

## Keeping EMS Professionals Prepared and Protected

### The Importance of Respiratory Protection on the Job

By Gary Dunn  
Avon Protection Systems

Emergency medical services (EMS) professionals face various situations each day and it's hard to anticipate what equipment will be needed to complete their jobs. Most of the equipment is used to provide patients with acute medical care and/or transport. However, personal safety is the first priority for EMS professionals. If these professionals don't have the appropriate equipment to keep themselves safe, then how will they be able to do their jobs?

Respiratory protection is a vital piece of equipment every EMS professional should have to protect against airborne pathogens, environmental conditions, and CBRN agents. Decision makers are faced with many options when making choices about which respiratory protection products best fit the needs of their individual facilities or departments. In order to appropriately outfit a team, there are numerous factors to consider and it's important to ensure the equipment is versatile, portable and easy to use. The following tips highlight some of the factors to consider when selecting the best respiratory protection products for EMS professionals.

#### Protection Against New Threats

Much of the respiratory protection equipment in use currently was procured post-9/11 — nearly a decade ago. EMS professionals should conduct an inventory on all respiratory protection equipment and assess if it is time to upgrade. During the past 10 years, new threats have developed and EMS professionals require new respiratory protection solutions that ensure protection against modern-day threats.



Avon Protection's NH15 CBRN escape hood in action

If it's determined that an upgrade is required, research various manufacturers to ensure your provider is creating the most leading-edge protection equipment. At a time when spending is under scrutiny and new threats are emerging every day, it's important to feel confident that your investment will last multiple years. For instance, Avon Protection Systems' plant in Cadillac, Mich., was built specifically for designing and manufacturing state-of-the-art respiratory protection solutions that provide maximum protection from today's threats. Additionally, all products are designed with the end user in mind and tested to provide superior comfort and ease of use.

#### The Right Protection for the Right Situation

Buying one product to cover all respiratory hazards isn't necessarily the best approach — it would be far too costly and the equipment itself would be more than what is needed to do the job. The best way to approach the procurement of personal protection equipment is to purchase a variety of protection options relevant to the circumstances the team typically operates in and the likelihood of encountering specific agents.

For example, a full-face respirator isn't necessary for all CBRN situations an EMS professional could encounter; in fact, it would be very costly if a department had to purchase several. Instead, a one-time-use CBRN escape hood provides the necessary level of protection for many users without the cost or fit-testing requirements of a full-face respirator. ▶24

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**Portability is Key**

EMS professionals have to carry a vast amount of equipment. Because of this, it is vital that respiratory protection products are portable, lightweight, and easy to store and access. Many manufacturers are working on products that are compact, lightweight and easy to carry.

The Avon NH15 escape hood is a compact NIOSH-approved CBRN escape hood. It provides multiple carry options, including multiple belt and shoulder carrying configurations. It also has a thigh-mounting option for those with crowded utility belts, delivering improved hood access in the event of a respiratory threat. There also is a wall-mounted storage cabinet for group protection.

**Make it Easy**

Many respiratory protection products require professionals to receive training before being able to use the equipment. The best products are

ones that require minimal training and are easy to use. Since there isn't a lot of warning before a threat occurs, it's important that professionals are able to quickly and properly protect themselves.

The NH15 allows users to achieve critical CBRN respiratory protection within 20 seconds of opening the protective packaging and donning the reflective hood. With minimal packaging, no maintenance, no OSHA fit testing and low cost of ownership, the NH15 can provide five years of maintenance-free respiratory protection.

**Reduce Burden**

Respiratory protection equipment is not the most comfortable gear to wear. Some products meet safety standards but do not provide users with added comfort. While



**Look for Respiratory Protection from ISEA Members**

Protection Update readers are encouraged to specify respiratory protection and respiratory protective escape devices from the following ISEA members:

- **3M Company** ([www.3M.com](http://www.3M.com))
- **Avon-ISI** ([www.avon-protection.com](http://www.avon-protection.com))
- **Bullard** ([www.bullard.com](http://www.bullard.com))
- **Draeger Safety, Inc.** ([www.draeger.com](http://www.draeger.com))
- **Honeywell Safety Products** ([www.artandscienceofsafety.com](http://www.artandscienceofsafety.com))
- **Kimberly-Clark Professional** ([www.kcprofessional.com](http://www.kcprofessional.com))
- **Mine Safety Appliances Company** ([www.msanet.com](http://www.msanet.com))
- **Moldex-Metric Inc.** ([www.moldex.com](http://www.moldex.com))
- **Scott Health & Safety** ([www.scotthealthsafety.com](http://www.scotthealthsafety.com))
- **U.S. Safety** ([www.ussafety.com](http://www.ussafety.com))

standards are critical, overall user comfort also plays a large role in ensuring the job gets done. Seek products that are designed to improve overall user comfort and well-being, as this is vital in helping professionals respond to emergency situations more effectively.

For added user comfort, Avon designed the NH15 with twin filters to reduce breathing resistance, a clear hood with anti-fog eye lenses, a reflective label on the hood for easy user identification, and a self-adjusting harness to fit personnel with various hair styles.

