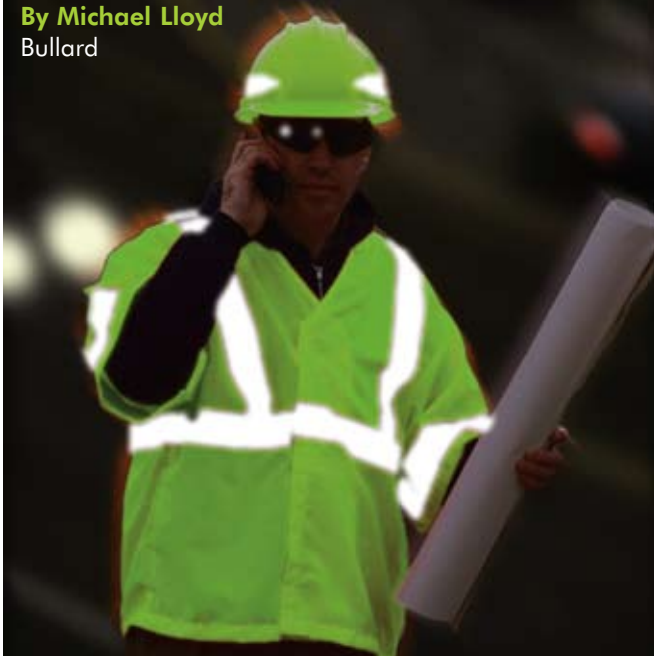


Being Visible Makes Sense

By Michael Lloyd Bullard



Workers need to be seen. Today, there are more solutions available than ever before to help protect our workers. One of the easiest ways to keep workers safe is to make them visible. Low visibility is one of the most serious dangers on a jobsite with workers sometimes standing less than 10 feet away from high-speed traffic, and other workers operating heavy equipment.

With all the worksite perils, what can we do to protect our workers? Three key strategies to keep workers safe on the job are increasing public awareness, offering worker training, and providing the best personal protective equipment (PPE) available.

Increasing Public Awareness

Thanks to organizations like the American Road and Transportation Builders Association and the Federal Highway Administration, public awareness of highway worker safety issues has been increasing. Both of the organizations sponsor national advertising campaigns that urge careful driving in work zones.

Offering Worker Training

Employers can help reduce risks by educating their workers on hazards in the workplace and training them to protect themselves. Remember, the unaware, speeding driver is not the only work hazard on a work site; other workers operating machinery or carrying heavy loads can just as easily cause injuries.

Providing the Right High-Visibility PPE

The International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) has two standards that apply to worker conspicuity. The *American National Standard for High Visibility Apparel and Headwear*, ANSI/ISEA 107-2004, offers a uniform, authoritative guide for the design, performance specifications, and use of high-visibility and reflective apparel and headwear. Required apparel must provide 360-degree visibility, day and night, to give workers a high level of conspicuity through the use of combined fluorescent and retro-reflective materials.

The newly updated *American National Standard* ▶46

Updated ISEA Head Protection Standard Includes Testing, Marking Features

The International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) has received American National Standards Institute (ANSI) approval for ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2009, *American National Standard for Industrial Head Protection*, which includes optional testing and marking features for head protection devices that reflect end-user preferences.

Most notable among these are specific testing parameters and marking for products that have high-visibility properties. "Given the focus that has been placed on worker visibility in recent times, it seemed logical to include high-visibility criteria for head protection devices," said Cristine Z. Fargo, ISEA manager of standards programs. "Hard hats continue to be one of the more popular PPE items in the workplace where both visibility and top of the head protection are needed. Including both criteria gives the end-user another tool for added protection." ▶46

INSIDE: FIVE THINGS YOU CAN LEARN ABOUT PROTECTING WORKERS

- 1 Hey Construction Pros —** Find solutions to your specific needs at a new Web site.
- 2 Who's Looking Out for You?** ISEA will ask OSHA to bar silica for blasting.
- 3 Make your job easier —** Seven ISEA members offer new PPE resources.
- 4 Hazmat help —** 26 chlorine safety pubs free online, more coming.
- 5 Neglect PPE? —** Face possible \$1 million-plus fine.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Michael Lloyd is product manager of Industrial Safety Products for Bullard, Cynthia, Ky. In addition to head protection, the ISEA member company makes eye/face and respiratory protection, and body temperature management products. Reach Lloyd at 859-234-6616 or michael_lloyd@bullard.com.

