oily rags kept in a storage (metal) container with a closed lid? \_\_\_\_\_

Are flammable liquids properly stored? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have the proper type of fire extinguisher for the type of fire which might occur at your facility? \_\_\_\_\_

Are extinguishers mounted at the correct heights for their weight? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a monthly program to inspect fire extinguishers for proper location and their operating order? \_\_\_\_\_

If your employees are expected to use fire extinguishers do they know where the fire extinguishers are located and how to use them? \_\_\_\_\_

If you have 10 or more employees, do you keep the required injury and illness records? \_\_\_\_\_

Are all vent pipes located so vapors do not discharge inside buildings or become trapped under a roof? \_\_\_\_\_

If respirators are used, is there a respirator program (including training, cleaning, fit-testing, medical surveillance, air monitoring and program review)? \_\_\_\_\_

Is localized exhaust ventilation used when welding in ceiling heights of 16 ft or less? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the welding area separated from other work areas by welding curtains? \_\_\_\_\_

Are all rotating pulleys, belts, wheels, etc. properly guarded? \_\_\_\_\_

Is the safety let or hoist safety pin always properly positioned when using lifts? \_\_\_\_\_

**Health & Safety**

**YES      NO**

Are your lifts inspected and maintained on a monthly basis?      \_\_\_\_\_

When using the lift, is each vehicle checked for proper positioning just after wheels have left the floor?      \_\_\_\_\_

Are support stands always used after the vehicle has been raised with a hydraulic jack?      \_\_\_\_\_

Is a battery carrier strap used when removing batteries?      \_\_\_\_\_

Are all walking surfaces such as aisles and dismantling bays free from clutter and obstruction?      \_\_\_\_\_

Are all restrooms maintained in a clean, orderly, and sanitary condition?      \_\_\_\_\_

Have all workers been trained on the safe use of chemicals, signs and symptoms of overexposure and what to do in the case of a spill?      \_\_\_\_\_

If you have 5 or more employees, is there a health & safety committee meeting quarterly (this is recommended/not required)?      \_\_\_\_\_

If you have 10 or more employees is there a written health & safety program (this is recommended/not required)?      \_\_\_\_\_

*If you answered NO to any of these questions, consider what improvements you can make in your operations in order to satisfy these VOSHA concerns.*

For more information call the health & safety experts at:

**VOSHA's Project WorkSAFE**

VT Department of Labor & Industry (Safety Consultation Program)

**800-287-2765**

VT Department of Health (Occupational Health Consultation Program)

**800-640-0601**