**Utilize DHS Funding**

It's not mandatory for personal protection manufacturers to receive NIOSH or NFPA certification for respiratory protection equipment. However, there are two benefits to purchasing products with this type of certification.

First, products that are certified by these organizations have been tested and approved to provide the highest-quality protection. An example is Avon's NH15 escape hood, which was awarded full NIOSH Air Purifying Escape Respirator (APER) approval (TC-14G-0302).

Secondly, today it is more important than ever to stretch dollars and maximize purchases in order to provide professionals with the best equipment. Departments and facilities can apply for Department of Homeland Security grant funding when they purchase products that have received full approval and have a NIOSH or NFPA certification tag code. ●



**Protection Update**

is intended for anyone who specifies, purchases or uses personal protective equipment, and those who regulate it.

**Protection Update** is available via ISEA's website, [www.safetysafetyequipment.org](http://www.safetysafetyequipment.org).

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## ISEA SETS THE STANDARDS

# New ISEA Standard Classifies Chemical Protective Clothing

By Christine Z. Fargo

International Safety Equipment Association

**W**orkers exposed to chemical hazards on the job have a new tool to select the right protective clothing with the publication of a standard from ISEA.

The *American National Standard for Classification and Performance Requirements for Chemical Protective Clothing* (ANSI/ISEA 103-2010) is the first U.S. standard to address the protective apparel needs of workers who require protection from chemical hazards every day.

ANSI/ISEA 103-2010 was developed by ISEA's Protective Apparel Group and was reviewed by a consensus panel representing chemical and safety professionals, testing facilities, waste management and remediation providers, and government agencies.

"The immediate benefit of this standard is that it provides the end-user with a tool that can assist them in choosing apparel that is matched to the hazards they face," said Charlie Roberson, vice president of international sales at Lakeland Industries, Ronkonkoma, N.Y., and past chairman of the ISEA Protective Apparel Group.

The standard establishes six categories of protective clothing, from gas-tight suits to partial body liquid-resistant wear. There are performance tests for the materials and whole garments in each category, as well as labeling and certification requirements.

For users and specifiers, there is a decision logic providing guidance on the selection of appropriate garments based on hazards in the working environment, and descriptions of the performance tests.

The standard can be purchased from ISEA for \$53 a copy; discounts are available on bulk orders. Visit [www.safetysystem.org](http://www.safetysystem.org).

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

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## Look for Protective Apparel from ISEA Members

*Protection Update* readers are encouraged to specify protective apparel from the following ISEA members:

- **3M Company** ([www.3M.com](http://www.3M.com))
- **Ansell Protective Products** ([www.ansell.com](http://www.ansell.com))
- **DuPont Personal Protection** ([www.2.dupont.com/Personal\\_Protection\\_Global/en\\_US](http://www.2.dupont.com/Personal_Protection_Global/en_US))
- **Gentex Corporation** ([www.gentexcorp.com](http://www.gentexcorp.com))
- **International Enviroguard Systems, Inc.** ([www.int-enviroguard.com](http://www.int-enviroguard.com))
- **Kappler, Inc.** ([www.kappler.com](http://www.kappler.com))
- **Kimberly-Clark Professional** ([www.kcprofessional.com](http://www.kcprofessional.com))
- **Lakeland Industries, Inc.** ([www.lakeland.com](http://www.lakeland.com))
- **NASCO Industries, Inc.** ([www.nascoinc.com](http://www.nascoinc.com))
- **Sperian Fire Protective Apparel** ([www.sperian.com](http://www.sperian.com))
- **True North** ([www.truenorthgear.com](http://www.truenorthgear.com))

## Order Complete Set of ANSI/ISEA Standards at Deep Discount

ISEA is offering a complete set of its American National Standards at 30 percent off the price of purchasing the publications individually. For \$325 including shipping, safety officers can get all the following publications in a convenient three-ring binder:

- *American National Standard for Limited-Use and Disposable Coveralls - Size and Labeling Requirements*, ANSI/ISEA 101-1996 (R2008)
- *American National Standard for Classification and Performance Requirements for Chemical Protective Clothing*, ANSI/ISEA 103-2010
- *American National Standard for Gas Detector Tube Units - Short Term Type for Toxic Gases and Vapors in Working Environments*, ANSI/ISEA 102-1990 (R2009)
- *American National Standard for Air Sampling Devices - Diffusive Type for Gases and Vapors in Working Environments*, ANSI/ISEA 104-1998 (R2009)
- *American National Standard for Hand Protection Selection Criteria*, ANSI/ISEA 105-2005
- *American National Standard for High Visibility Safety Apparel and Headwear*, ANSI/ISEA 107-2010
- *American National Standard for Air-Purifying Respiratory Protective Smoke Escape Devices*, ANSI/ISEA 110-2009
- *American National Standard for Fixed and Portable Decontamination Shower Units*, ANSI/ISEA 113-2008
- *American National Standard for High Visibility Public Safety Vests*, ANSI/ISEA 207-2006
- *American National Standard for Occupational and Educational Personal Eye and Face Protection Devices*, ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2010.
- *American National Standard for Industrial Head Protection*, ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2009
- *American National Standard - Minimum Requirements for Workplace First Aid Kits and Supplies*, ANSI/ISEA Z308.1-2009
- *American National Standard for Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment*, ANSI/ISEA Z358.1-2009

Order online or download a faxable order form at [www.safetysystem.org](http://www.safetysystem.org).