BEING VISIBLE

from page 45

for Industrial Head Protection, ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2009 (see separate article in this issue of *Protection Update*) now includes specific testing parameters and marking for head protection that has high-visibility properties.

Hard hats are required on almost every worksite, and more than 10 million are in use in North America. One option for increasing the visibility of the hard hat is using a high-visibility shell color. Orange is a common high-visibility color. However, with the need to have workers stand out from safety barrels and signs that typically are orange, other colors are recommended, such as green and yellow.

High-visibility striping is another way to make workers stand out. Hard hat striping that is reflective and/or fluorescent in color can provide enhanced worker visibility. The same highly reflective striping that is applied to clothing to meet the ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 standard also can be applied to hard hats. To achieve improved retro-re-

flectivity, use striping with a high candelas/lux/square meter (CPL) number. To achieve 360-degree reflectivity, add striping all the way around the brim of the hard hat. Many hard hat manufacturers will custom decorate caps by applying striping as well as logos.

Keeping Workers Safe is Everyone's Responsibility

In order to protect workers on a jobsite, worker safety must continue to remain on the public's conscience. The ANSI/ISEA 107-2004 and Z89.1 standards help, but will only have impact on worker safety if employers and employees comply with them. Company safety officers must make sure that workers understand workplace hazards and are trained to avoid them while wearing the correct PPE. Manufacturers offer several options to help workers be more recognizable on the jobsite. Check with your distributor or manufacturer for information on the latest high-visibility products. When it comes to keeping workers safe, high-visibility products help save lives. ●

HEAD PROTECTION STANDARD

from page 45

In addition, the revised standard includes criteria for products that can be worn in the reverse position, which is preferred when performing some applications such as welding.

"While earlier versions of the standard never addressed the issue, manufacturers are continually asked whether their products can be worn backwards and still provide protection," Fargo said. "Including a detailed protocol for reverse-wear will allow compliant products to be marked in a manner that is easily identifiable to the end-user."

This standard was prepared by ISEA members and a consensus panel of users, test labs and government agencies, as a revision to the 2003 edition.

Copies of the standard are available from ISEA headquarters at 1901 N. Moore Street, Suite 808, Arlington, VA 22209. The single-copy cost is \$35.00. Discounted rates for bulk orders are offered. For additional information, visit www.safetysystem.org or contact the ISEA at 703-525-1695. ●

Look for Head Protection from ISEA Members

Protection Update readers are encouraged to specify head protection from the following ISEA members:

- Bullard
- Elk River
- ERB Safety
- Gateway Safety
- Gentex Corp.
- Jackson Safety
- Kimberly Clark Professional
- Magid Glove & Safety Manufacturing Co.
- MCR Safety
- 3M Company (AO Safety, Peltor, Speedglas)
- MSA
- North by Honeywell (Fibre-Metal)
- OccuNomix International
- Sellstrom Manufacturing Co.
- Sperian Protection
- Transportation Safety Apparel
- U.S. Safety

Protection UPDATE

News from the International Safety Equipment Association

Protection Update

is the newsletter for the ISEA Partnership for Worker Protection program. It is intended for anyone who specifies, purchases or uses personal protective equipment, and those who regulate it.

Protection Update is distributed without charge, and also is available via ISEA's website www.safetysystem.org.

1901 North Moore Street
Arlington, VA

22209-1762 USA

Telephone: (703) 525-1695

Fax: (703) 528-2148

Daniel K. Shipp, President
dshipp@safetysystem.org

Joseph L. Walker, Editor
jwalker@safetysystem.org

ISEA
INTERNATIONAL
SAFETY EQUIPMENT
ASSOCIATION

CONSTRUCTION CORNER

You Can Be Part of the Safety Solution

Safety professionals now have a place to find solutions to their worker-protection needs. The opportunity is offered through a new Web site geared to construction practitioners. The site, *Construction Solutions*, enables contractors, foremen and other construction professionals to identify hazards associated with certain construction tasks, such as cutting concrete block or welding pipes, then find work practices and commercially available products that reduce or eliminate those hazards.

development of the site by submitting solutions that work in the “volunteer” section, submitting reviews and rating their reaction to a solution using a star system. The site is moderated, and all suggestions are reviewed before being added to the public site.

“Construction workers and contractors want more than a description of the hazard; they want specific actions they can take or products they can buy that will make things better,” said Dr. Jim Platner, *Construction Solutions* lead developer and

CPWR associate director of science and technology. “We are compiling explanations of hazards and ways to control them so that anyone can go online and consider a range of possible options.”

