MSHA unveils new website; seeks feedback (Safety and Health) The Mine Safety and Health Administration is looking for feedback on its new website.

OSHA Releases FY 2015 Stats Showing An Increase In Whistleblower Claims (National Law Review) According to figures recently released by OSHA, there has been a general increase in the number of whistleblower cases filed in fiscal year 2015 (FY 2015), in comparison to the number of cases filed in FY 2014.

## **OIG Community Wide Interest**

<u>The Pentagon's top watchdog is resigning</u> (**Washington Post**) Jon Rymer, the Pentagon's Inspector General, announced his resignation Monday, saying he planned to return to the private sector.

Federal wastebook targets year-end spending, \$300K matchmaking study (Federal News Radio) A \$2.6 million National Institutes of Health weight loss program for truck drivers. A \$283,500 Defense Department study on the daily activities of a "gnatcatcher."

Revamping IRS Electronic Fraud Detection Could Waste \$18 Million a Year (Gov Exec) The Internal Revenue Service's attempt to update its fraud detection system could wind up wasting millions of dollars a year, a new audit finds.

<u>Pentagon Inspector General Jon Rymer resigning in January</u> (**Military Times**) The Defense Department's inspector general is stepping down after a little more than two years on the job.

## Gov't Wide Interest

Obama Calls for 1.3 Percent Raise With Locality Pay (Daily Labor Report) Under an alternative pay schedule issued by President Barack Obama Nov. 30, federal employees in January would receive an average pay increase of 1.3 percent, including a 1 percent across-the-board pay increase and a 0.3 percent locality pay increase.

McCarthy predicts no gov't shutdown over Planned Parenthood (Federal News Radio) A top House leader predicted Monday that Washington will avoid stumbling into a government shutdown next week over a tea party-backed drive to take away Planned Parenthood's funding.

<u>Lawmakers Ask If Policy Limiting 'Burrowing In' Of Political Appointees Has Worked</u>
(**Gov Exec**) Four Republican lawmakers on Monday asked the Government Accountability Office to review whether a 2010 policy designed to limit the "burrowing in" of political appointees to career civil service jobs has been effective.