## SPOTLIGHT ON...



# Tingley Rubber

**Where is Tingley Rubber based, how many employees do you have, and what are your product lines and geographical marketplace?**

Tingley Rubber is based in South Plainfield, NJ. We have about 50 employees and a national network of sales reps. Tingley Products are sold primarily in the United States, with additional markets in Canada and Mexico. Our product offering consists of liquid-proof protective footwear and clothing including rubber, polyvinyl chloride (PVC), and neoprene boots and overshoes, polyurethane, PVC and neoprene protective clothing, and our new Job Sight line of high-visibility apparel.

**What is Tingley Rubber's history, where did it start, and why?**

Tingley Rubber was founded in 1896 by C.O. Tingley, who started the business in New Jersey selling rubber bicycle tire plugs. Over time we have diversified the product line by producing the first unlined stretch rubber overshoe along with other waterproof footwear and clothing products. Today, Tingley is a fourth-generation family business with a broad offering of waterproof protective footwear and clothing products.

**How would you describe Tingley Rubber's mission?**

We say that behind every Tingley product is a 115-year tradition of quality and excellence. We strive for unsurpassed customer service and guarantee customers satisfaction.

**What are your primary markets and how, in brief, do you strive to meet their needs?**

Tingley products are widely used in many industries such as agriculture, construction, utility, transportation, petrochemical and food processing. Our new line of Job Sight high-visibility apparel complements our line of footwear and clothing products to provide protection for today's workers and their high-visibility needs.

**If prospects want to check out Tingley Rubber products, where would they find them?**

We suggest that people visit our website at [www.tingleyrubber.com](http://www.tingleyrubber.com) or call 800-631-5498. In addition, you can search "Tingley Rubber" on Google or Amazon, and you will find many of our products on distributors' websites. Tingley has a national network of industrial, safety and consumer distributors.

**Why should someone who needs safety equipment obtain it from your company?**

We pride ourselves on our product quality, performance, functionality and customer service. Our products are among the best fitting in the marketplace. Industry surveys show that if safety apparel is not comfortable, workers will resist wearing it. Our products are designed for functionality and comfort.

**What is the key feature that differentiates your company from the others making and selling safety equipment?**

Tingley Rubber is an ISO 9001:2008-certified company. We have conducted in-depth research of the marketplace and developed our products based on customers' feedback, especially our new Job Sight high-visibility apparel line. The quality management principles of ISO 9001:2008 emphasize the involvement of employees at all levels, continuous improvement and customer focus. The ISO certification allows Tingley to be recognized nationally and internationally for the quality of our management systems. As part of the ISO certification our management systems are monitored by internal and external auditors.

**Describe at least one Tingley product that offers unique performance characteristics not found elsewhere?**

Our Icon 3.1 jacket is an innovative, multi-purpose, high-visibility product that allows the customer to adapt the jacket so that it can be worn year round in any type of weather. The jacket is ANSI/ISEA 107 class 3-compliant for high visibility, with an outer shell that is both waterproof and breathable. The jacket is loaded with special features, including pockets and multiple adjustments that allow the user to customize the fit. A removable fleece liner allows the jacket to be adapted for any season. ●



**Tingley footwear and clothing are designed for functionality and comfort.**



"Spotlight on..." highlights an ISEA member company that is working hard to ensure that workers are protected by world-class safety equipment. Answers to questions about Tingley Rubber were provided by Brian Nutt, product manager, [bnutt@tingleyrubber.com](mailto:bnutt@tingleyrubber.com), 800-631-5498 x249.

## ISEA Recognizes VPPPA's Layne for Contributions to Worker Safety

R. Davis Layne, executive director of the Voluntary Protection Program Participants' Association, Inc. (VPPPA), is the 2010 recipient of the International Safety Equipment Association's (ISEA's) Robert B. Hurley Distinguished Service Award. The award was presented at ISEA's Fall Meeting in November 2010.

Layne joined VPPPA in January 2005 after a distinguished career as a U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) official. Starting in 1971, he served as an area director, deputy regional administrator, OSHA regional administrator, and was named deputy assistant secretary for OSHA in 1999. In 2001, Layne also served as acting assistant secretary of labor for OSHA, where he managed all agency operations and a nationwide staff of 2,200.

"Worker safety has been Davis' lifelong calling," said ISEA President Dan Shipp in

conferring the award at the association's 2010 fall meeting. "It would be impossible to calculate the number of worker lives saved or injuries that have been prevented through his efforts, which date back even before his OSHA career when he was involved in safety with the U.S. Army Materiel Command Field Service Agency."