Platner points to one example: The database presents information on dust control hazards in masonry work, describes how industrial dust-control vacuums reduce this risk, and then identifies commercial sources, such as a masonry saw with vacuum, to reduce dust exposure. “CPWR partnered with safety and health experts, unions, skilled trades people and university researchers to design and launch this database,” Platner said. “We want to continue identifying hazards in construction and solutions that can reduce or eliminate those hazards.”

Construction Solutions was developed through a grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. Visit www.cpwrConstructionSolutions.org or contact Terrance Roach at 1-800-508-CPWR for more information. To learn more about CPWR and its ongoing research to promote the safety and health of construction workers, visit www.cpwr.com. ●



To submit suggestions of equipment that can be added to the database, click the site's "Volunteer" hyperlink.

This new site, which is free and publicly available, was created by researchers at the CPWR — Center for Construction Research and Training. Users access the solutions by selecting a construction-related trade, then choosing a task and corresponding hazard, which leads to a specific Web page describing the hazard with links to various options for reducing those hazards.

The developers of *Construction Solutions* are working to expand the site to cover all construction trades and are searching for information on safety products and work practices to reduce construction work-related hazards. Developed through federal grants, the site has no advertising and attempts to provide an unbiased forum for users to find options quickly for solving construction-related health and safety problems.

Construction safety and health professionals are encouraged to participate in the

WASHINGTON WATCH

ISEA will Petition OSHA to Prohibit Silica Use for Abrasive Blasting

By Daniel I. Glucksman

International Safety Equipment Association

The International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA) Board of Trustees has approved a petition to the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) that will ask the agency to amend regulations at 29 CFR 1910.94 to prohibit using silica (sand) for abrasive blasting.

Establishing a prohibited practice, the petition notes, is an expedited manner of protecting workers since the regulatory process required to establish permissible exposure limits can take a number of years (silica has been on OSHA's regulatory agenda since 1974). In fact, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health has recommended banning the use of silica in abrasive blasting since 1974.

The petition notes that sandblasting continues to be one of the areas of greatest exposure to respirable crystalline silica, and that other countries have banned the use of silica sand in abrasive blasting. Several state departments of transportation have banned the use of silica for abrasive blasting in outdoor projects, such as bridges.

The petition fits with OSHA's own National Emphasis Program on silica, which began in January 2008. The program directs OSHA's field offices to inspect workplaces with elevated silica exposures and to provide compliance assistance to employers. The Agency has said that reducing and ultimately eliminating the workplace incidence of silicosis has been a primary goal of OSHA's since its inception.

ISEA member company representatives have met with their congressional delegations to build support for the petition. The Risk and Insurance Management Society has already stated its support for the petition. Other organizations have been asked to sign on.

OSHA's Most Frequently Cited Standards

In late 2008, OSHA published a look-back of its most frequently cited standards. The

most cited standards show where OSHA might focus its attention and some of the Labor Department's \$80 million in stimulus funds as the federal government plans to spend billions on construction.

Continuing a trend of recent years, OSHA's construction scaffolding standard (1926.451) led the list with 9,511 violations; 25 percent of those violations were related to lack of fall protection on a scaffold.

Failure to comply with the hazard communication standard (1910.1200) was the second most-cited regulation with 6,662 violations. This standard requires employers to evaluate the potential hazards of chemicals and to communicate to employees information about hazards and the appropriate protective measures.

Fall protection for construction (1925.501) was the third most-cited standard, with 6,652 citations. The requirement to provide guard-rail systems, safety net system, or personal fall-arrest systems when employees are exposed to a fall of six feet or more was referenced in 30 percent of violations for this standard.

Violations of OSHA's general industry respiratory protection standards (1910.134) and the lockout/tagout standard (1910.147) round out the top five most frequently cited standards with nearly 4,000 violations for each.

When looking at standards for which OSHA assessed the highest penalties in fiscal year 2008, the list is somewhat different.

Topping the list is fall protection for the construction industry; followed by scaffolding for construction; electrical, hazardous locations, and lockout/tagout for general industry.

In all, OSHA conducted 38,624 inspections, yielding \$102 million in penalties. Only 6.7 percent of cases were contested. However, the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission does not keep data on the number of citations it affirms or vacates.

Labor Department Stimulus Funds

Finally, as noted above, Congress provided \$80 million for the Labor Department to make certain that health, safety and



ABOUT THE AUTHOR
Dan Glucksman is director of public affairs for the International Safety Equipment Association, where he directs the legislative and regulatory program for the association and its product groups. His "Washington Watch" column is a regular feature of *Protection Update*. Reach him at dglucksman@safetysystem.org or 703-525-1695.

