



Consider This

HEALTH & SAFETY NEWSLETTER
APRIL 2014



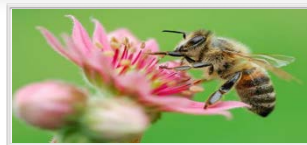
Work Zone
Speeding: A Costly
Mistake



Be Seen – Wear
Reflective Vests



World Day for
Safety and Health
at Work



Field Awareness –
Bees



Process Safety
Management
Programs



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Excellence



Work Zone Speeding: A Costly Mistake



WHAT IS NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS?

Each year in April, National Work Zone Awareness Week is held to bring national attention to motorist and worker safety and mobility issues in work zones.

WHY IS WORK ZONE SAFETY IMPORTANT?

Work zones can present an unfamiliar situation to drivers. Changes in traffic patterns, closed or narrowed lanes, and the presence of construction equipment and personnel can cause challenges for motorists as they travel through work zones. Careful attention should be paid to actions that have the potential to impact the safety of everyone involved, including drivers and their passengers, workers, and pedestrians

HOW DOES DRIVER BEHAVIOR IMPACT WORK ZONE SAFETY?

Many drivers would be surprised to find out that each year most work zone fatalities—approximately 85–90%—are motorists and their occupants, and 10-15% of fatalities are workers and other non-motorized users such as pedestrians and bicyclists. Driver-related factors that affect work zone crashes include speeding, distractions (such as cell phones, texting, and radios), inattentive driving, and aggressive driving. When motorists are alert, obey traffic control devices (e.g. signs), maintain the posted speed limit, and pay attention to traffic patterns, the safety of everyone is enhanced.

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Sources and Additional Information:
<http://www.ops.fhwa.dot.gov/wz/docs/nwzaw2014factsheet/index.htm>
<http://www.workzonesafety.org/>

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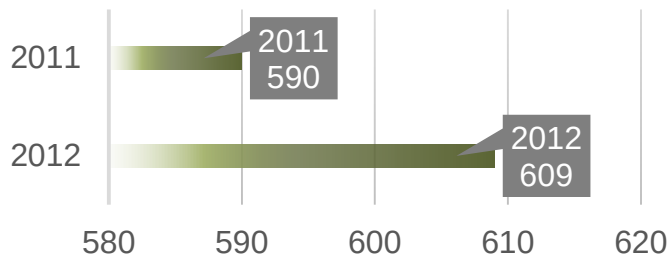
Captain Obvious



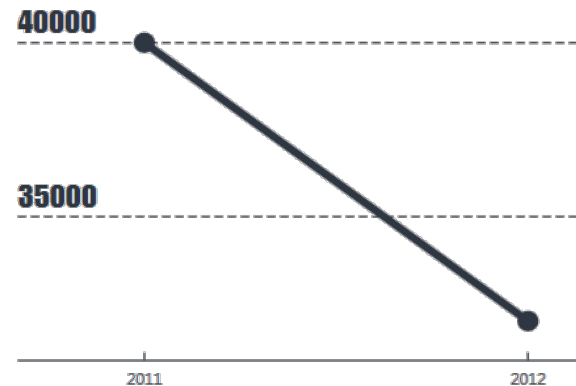
Work Zone Statistics for 2012:



Traffic-related fatalities



Injuries



2012 Injuries

32,000

Data analysis

8,000 less compared to 2011

WORKER FATALITIES



132



fatal crashes involving large trucks and buses (18 less compared to 150 in 2011)

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10 Tips for Driving in Work Zones



Expect the Unexpected. Normal speed limits may be reduced; traffic lanes may be closed, narrowed, or shifted; and people may be working on or near the road.



Don't Speed. Obey the posted speed limit at all times, even when workers are not present.



Obey Road Crew Flaggers and Pay Attention to the Signs. The flagger knows what is best for moving traffic safely in the work zone.



Stay Alert and Minimize Distractions. Dedicate your full attention to the roadway and avoid changing radio stations or using cell phones and other electronic devices while approaching and driving in a work zone.



Keep Up With the Traffic Flow. Do not slow down to "gawk" at road work.



Know Before You Go. Check radio, TV and web sites for traffic information and schedule enough time to drive safely. Expect delays and leave early so you can reach your destination on time.



Be Patient and Stay Calm. Remember, the work zone crew members are working to improve the road and make your future drive better.



Wear Your Seatbelt. It is your best defense in a crash.



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If your company places personnel on a road that is traveled by the public, it's especially important that personnel wear gear to enhance their visibility to travelers.



This is what motorists see.

Who do you want to be?

The hard to see person
or
the **BRIGHT** person?

*When you need to get out of your truck because it broke down or has a flat tire, or you need to check or secure your load, or you are making a delivery for whatever you are doing, put on a high visibility vest. Be the **bright** person.*

Visit www.KeepTruckingSafe.org for more information on how to reduce your risk of injury.

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SHARP WETA TIRES WTA Washington State Department of Labor & Industries

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World Day for Safety and Health at Work - Chemicals in the Workplace

International Labor Organization celebrates the World Day for Safety and Health at Work on April 28th to promote the global prevention of occupational accidents and diseases. This awareness-raising campaign focuses attention on the magnitude of work-related injuries, diseases, and fatalities in the workplace and emerging trends in the field of occupational safety and health.

The theme of 2014 World Day for Safety and Health is the use of chemicals in the workplace.

CHEMICAL HAZARDS IN THE WORKPLACE

Chemicals pose a broad range of potential adverse effects, from health hazards such as carcinogenicity, and physical hazards like flammability, to environmental hazards such as widespread contamination and toxicity to aquatic life.