Falls Church, Va.-based VPPPA is the leading organization dedicated to cooperative occupational safety, health and environmental management systems. It provides a network for 2,100-plus companies and work-sites that are involved in or in the process of applying to OSHA's or the Department of Energy's (DOE's) Voluntary Protection Programs, and other government agencies that are developing or implementing cooperative recognition programs. VPPPA works closely with OSHA, OSHA state-plan states, and with the DOE and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in the development and implementation of cooperative programs within the agencies.

The Hurley award is given annually to an individual who has dedicated his or her professional life to worker safety and health. Hurley was a long-time safety product manufacturing executive who died in 2002. ●



R. Davis Layne

## Monitor PPE Developments @ 'Safety Signals' Blog



You can stay abreast of the latest developments in the world of personal protective equipment by checking out the International Safety Equipment Association's (ISEA's) blog at [www.SafetySignals.org](http://www.SafetySignals.org).

There you will find information and opinion about personal protective technologies and markets, standards, government affairs involving PPE, ISEA and its members.

"You can subscribe through RSS and be notified any time there is a new article," said ISEA President Dan Shipp.

"If you are a member of the LinkedIn community and want to join the ISEA LinkedIn network, you will find it at <http://safetysignals.org>." ●

## What You May Not Know About Being an ISEA Member

Did you know that as an ISEA member, your company would have access free to a weekly newsletter that provides timely, actionable, business decision-making information?

The ISEA *Market Intelligence Digest* is delivered to ISEA members' — and only members' — email boxes every Monday throughout the year. It gives safety equipment industry companies the scoop about new business opportunities, what their competition is doing, how federal and state regulators and other key players are shaping the worker safety environment, and what is happening in worker safety worldwide.



If your company makes or distributes safety equipment, is not an ISEA member already, and would like a free, two-month trial subscription to the *Market Intelligence Digest*, email ISEA Marketing Communications Advisor Joe Walker, [jwalker@safetysignals.org](mailto:jwalker@safetysignals.org).

ISEA members also have an opportunity to participate in confidential market data programs that provide them

with information on the size of and movements in the U.S./Canadian marketplaces for various products and where they stand against the overall competition.

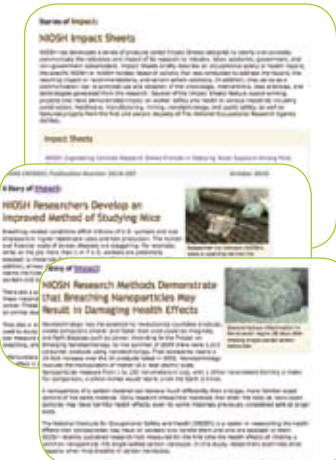
If you would like to learn more about these and many other valuable benefits of ISEA membership, contact ISEA President Dan Shipp, [dshipp@safetysignals.org](mailto:dshipp@safetysignals.org) or 703-525-1695. ●

# MAKING WORKERS SAFER AROUND THE NATION



## MSA's Ultima X gas monitors from their X-change program

## Web pages from NIOSH's Impact Sheets series



## OSHA's Worker Alert on diacetyl exposure



## Rules to Live By II from MSHA's Web site

## International Safety Equipment Association member Mine Safety Appliances Co.

— [www.msanorthamerica.com](http://www.msanorthamerica.com) — has introduced the following services to help make workers safer:

- A white paper covering frequently asked questions (FAQ) about the updated *American National Standard for Occupational and Educational Personal Eye and Face Protection Devices*, ANSI/ISEA Z87.1-2010. The FAQ covers why the standard has been changed, significant changes, and how they will affect users and employers, and an explanation of the company's product compliance.
- The Ultima® X Series Sensor X-Change program, which lets users receive replacement calibrated sensors for Ultima X gas monitors on demand. Sensors arrive prior to Ultima X gas monitor's scheduled calibration due date for easy installation and minimal downtime. For more information, see MSA bulletin #07-2142.

## The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration

— [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) — has issued two directives updating its National Emphasis Program (NEP) on Shipbreaking and its enforcement Guidance for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) in Shipyard Employment.

Shipbreaking is the process of dismantling a vessel's structure for scrapping or disposal. Under the directive, shipbreaking inspectors focus on 20 worker safety and health issues, including asbestos and lead exposure, confined spaces, heavy metals, powered industrial trucks, guarding of deck edges, oil/fuel removal and tank cleaning, hearing conservation, fire prevention, scaffolds, cutting and welding, and PPE.

The shipyard employment directive on PPE includes employer requirements to pay for certain PPE; steel-toed rubber boots, goggles, hard hats, hearing protection and respirators are some of the items employers must provide free of charge. The revised Web-based directive also describes equipment that employers do not have to pay for, including ordinary clothing used as protection from weather, and non-specialty prescription safety eyewear.

The revised shipyard guidance also recognizes consensus standards updates in OSHA's September 2009 final rule, *Updating OSHA*

## Standards Based on National Consensus Standards: Personal Protection Equipment.

In another action to enhance worker safety, OSHA issued a new Safety and Health Information Bulletin and companion "Worker Alert" recommending that employers use safety measures to prevent exposing workers to the potentially fatal health effects of butter flavorings and other flavoring substances containing diacetyl or its substitutes.