Order Complete Set of ANSI/ISEA Standards at Deep Discount

ISEA is offering a complete set of its American National Standards and the use and selection guide for eye and face protection at 30 percent off the price of purchasing the publications individually. For \$290 plus \$10 handling and 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 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 107-2004
- *American National Standard for Air-Purifying Respiratory Protective Smoke Escape Devices*, ANSI/ISEA 110-2003
- *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 Z87.1-2003
- *American National Standard for Industrial Head Protection*, ANSI/ISEA Z89.1-2009.
- *American National Standard - Minimum Requirements for Workplace First Aid Kits*, ANSI/ISEA Z308.1-2003
- *American National Standard for Emergency Eyewash and Shower Equipment*, ANSI/ISEA Z358.1-2004
- *Eye and Face Protection Use and Selection Guide* ●

Download an order form at www.safetyequipment.org.

other employment-based regulations are followed for the number of new jobs expected to be created by the stimulus bill.

One allocation for the Labor Department of note is \$50 million for the YouthBuild program, in which low-income people ages 16–24 work toward their GED or high school diploma while learning job (construction) skills by building affordable housing. YouthBuild also is focusing on “green” jobs, which was one of Labor Secretary Hilda Solis’ focal points when she was a member of Congress. ●

New York Construction Contractor Settles with OSHA for \$750,000

New York-based concrete construction contractor 160 Broadway Corp., doing business as Broadway Concrete, has agreed to pay a \$750,000 fine as part of a settlement with the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) addressing hazards cited during the summer of 2008.

In June 2008, OSHA cited Broadway Concrete and proposed \$877,000 in penalties against the company for fall hazards at a condominium construction project in Jersey City, N.J. The company initially contested the citations and penalties, but withdrew its notice of contest as part of a settlement agreement signed Jan. 26, 2009. OSHA said that under the agreement, Broadway Concrete and its sister company, Regal Construction, agreed to abate all cited hazards and take additional steps beyond what is required under OSHA standards, including:

- Employing a corporate safety director and full-time site safety director on each large project;
- Reducing the salary of senior job superintendents who fail to comply with applicable OSHA and job safety practices;
- Developing a new corporate safety and health plan, and
- Providing OSHA officials with information on major projects and access to all jobsites without the need of a warrant for the next four years. ●

OSHA Orders Air Carrier to Pay \$400,000-plus to Employee Fired For Raising Safety Concerns

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has ordered a Connecticut-based cargo airline to pay more than \$400,000 in lost wages, back pay, damages and legal fees to compensate a flight crew member who was fired for raising safety concerns.

The employee of Southern Air Inc., Norwalk, was terminated in April 2008 after twice complaining to management about inadequate rest breaks and being required to work hours in excess of those allowed under Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) rules. The employee then filed a whistleblower complaint with OSHA’s Boston Regional Office under the Wendell H. Ford Aviation Investment and Reform Act for the 21st Century.

OSHA found merit to the complaint and has issued a Notice of Secretary’s Findings and Preliminary Order to Southern Air that directs the company to pay the complainant \$300,000 for loss of career wages, \$135,240 in compensatory damages, and \$7,395 in attorney’s fees and back pay of \$1,485 per week, plus interest, from April 7, 2008, through the date of payment. OSHA also ordered the company to post the FAA whistleblower poster and an OSHA notice to employees about their whistleblower rights. ●

MAKING WORKERS SAFER AROUND THE NATION

The following new services and innovations from International Safety Equipment Association member companies will help make workers safer:

- From **Ansell Healthcare** is an enhanced version of its SpecWare® Online Chemical Application and Recommendation Guide. The online tool, available at www.ansellpro.com, allows users to search accurately for the right protective glove specifically designed for chemical applications.

- From **H.L. Bouton** is the 2009 catalog, which has an expanded Emergency Eyewash offering, as well as comprehensive ANSI Z358.1 site surveys. Also featured is a new blood-borne pathogen protection product focused on increasing protection in the medical industry. Email eyewear@hlbouton.com or call 800-426-1881.

- From **Bullard** is online training to ensure fire departments comply with the NFPA 1851, 2008 Standard on Selection, Care and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles. The standard requires regular basic cleaning and inspection of fire helmets, as well as advanced cleaning and inspection no less than once a year. Email info@bullard.com or call 877-BULLARD.

