

Employee Profile -Mark Smiddy

Mark has been with Marion for eight years and is the new field service supervisor in our Knoxville office. As a project manager, he will oversee jobs of all scopes and sizes. Not that this is a new role for Mark. He has already proven himself a natural leader.

Throughout his time here at Marion, Mark has demonstrated an excellent work ethic, smart decision-making in the field, and a propensity for completing work ahead of schedule. Clients regularly compliment the quality of his work.

We are thrilled to have Mark in this new leadership role, and we know our clients will be just as pleased.

Marion Environmental Inc. is one of the leading providers of environmental consulting, remediation, and emergency response in the southeast. Our goal is to provide cost effective solutions to environmental problems.

Making *our* standard, industry standard.

EPA Must Revisit Cost Impact for Power Plant Pollution

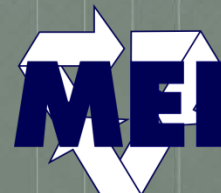
The U.S. Supreme Court ruled Monday, June 29, 2015 that the Environmental Protection Agency must further consider industry compliance costs stemming from the agency's latest anti-pollution standards against mercury and other toxic pollutants. The EPA's Mercury and Air Toxic Standards, adopted in 2012, aim for 75 percent reductions to power plant pollution, forcing utilities to install and operate equipment that removes mercury and fine particulate matter. The EPA pegged the power plants greening costs at about \$9.6 billion per year. "The Agency must consider cost—including, most importantly, cost of compliance—before deciding whether regulation is appropriate and necessary." Justice Antonin Scalia wrote in the 5-4 Supreme Court ruling.

US Approves Chemical Reform Bill

The US House of Representatives has approved a Bill that would update the nation's industrial chemical regulations for the first time in nearly 40 years. The Bill would make it easier for the EPA to request new safety data on chemicals and regulate chemicals already on the market. Manufacturers would also be allowed to petition the EPA to issue a ruling on the safety of the chemicals in their products. The legislation brings Congress another step closer to reforming the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

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Restart Change Hurt Safety

The restart changes in the hours-of-service rule in 2013 have been analyzed by the American Transportation Research Institute (ATRI) for safety and operational impacts from the 34-hour restart provision. It had been argued that the rule would mean putting more trucks on the road during peak morning traffic periods, and the research provides statistical evidence to back up this claim. After analyzing the truck GPS data, ATRI found the traffic has shifted from night and weekends to day causing more congestion during weekdays. The crash data analysis also showed a statistically significant increase in truck crashes after the July 1, 2013 rule change, specifically with injury and tow-away crashes. Dean Newell, a member of ATRI's research Advisory Committee said, "After many years of crash decreases, everyone knows our industry has experienced an uptick in crashes. This latest analysis from ATRI confirms both changes in operations and crash risk that seem associated with the restart rule. Regulations should serve to improve safety, not create additional safety risks."



MEI Grain Mover

New Equipment

Another Guzzler has joined the Marion fleet.

Safety Tip

Beat the Heat

Whether you're working or playing outside in the summer, anybody not accustomed to the heat is at risk for a heat-related illness. Take steps to protect yourself:

- ✓ Wear appropriate clothing, including a wide-brimmed hat
- ✓ Take frequent water breaks
- ✓ Apply sunscreen with an SPF of at least 15
- ✓ Never leave kids or pets unattended in a vehicle

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