Diacetyl is a chemical that adds flavor and aroma to food. Some workers who breathe diacetyl on the job have become disabled or have died from severe lung disease. OSHA strongly recommends that all flavoring and food manufacturers implement applicable recommendations regarding engineering and work practice control measures, medical surveillance, workplace monitoring, and use of appropriate PPE to minimize worker exposure to flavoring substances.

## The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)

— [www.cdc.gov/niosh](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh) — has developed a series of "Impact Sheets" to communicate the relevance and impact of its research to industry, labor, academic, government, and non-government stakeholders. Available from the Web site, these "Sheets describe occupational safety or health hazards, specific NIOSH or NIOSH-funded research activities conducted to address the hazards, and resulting recommendations," NIOSH said. Topics of potential interest include reducing noise exposure, breathing nanoparticles, protecting EMS responders, the business case for safety/health, and fall protection.

## The U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration

— [www.msha.gov](http://www.msha.gov) — has launched the second phase of its outreach and enforcement program to strengthen efforts to prevent mining fatalities. "Rules to Live By II: Preventing Catastrophic Accidents" was developed from data generated by reviewing accidents that resulted in five or more fatalities, as well as from incidents caused by fires or explosions that had the potential to result in more fatalities.

As with the initial "Rules to Live By" initiative, MSHA has begun with outreach to the mining community. Enforcement personnel are focusing more attention on standards that were cited frequently in fatal accident

investigations from 2000 to 2008, with the goal to prevent major accidents that could be disasters.

MSHA also has launched an initiative to call special attention to the potential dangers that shuttle cars and scoops pose in underground coal mines. Using the slogan "Watch Out!," MSHA has developed posters, hard hat stickers and best practice resources to address worker safety around shuttle cars and scoops, which transport material from one area of the mine to another, operating in close quarters and tight travel ways. When these vehicles are loaded, a driver's view of the travel way may be obstructed, making movement dangerous and presenting serious hazards to other working miners.

**The American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine's Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (JOEM)** (December 2010) — [www.acoem.org](http://www.acoem.org) — reports that to meet their goal of lowering health care costs, worksite health promotion programs must be well implemented and have strong management support. If either element is missing, health care costs may actually increase, according to an in-depth evaluation of health promotion programs and practices at diversified manufacturer PPG Industries.

Also from **JOEM** (August 2010) is a study reporting that exposure to high levels of ultrafine particles — invisible particles that can reach the smallest air passages in the lungs — may be an important contributor to risk of coronary heart disease in firefighters.

New from the **American Industrial Hygiene Association** — [www.aiha.org](http://www.aiha.org) — are standards that:

- Describe good practices related to portable ventilation systems used for the control of airborne contaminants or environmental conditions (Portable Ventilation Systems, ANSI/AIHA Z9.9-2010), and
- Establish minimum requirements for dilution ventilation systems used for control of employee exposure to harmful airborne substances in the industrial environment (*Fundamentals Governing the Design and Operation of Dilution Ventilation Systems in Industrial Occupancies*, ANSI-AIHA Z9.10-2010).

### New from the American Society of Safety Engineers — [www.asse.org](http://www.asse.org) — are:

- **Eye Safety At-a-Glance: Protecting Your Vision at Work**, a brochure providing information about eye injuries in a variety of work settings, and measures to ensure safety by complying with government regulations for eyewear and emergency eyewash stations. ASSE released the publication in cooperation with The Vision Council, [www.thevisioncouncil.org](http://www.thevisioncouncil.org).

- An "Ergonomics Tip Sheet," which suggests 10 simple ways to increase ergonomic safety and comfort in the workplace and home office.

### The LifeLines online newsletter of the Laborers Health and Safety Fund of North America — [www.lhsfna.org](http://www.lhsfna.org) —

offers "15 Things Supervisors Can Do to Prevent Falls," including five each of (1) Things to Do Today, (2) Ways to Supervise, and (3) Things to Tell Your Workers. LHSFNA's first fall-prevention poster, "There's No Excuse for Not Using Fall Protection," is available from the Fund's online catalog.

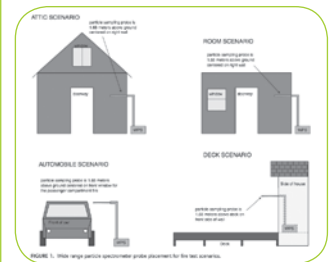
New from the **Mayo Clinic** — [www.mayoclinic.com](http://www.mayoclinic.com) — is "Office ergonomics: Your how-to guide," which is an online visual guide to creating an ergonomic office. Move the mouse pointer over the labels on the image to learn about proper office positioning for comfort and safety.

**The National Safety Council** — [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org) — has unveiled NSC Navigator, a web-based system that enables organizations to better manage safety management systems and measure performance. The suite helps organizations maintain compliance with safety regulations and manage a process of sustainable improvement, NSC said.