- From **Jackson Safety** is the 2009 catalog, offering a full line of products to fulfill welding safety, personal protection and work zone safety needs. It features color-coded navigation broken down by product lines, details on regulations and mandates for specific product lines, and pictorial selection charts. Visit www.jacksonsafety.com or call 800-428-8185.



New Jackson Safety catalog

- From **3M Company** is a Sign Grant Program to help U.S. government agencies replace underperforming signs with ones made from higher-performance prismatic reflective sheeting at significantly lower costs. Visit http://solutions.3m.com/wps/portal/3M/en_US/3M_Sign/Grant/.

- From **MSA** comes:

- ▶ A service enabling easy customization of fall-protection systems. Customers may apply a heat-transfer or PVC logo of their choice, select a webbing color for harnesses, add a backstrap or change connectors, or customize the length of the lanyard, lifeline and rope system. Visit www.MSANorthAmerica.com or call 800-MSA-2222.

- ▶ Launch of a new Web-based Asset Library, which is a collection of high-resolution product images and literature. MSA gives permission to use this material so long as the application does not portray the product in a misleading or inappropriate manner. Visit <http://assetlibrary.msanet.com>.

- From **Sperian Protection** comes:

- ▶ Word that enrollment is open for the 2009 Miller Fall Prevention and Protection Training Schedule. New courses added include (1) Fall Protection Equipment Inspection; (2) Confined Space Train the Trainer; (3) Scaffolding Train the Trainer, and (4) the Combined Course of OSHA 10-Hour Construction Training with Fall Protection Competent Person Training. Download a schedule at www.millerfallprotection.com.

- ▶ A redesigned Web site for Uvex®, the company's flagship brand of safety eyewear, goggles and face shields. The new site — www.uvex.com — features "at-a-glance" icons that provide guidance in evaluating and selecting optimal eyewear for an application based on five user-defined filters.

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) — www.osha.gov — has proposed **revised fit tests for determining the effectiveness of respiratory protection facemasks**. A notice of proposed rulemaking was published Jan. 21, 2009, in the *Federal Register*, and the agency accepted comments until March 23. The rule proposes two revised fit-test procedures under OSHA's Respiratory Protection Standard.

In 1998, OSHA issued the revised Respiratory Protection Standard, 29 CFR 1910.134, which incorporated two categories of respirator fit tests. Some tests expose wearers to airborne agents to determine if they can detect them and other tests use a machine to measure how much of a test agent leaks into a respirator. The proposed revisions would allow certain machine-based fit ▶53



Chameleon
symbol for MSA's
fall-protection
customization program



Ansell SpecWare®
online tool



Scene from Bullard's
online training for
NFPA 1851



Redesigned Uvex Web site

MAKING WORKERS SAFER AROUND THE NATION

continued

tests to be conducted more quickly and increase the required score for passing them.

Also, OSHA published in the *Federal Register* on Jan. 9, 2009, final **changes to its Voluntary Protection Programs (VPPs)** that, among other enhancements, allow participation by companies with mobile workforces. The VPP, which is the agency's recognition initiative for workplace safety and health excellence, will provide new options for construction contractors and other employers who may have employees at various locations. Other VPP changes for eligible organizations include a streamlined application process, outreach and mentoring, and on-site workplace evaluations. The VPP changes are effective May 9, 2009.

Slips, trips and falls, fire and falling overboard are among the major safety topics addressed in two new OSHA online publications designed to protect maritime industry employees.

The *Deck Barge Safety Guidance Document* was developed to educate employers and employees on preventing injuries and illnesses from hazards associated with deck barges. Other topics mentioned in the document are machinery and equipment, confined or enclosed spaces and training. The *Spud Barge Safety Fact Sheet* lists three methods that can prevent the spuds, which are vertical steel shafts that hold deck barges in place, from accidentally dropping or slipping. The fact sheet also offers safety measures for employers and employees working on barges and towing vessels.

New from the **National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)** – www.cdc.gov/niosh – are a **number of communications products**, including:

- Videos entitled "Take Pride in Your Job: Fall Protection" and "Take Pride in Your Job: Seat Belts." Both videos are designed to be used in pre-shift or weekly safety meetings.



Scene from NIOSH fall protection safety video.

- The *Work-Related Lung Disease Surveillance Report, 2007*, which describes where lung diseases are occurring in the United States, who is affected, how frequently they occur, and temporal trends.

