

OSHA Shipbreaking Fact Sheet



Description of the hazards of shipbreaking which involves the dismantling of obsolete vessels for scrap.

What is shipbreaking?

Shipbreaking is the process of dismantling an obsolete vessel's structure for scrapping or disposal. Conducted at a pier, drydock or dismantling slip, it includes a wide range of activities, from removing all gear and equipment to cutting down and recycling the ship's infrastructure. Shipbreaking is a challenging process, due to the structural complexity of the ships and the many environmental, safety, and health issues involved.

What are some of the hazards associated with shipbreaking?

Shipbreaking operations expose workers to a wide range of...