**FDRSafety** — [www.fdrsafety.com](http://www.fdrsafety.com) — is offering a free checklist to conduct the OSHA-mandated assessment of workplaces for hazards that require the use of PPE. The checklist includes a form to make the OSHA-required certification that the assessment has been performed. FDRSafety is an occupational safety consulting firm based in Brentwood, Tenn. ●



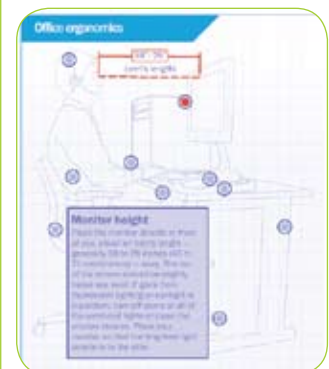
**Eye protection booklet from ASSE**



**Graphic from JOEM's report on exposure to ultrafine particles**



**LHSFNA's new fall protection poster**



**Interactive diagram from Mayo Clinic's ergonomics guide.**

## CONSTRUCTION CORNER



## OSHA Acts to Require Fall Protection for Residential Roofing Workers

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) — [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) — has published a directive withdrawing a former one that allowed residential builders to bypass fall protection requirements.

“The directive being replaced, issued in 1995, initially was intended as a temporary policy and was the result of concerns about

the feasibility of fall protection in residential building construction,” OSHA said. “However, there continues to be a high number of fall-related deaths in construction, and industry experts now feel that feasibility is no longer an issue or concern.”

Dan Shipp, president of the International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA), added: “We applaud this important action and expect that it will save hundreds of lives. Hardly a week passes that we don’t hear about a life lost because a residential construction worker wasn’t wearing fall protection. ISEA member companies have introduced many innovative solutions over the past 15 years to make it easy to protect home construction workers against falls, rendering such tragedies entirely avoidable.” ●

### OSHA Fact Sheets Assist with Cranes, Derricks Rule Compliance



OSHA also has posted two new fact sheets to provide

assistance complying with the new Cranes and Derricks in Construction Final Rule. The “Qualified Rigger” sheet is a guide for determining if a worker is qualified to properly rig the load for a particular job. The “Signal Person” sheet explains the qualifications for a worker whose job is to direct a crane operator under conditions such as when the crane’s point of operation is not in full view of the operator or the operator’s view is obstructed in the direction the equipment is traveling.

The final rule is posted online and includes additional fact sheets, a PowerPoint presentation, and answers to frequently asked questions. The rule affects approximately 267,000 construction, crane rental and crane certification establishments with about 4.8 million workers. ●

## CPWR Offers New Resources to Improve Construction Worker Safety, Health

CPWR — The Center for Construction Research and Training ([www.cpwr.com](http://www.cpwr.com)) offers two new resources to improve construction worker safety, as follows:

- A report that assesses the coming tide of green construction jobs with the goal of looking for opportunities to elevate worker health and safety as a priority in the green building sector. “Green and Healthy Jobs” is written by Helen Chen, J.D., M.S., of the University of California at Berkeley’s Labor Occupational Health Program.
- A CPWR-funded study, published in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, which found that more effective dissemination of information to bricklayers and mason tenders on best practices to prevent musculoskeletal disorders (MSDs) can lead to greater use of products, equipment and work practices to reduce MSDs. Bricklayers have the highest rate of back injuries and mason tenders have the highest rate of overexertion injuries in the construction industry. ●

### CSDA/OSHA Alliance Releases Toolbox Safety Talk, Electrical Safety Best Practice

The alliance between the Concrete Sawing & Drilling Association (CSDA) and OSHA has released a Toolbox Safety Talk entitled “Sprains and Strains Prevention (CSDA-OTST-1001),” and a Best Practice entitled “Electrical Safety (CSDA-OBP-1004).”

The Toolbox Safety Talk details safe working practices to reduce the likelihood of sprains and strains, and identifies common mistakes when moving objects in the workplace. The Electrical Safety Best Practice includes guidelines and preventive maintenance tips that should be applied to every workday.

### Latest Offerings from NRMCA focus on Welding, Emergency Plans

The National Ready Mixed Concrete Association — [www.nrmca.org](http://www.nrmca.org) — has released two new safety-related publications. *Welding Safety for the Ready Mixed Concrete Industry (#19)* and *Emergency Plans for the Ready Mixed Concrete Industry (#20)* are both CD-based PowerPoint presentations with instructor notes.

### New AEM Compact Excavator Safety Manual

The Association of Equipment Manufacturers — [www.aem.org](http://www.aem.org) — has updated its compact excavator safety manual and now offers a new Spanish/English version, as well. Visit <http://shop.aem.org>. ●

## OSHA \$100,000 CLUB OF SAFETY CITATIONS

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) proposed penalties of \$100,000 or more during the Sept. 1 – Dec. 31, 2010, period for the following alleged failures to protect workers from potential hazards, including many that could have been avoided or mitigated by personal protective equipment (PPE). Companies have 15 business days from receipt of citations and fines to request and participate in informal conferences with OSHA or to contest the citations before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