- Publications for the mining industry on "QuickFit Earplug Test Device," "Ergonomics and Risk Factor Awareness Training," "Performance of a Polyurethane Core Seal Tested in a Hydrostatic Chamber (No. 2008.129)," "Reducing Low Back Pain and Disability in Mining" (2008-135), "Explosion Effects on Mine Ventilation Stoppings" (No. 2009-102), "Key Design Factors of Enclosed Cab Dust Filtration Systems" (No. 2009-103), and "The Application of Major Hazard Risk Assessment to Eliminate Multiple Fatality Occurrences in the U.S. Minerals Industry" (No. 2009-104).

- Fact Sheets and Topics Pages available in Spanish covering (1) personal protective equipment for health care workers who work with hazardous drugs, (2) falls from elevation, (3) fatal injuries among landscape services workers, (4) control of hazardous dust during tuck pointing, (5) pesticides, (6) biological hazards, (7) electrical hazards, and (8) respiratory diseases.

- *NIOSH Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and Prevention Program: Leading Recommendations for Preventing Fire Fighter Fatalities, 1998-2005.*

- *Asbestosis-Related Years of Potential Life Lost before Age 65 Years.*

New from the **American Chemistry Council (ACC)** www.americanchemistry.com – is a training video through which **emergency responders can learn about a free, valuable tool called CHEMTREC** (CHEMical TRansportation Emergency Center) that has served the needs of firefighters, law enforcement, and other emergency responders since 1971. To obtain a free copy of the "CHEMTREC – An Overview for Emergency Responders" training video, visit www.chemtrec.com.

New from the **American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH)** – www.acgih.org – are the **2009 Threshold Limit Values (TLVs®)** for Chemical Substances and Physical Agents and Biological Exposure Indices (BEIs®). For more information, visit the Web site or call 513-742-2020. ▶54

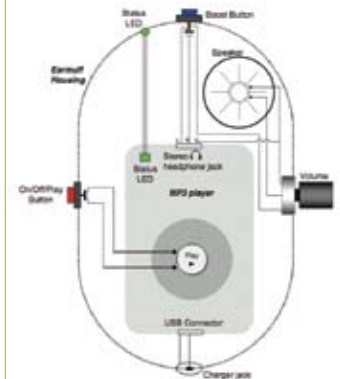


Diagram from NIOSH "QuickFit Earplug Test Device" PDF

OSHA Spud Barge Safety Fact Sheet



CHEMTREC training video for emergency responders

MAKING WORKERS SAFER AROUND THE NATION

continued



Slide from NRMCA's PPE Training Program PowerPoint presentation

The **Association for Professionals in Infection Control (APIC)** – www.apic.org – has expanded its successful Targeting Zero initiative for 2009 to offer comprehensive education and **guidance to prevent the most common and fatal healthcare-associated infections (HAIs)**. Targeting Zero features Webinars, conferences and practical tools such as HAI elimination guides. APIC's evidence-based elimination guides translate CDC recommendations into straightforward infection prevention strategies for healthcare workers.

The **American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE)** – www.asse.org – announced the release of a book entitled **"Hazard Recognition and Control in Institutional Settings** – A guide for Hospitals, Universities and Nursing Homes." Co-authored by health and safety professionals with extensive institutional safety experience, the book provides vital information on laws and regulations regarding environmental and waste management; emergency preparedness and incident command systems; building renovation and design; hazard and risk assessment; indoor air quality and HVAC systems, and health surveys and surveillance. Contact ASSE customer service, 847-699-2929 or customerservice@asse.org.

The Chlorine Institute, Inc. (CI) – www.chlorineinstitute.org – reports that **26 of its 47 safety pamphlets now are available free online**. Giving the public free access to what had been paid-for pamphlets is part of a major new CI initiative; five more free publications will be added each quarter for the remainder of the year. Visit the Web site and click on the "Bookstore" button and from the drop-down menu, click on "Free Safety Pamphlets." Take a short survey to access downloadable PDF versions of free pamphlets.

New from the **Concrete Sawing and Drilling Association (CSDA)** – www.cstda.org – is an instructional DVD on **"Flat Sawing and Blade Safety,"** which helps provide operators with the skills and knowledge required for safe and effective flat sawing, along with addressing important issues like proper blade tightening techniques. Visit the Web site or call 727-577-5004.

The **National Ready Mixed Concrete Association (NRMCA)** – www.nrmca.org – has introduced a **"Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Training Program;"** it comes in the form of a CD-based PowerPoint presentation and instructor notes that are separated into a train-the-trainer section and four individual PPE modules for ease of training personnel. The program also includes a sample PPE assessment and welding shade guide.



National Safety Council's "OSHA Walk-through for Industry" training program

New from the **National Safety Council (NSC)** – www.nsc.org – are two versions of its **"OSHA Walkthrough for Industry"** training program. Like the original program, these versions are appropriate for educating new employees or refreshing the expertise of senior staff. They include an intranet program with all the original content, and a CD series that devotes one CD each to the top seven topics in demand from the original program. For more information, visit www.oshawalkthrough.com/nsc/ or call 800-621-7619.

The **National Work Zone Safety Information Clearinghouse (NWZSIC)** – www.workzonesafety.org – a new **Web site section dedicated to back-over prevention**. Back-overs and run-overs are the leading causes of worker deaths in work zones, with an average of a U.S. worker a month being killed this way.

From the **Safety Equipment Institute (SEI)** – www.seinet.org – is a new standard, ANSI/ASTM F2681-2008, **Specification for Body Protectors Used in Equine Racing**, for use in the SEI certification program. The standard covers the design and minimum performance criteria and associated test methods for body protectors used in horse sports and horseback riding. It is available free from SEI's Web site. ●

Free pamphlet series from the Chlorine Institute



Scene from CSDA's "Flat Sawing and Blade Safety" video

OSHA \$100,000 CLUB OF SAFETY CITATIONS

The U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has proposed penalties of \$100,000 or more for the following recent 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:

- G.S. Robins & Co., doing business as Ro-Corp Inc., \$1.2 million-plus for violations relating to the handling of hazardous chemicals at its East St. Louis, Mo., chemical repackaging and distribution facility. OSHA began an investigation after learning that employees had been admitted to several hospitals after being contaminated with an unknown powder, which was later determined to be parantiroaniline. This poison causes methemoglobinemia, a condition that results in a reduction in the blood's ability to transport oxygen. OSHA issued 21 willful citations, all relating to failure to provide workers with or train them in the use of the correct PPE.
- A-1 Excavating Inc., Bloomer, Wis., nearly \$700,000 in penalties for numerous life-threatening violations at a trenching operation in Weston, Wis. OSHA issued six willful citations for failing to protect employees from cave-in hazards, and five willful citations for failing to set the spoil pile material excavated from the trench at least two feet from the edge of the excavation. A-1 has received 38 citations since 1982, including at least 15 for hazards associated with similar situations, OSHA said.
- Cascades Boxboard Group – Connecticut LLC, \$320,500 for 52 serious and repeat violations at its Versailles, Conn., paper mill. Citations address an array of chemical, electrical, mechanical, fire, fall and crushing hazards.
- Sunfield Inc., \$302,000 for three willful, 21 serious and one repeat violation at its plant in Hebron, Ohio, that processes stamped metal parts for automobile companies. Citations included not providing eye protection or eye flushing stations, and machine guarding violations.
- Blackstone Business Enterprises Inc., \$273,000 for 18 willful and serious violations for failing to protect contract workers against asbestos hazards at its sheet metal and structural steel fabricating plant in Jamestown, N.Y., including lack of air monitoring, respiratory protection and protective clothing.
- Certified Painting Co., Inc., Alsip, Ill., \$225,000 for eight willful and nine serious violations, including failure to have proper carbon monoxide monitoring devices, and to provide and ensure use of personal protective clothing and fall protection. Certified performs industrial painting on bridges and other construction project.
- NTN-Bower Corp., \$172,350 for more than 30 violations at its roller bearing manufacturing plant in Hamilton, Ala., including failure to enforce lockout/tagout procedures, inadequate employee training and inadequate and missing machine guards.
- Lloyd Industries Inc., Montgomery, Pa., \$140,160 for violations at its plant, which makes fire and smoke dampers. Willful violations included failure to provide elements of a hearing conservation program.
- Novis Marine Ltd., \$130,200 for violations at its yacht design and fabrication plant in Fairport Harbor, Ohio, including for fall hazards associated with open-sided floors and platforms, lack of PPE, and lack of explosion-proof equipment in paint spray booths.
- O.E.C. Warehouse and Distribution Center, Edison, N.J., \$123,100 for violations including lack of PPE, blocked fire exits and aisles, and unsecured merchandise stored on racks.
- WDG Construction Inc., West Chapel, Fla., \$119,000 for violations that exposed employees to possible injury and death at two construction sites, including failure to provide employees with protection from cave-ins while working in trenches.
- Kahr Arms, \$115,500 for violations at its plant and testing facility in Worcester, Mass., including inadequate safeguards against employees' overexposure to lead on the plant's firing ranges and to being struck by rebounding fragments during test firing of weapons.
- Anderson Construction, Papillion, Neb., \$111,600 for a series of violations found during an investigation after a trench collapse injured five workers; the company is a water and sewer pipe installation contractor.
- Tippins Contracting Co., Marietta, Ga., \$108,000 for safety violations that exposed employees to possible injury or death at two construction sites; the citations included failing to provide workers with protection from cave-ins while they worked in trenches.
- Best Plastering Contractors, El Paso, Texas, \$106,200 for violations, including allowing employees to work on a scaffold without fall protection at an El Paso worksite, and failing to provide training for employees who used Portland cement, which causes skin burns.
- Exide Technologies, \$102,000 for violations found at the company's lead products manufacturing plant in Laurel Dale, Pa.; citations involved employee exposure to lead, inadequate respiratory protection program, and incomplete respirator fit-test records. ●