- Whitesell Corp., \$3,071,500 for 72 safety and health violations for exposing workers to amputation hazards and other problems at manufacturing plants in Tuscumbia and Muscle Shoals, Ala. "Whitesell willfully tampered with the safety mechanisms of its hydraulic forging presses at its Tuscumbia plant to speed up production, resulting in the amputation of a worker's hand," said Labor Secretary Hilda Solis. "Companies like Whitesell that value short-term gain over their workers' safety will be held responsible for their reckless actions." The Tuscumbia plant makes parts used in auto, lawn care and home appliance industries, and the Muscle Shoals plant makes fasteners.
- Black Mag LLC, \$1,232,500 for 54 workplace safety and health violations at the company's gun powder substitute manufacturing operation in Colebrook, N.H. OSHA investigated following an explosion that took the lives of two workers who had been on the job for only a month. "The fines levied here pale in comparison to the value of the two lives lost," said Solis. "Nonetheless, this was a tragedy that easily could have been prevented had the employer valued the health and safety of its employees."
- U.S. Minerals LLC, Dyer, Ind., \$1,245,800 for exposing workers to safety and health hazards at four facilities. Citations included exposure to high levels of hazardous dust and not providing adequate breathing protection to workers; facilities in Baldwin (\$466,400) and Coffeen (\$396,000), Ill., were cited, along with facilities in Galveston, Texas (\$273,000), and Harvey, La. (\$110,400). The privately held company makes abrasive blasting and roofing materials.
- Goodman Manufacturing Co. LP, \$1,215,000 for 83 willful citations for failing to record and improperly recording work-related injuries and illnesses at the company's Houston air conditioning cooling facility.
- WRR Environmental Services Co., \$787,000 for failing to implement measures to prevent potentially catastrophic chemical fires and explosions at its hazardous waste processing facility in Eau Claire, Wis. OSHA investigated after an explosion and fire at the facility.
- U.S. Postal Service, \$735,000 for violations, including failure to provide PPE and exposure to electrical hazards, at mail processing and distribution facilities in Bluefield, W.Va. (\$287,000); Shrewsbury, Mass. (\$238,000), and Columbus, Ohio (\$210,000).
- Excelsior Brass Works, \$550,400 for knowingly exposing workers to lead hazards and violating federal workplace safety and health standards at its Blandon, Pa., facility.
- MDLG, doing business as Phenix Lumber Co., \$439,400 for safety and health violations found following the death of one worker and the critical injury to a second at its Phenix City, Ala., operation.
- Gerardi Sewer & Water Co., Norridge, Ill., \$360,000 for failing to protect workers from cave-ins during trenching operations in the Illinois villages of Elmhurst, Park Ridge, Oak Lawn and Des Plaines.
- Aerospace/Defense Coatings of Georgia Inc., Macon, Ga., \$300,400 after a complaint-prompted investigation concerning PPE and the handling, storing and disposing of chemicals.
- Two Missouri contractors, Kirberg Roofing Inc., Kansas City, and Davila Sheet Metal Co. Inc., Raytown, \$295,000 for fall protection deficiencies following an investigation into the death of a Kirberg construction worker who fell through a roof opening at a site where both companies were working; OSHA proposed \$150,000 against Kirberg and \$145,000 against Davila.
- Wiregrass Construction Co. Inc., Ariton, Ala., \$287,500 for exposing workers to excavation hazards while installing a storm water sewer junction box.
- Republic Engineered Products Inc., \$299,000 for violations, including exposing workers to fall hazards, at its steel manufacturing operations in Canton (\$156,000) and Lorain (\$143,000), Ohio.
- Interstate Brands Corp., \$274,500 for failing to properly train workers who operated powered industrial trucks, and protect worker from electrical shock hazards and high-speed rotating equipment at its bakery in Schiller Park, Ill.
- Weatherford International Ltd., \$261,500 for violations involving hexavalent chromium exposure at the company's facility in Longview, Texas, that makes oil well components.
- Art Horizons Inc., Batesville, Miss., \$228,320 for 34 safety and health violations at its picture frame manufacturing plant.
- Painting and Decorating Inc., Ronkonkoma, N.Y., \$225,200 for failing to properly erect scaffolds and provide fall protection for workers at two Kings Point, N.Y., job sites.
- Cooper Tire & Rubber Co., \$213,500 for failing to provide hazardous chemical protection to workers and failing to provide proper fall protection at its Findlay, Ohio, operation.
- Simsmetal East LLC, doing business as Sims Metal Management, \$188,500 for lead exposure hazards at its Claremont Terminal site in Jersey City, N.J.
- Lowe's Home Centers Inc., \$182,000 for failure to document and report employee injuries and illnesses at its regional distribution center in Rockford, Ill.
- Precision Production Inc., \$149,250 for violations found at its fabricated components manufacturing plant in Cleveland.
- ABC Professional Tree Services Inc., Houston, \$146,000 for failing to ensure employees at a Morris, Ill., jobsite were trained to work near energized transmission and distribution lines.
- C&F Packing Co. Inc., \$140,700 for failing to ensure lock-out procedures and guarding devices were applied to machinery at its Lake Villa, Ill, meat plant.
- A. Bagnoli and Sons Inc., Poland, Ohio, \$140,000 for violations found after a worker was killed and another seriously injured at a company trenching operation in Hudson, Ohio.
- Amgraph Packaging Inc., \$137,250 for 60 safety

## SAFETY EQUIPMENT Works for You



### Pressurized Pipe Blows Cap; Safety Specs Save Sight, Possibly Life

"One morning I walked into Chrysler Corporation's Jefferson North Assembly plant (in Detroit)," wrote Bob Lazzari, U.S. Safety Regional Manager for Michigan and Ohio. "As I waited in the lobby, the safety rep greeted me. 'Follow me, you need to see something,' he said with a serious tone. I followed him and out of his desk he pulled a prescription safety frame with a slightly cracked lens.

"This pair of glasses saved an eye and possibly even a life," he said. A worker was unscrewing a cap off a pipe. What the worker did not realize is the cap was under pressure and was not hooked to a safety chain. As the cap was unscrewed, the pressure blew the steel cap — about as big as a softball and with a 1/4-inch-long piece sticking out of it — into the worker's eye and knocked him to the ground.

"All he received was a black eye. The safety lens and frame took the impact. The safety rep mentioned he was going to use the frame as a training tool. What a great feeling to know what the worker avoided by being responsible and wearing proper PPE," Lazzari said.

**Protective prescription eyewear by U.S. Safety, [www.ussafety.com](http://www.ussafety.com).**

### Hard Hat Saves Worker from Falling Concrete



Herschel C. Smith was about to pour concrete at a jobsite in downtown Seattle when suddenly a one-pound chunk of concrete toppled off of his boom 100 feet above and smashed into his protective helmet.

The concrete bounced off the hard hat, striking Smith's shoulder. The violent impact dented the helmet and even created a small hole, but Smith was spared a serious head injury. Smith wrote: "Upon inspection of the hard hat, I have no doubt that if I had not been wearing it or it was of lesser quality, the impact would surely have killed me. I would like to thank your company for manufacturing a quality product that saved my life."

**Skullgard® protective helmet by Mine Safety Appliances Co., [www.msanorthamerica.com](http://www.msanorthamerica.com).** ●

## OSHA \$100,000 CLUB *from page 31*

violations at its plant in Versailles, Conn., that makes and distributes packaging for food and tobacco products.

- Gleason Construction Co. Inc., Holland, Ohio, \$135,800 for exposing workers to trench cave-in hazards at two different excavation worksites.
- Pilgrim Pride Corp., \$135,500 for 29 safety and health violations at its food-processing operation in Russellville, Ala.
- Amtec Corp., \$134,400 for violations discovered following an explosion that killed two of the contractor's workers at the U.S. Army's Space & Missile Defense Command at Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Ala.
- Texas Linen Co. Ltd., \$126,400 for violations, including failure to provide fall protection, found during an inspection at the company's industrial laundry in Austin, Texas.
- Fortune Plastic and Metal Texas LLC, \$125,000 for violations, including lead exposure, found during an inspection at a company worksite in Dallas.
- Porta-King Building Systems, Montgomery City, Mo., \$124,000 for violations following a complaint-prompted inspection.
- Consolidated Blenders Inc., doing business as Shoftstall Alfalfa, \$120,600 for exposing workers to inadvertent machinery start-up and other hazards at its operation in Odessa, Neb.
- Richard Kaposy, doing business as Treeman Landscaping, Aliquippa, Pa., \$119,700 for violations following a worker electrocution at a worksite in the Pittsburgh suburb of

Bethel Park.

- Harbison-Walker Refractories Co., \$119,625 for 17 violations at the company's masonry block manufacturing facility in Vandalia, Mo.
- Columbia Forest Products Inc., \$119,500 for 15 violations found following the death of a worker at the company's Presque Isle, Maine, mill.
- Swain Construction, Omaha, Neb., \$118,350 for 15 violations involving failing to train workers on heavy equipment and other hazards.
- Igloo Products Corp., Katy, Texas, \$113,500 for 20 violations involving multiple hazards, including lack of PPE.
- DiPaolo Co., Glenview, Ill., \$113,000 for allowing workers at an Elgin, Ill., jobsite to perform trenching and excavation work without cave-in protection.
- Cathcart Contracting Co., Winter Springs, Fla., \$112,000 for exposing workers to cave-in hazards while installing a storm water junction box at a Lake Mary, Fla., worksite.
- U.S. Salt LLC, \$111,600 for 37 violations found during an inspection at its Watkins Glen, N.Y., plant that makes food- and pharmaceutical-grade salt.
- Barringer Brothers Roofing Inc., Belleville, Ill, \$106,400 for violations in connection with fall hazards at a residential roofing operation.
- Joseph P. Cardillo & Son Inc., Wakefield, Mass., \$106,200 for exposing workers to cave-in hazards at a Salem, N.H., worksite.

## Send Us Your 'Safety Equipment Works for You' Stories

**Protection Update** welcomes contributions from readers for our regular "Safety Equipment Works for You" feature. Email examples of where PPE has saved workers' lives or prevented injuries to Editor Joe Walker, [jwalker@safetysafetyequipment.org](mailto:jwalker@safetysafetyequipment.org), or mail them to the Editor, *Protection Update*, International Safety Equipment Association, 1901 N. Moore Street, Suite 808, Arlington, VA 22209. Photos are welcome.