SAFETY EQUIPMENT

Works
for YouWorker Loses Balance;
Fall Protection Catches Him

To whom it may concern,

[On] September 30, 2008, at 10:45 a.m., one of our employees, Scott, was working on a truss at the new Dallas Cowboy Stadium jobsite [in Arlington, Texas]. He was wearing an Elk River harness, which has 3 D-rings with a seat and belt on it; in addition he was wearing Elk River single lanyards. These items and his hard hat saved his life...

What happened is: While working on top of the truss he got hit in the head with a large clamp that slipped off a brace, which knocked him off the beam unconscious and he was hanging in the air under the truss. The other Ironworkers pulled him up once they got to him, and he was taken to the hospital for an injury to his head. If he wasn't tied off and wearing his personal protection equipment, he would have fallen over 40 feet down to the ground. Again we would like to thank you for your products and the care you put into designing and manufacturing great reliable harnesses.

Sincerely,
Derr Steel Erection Co.
Arlington, Texas

Find Elk River fall-protection harnesses, lanyards, self-retracting lifelines, and accessories at www.elkriver.com or 800-633-3954 ●

Mine Deaths at
All-Time Low in 2008,
MSHA Reports

Preliminary data from the U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) shows that mine fatalities in 2008 fell to an all-time low, recording a 31-percent drop from 2007.



Metal/non-metal mines recorded the lowest level of fatalities in that sector of mining since statistics first

were recorded in 1910, and the fatality level in coal mines was the lowest recorded number since 2005, MSHA reported.

"Although these numbers demonstrate continuing improvements at our nation's mines, they also represent significant loss to the families and friends of 51 miners," said Richard E. Stickler, former acting assistant secretary of labor for mine safety and health. "We must continue to be vigilant in our efforts to bring all miners home safe and health at the end of every shift."

Of the 51 fatalities reported during 2008, 28 were at surface operations, while 23 miners died in underground mining accidents. ●

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@safetysiteequipment.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.

MSHA \$100,000 Club of Safety Citations

The U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) – www.msha.gov – has proposed penalties in excess of \$100,000 for the following recent alleged failures to protect workers from potential hazards. Companies have 30 business days from receipt of their citations and fines to appeal:

- C.W. Mining Co. and contractor Trimac Transportation Service Inc., \$265,000 for violations that contributed to a fatal accident in which a truck driver was crushed after a parking brake failed at the Bear Canyon Mine, Emery County, Utah; the operator was caught between a front-end loader and a haul truck.
- Highland Mining Co., which operates the Freeze Fork Surface Mine in Logan County, W.Va., \$180,000 after a miner suffered shoulder and neck injuries when a section of highwall collapsed, partially burying his Caterpillar haulage truck.
- CSA Mining Inc., \$147,300 for a flagrant violation issued at its Number 2 Mine in Letcher County, Ky.; the violation stemmed from "the operator's reckless disregard to comply with the mine's approved roof control plan," MSHA said.

In addition, MSHA announced that Liggett Mining Co., LLC, had agreed to pay \$276,231 in past due penalties for violations found at five underground coal mines in eastern Kentucky. This agreement represents MSHA's biggest settlement since the agency began advising mine operators that they could be subject to mine closures if they incur delinquent civil penalties, the agency said. Liggett had failed to pay fines on at least 300 citations dating back to March 2007 at the five operations, one of which has since been closed and abandoned.

Also, MSHA reported that it had sued Kentucky Darby LLC for non-payment of civil penalties for violations issued at its Darby Mine #1 in Harlan, Ky., following a May 2006 explosion that killed five miners. According to the suit, Kentucky Darby must pay \$505,012, which includes unpaid civil penalties that contributed to the fatalities, additional penalties issued to the company, and administrative fees, MSHA said. ●