Fires, explosions, and other disasters may result from inadequate control of a chemical's physical hazards or by improper use/handling of chemicals by employees.



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Educating and training employees on chemical hazards, proper usage, and safe storage is key to preventing accidents in the work place! Contact EHS Support to educate your personnel.

Source: <http://www.ilo.org/safework/events/safeday/lang--en/index.htm>

Work Safe. Live Safe. Stay Safe.

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How can EHS help your company be prepared for and prevent against chemical related accidents and protect employees? Here are some questions to help you evaluate your readiness

PREPARE

Are you prepared in the event of an accidental fire, chemical exposure, or environmental release?

PLANS

Are the proper plans in place for employees and environmental protection?

TRAINING

Do you provide employees with the proper training required (by law) to handle or work around hazardous chemicals?

STORAGE

Are your chemicals properly stored and labeled?

PPE

Are employees provided the proper personal protective equipment to prevent exposure? If yes, are they using the equipment when appropriate and properly?

COMPLIANT

Is your company compliant with OSHA, NIOSH and other regulations?

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Spring is upon us, which means more field work—and BEES

Africanized bees, as well as honeybees, are usually present around flowering plants to gather nectar and pollen. They are rarely aggressive unless provoked, and under most circumstances, people and bees coexist very well. That being said, if your job requires you to work outside, there are certain safety concerns you must BEE aware of.

ARE YOUR EMPLOYEES ALLERGIC TO BEE STINGS?

The health effects of stinging insects range from mild discomfort or pain to a lethal reaction for workers allergic to the insect's venom. Anaphylactic shock is the body's severe allergic reaction to a bite or sting and requires immediate emergency care. Thousands of people are stung by bees each year, and as many as 90–100 people in the United States die annually as a result of allergic reactions.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROTECTING WORKERS

Employers should protect their workers from stinging insects by training them about:

- Their risk of exposure and how to prevent exposure
- Insect identification
- How to handle a sting
- Being prepared if known allergies exist.



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According to the Centers for Disease Control, below are some ways to prevent bee stings:

-  Be aware of outside areas where you might find bees and avoid them if possible.
-  Wear light-colored, smooth-finished, clothing that covers most of the body when planning to work outdoors where bees may be present.
-  Avoid perfumed soaps, shampoos, and deodorants before entering the site to perform work.
-  Avoid flowering plants when possible.
-  Remain calm and still if a single stinging insect is flying around. Swatting at an insect may cause it to sting.
-  If attacked by several stinging insects at once, run to get away from them and seek indoor shelter if possible. (Bees release a chemical when they sting, which may attract other bees.)
-  If a bee comes inside a vehicle, stop slowly and open all the windows.
-  Personnel with a history of severe allergic reactions to insect bites or stings should carry an epinephrine auto injector (EpiPen) and should wear a medical identification bracelet or necklace stating their allergy.

Sources: <http://www.cityofelmirage.org/index.aspx?NID=1486> and <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/insects/>

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Process Safety Management Programs

PURPOSE

The major objective of process safety management (PSM) of highly hazardous chemicals is to prevent unwanted releases of hazardous chemicals, especially into locations that could expose employees and others to serious hazards. An effective process safety management program requires a systematic approach to evaluating the whole chemical process. Using this approach, the process design, technology, changes, operational and maintenance activities and procedures, nonroutine activities and procedures, emergency preparedness plans and procedures, training programs, and other elements that affect the process are all considered in the evaluation.



APPLICATION

The various lines of defense that have been incorporated into the design and operation of the process to prevent or mitigate the release of hazardous chemicals need to be evaluated and strengthened to ensure their effectiveness at each level. Process safety management is the proactive identification, evaluation, and mitigation or prevention of chemical releases that could occur as a result of failures in processes, procedures, or equipment.

The process safety management standard targets highly hazardous chemicals that have the potential to cause a catastrophic incident. The purpose of the standard as a whole is to aid employers in their efforts to prevent or mitigate episodic chemical releases that could lead to a catastrophe in the workplace and possibly in the surrounding community.

To control these types of hazards, employers need to develop the necessary expertise, experience, judgment, and initiative within their work force to properly implement and maintain an effective process safety management program as envisioned in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standard 1910.119.

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REMEMBER

The Summary of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses (Form 300A) stays posted until April 30th.



EXCEPTIONS

The PSM standard does not apply to the following:

- Retail facilities
- Oil or gas well drilling or servicing operations
- Normally unoccupied remote facilities
- Hydrocarbon fuels used solely for workplace consumption as a fuel (e.g. propane used for comfort heating, gasoline for vehicle refueling), if such fuels are not a part of a process containing another highly hazardous chemical covered by this standard
- Flammable liquid stored in atmospheric tanks or transferred, which are kept below their normal boiling point without benefit of chilling or refrigerating and are not connected to a process.



Take the necessary precautions in preventing a chemical release or injury by contacting EHS Support for an evaluation of your PSM program!

Reference: <http://www.workplace-safety-nc.com/articles/Process-safety-management.html>

Documents to have readily available for review in the event of an OSHA PSM inspection:

- ☐ Facility PSM Program – overview of all elements
- ☐ Organizational chart of personnel with assigned duties
- ☐ Priority schedule for conducting PHA's
- ☐ PHA reports for two most hazardous processes
- ☐ PHA recommendation status reports for facility
- ☐ Operating procedures for two most hazardous processes
- ☐ Incident and "near hit" reports for PSM covered processes
- ☐ Contractor safety program
- ☐ Overall mechanical integrity program:
 - Fixed equipment – vessels, storage tanks, relief and vent systems
 - Rotating equipment
 - Electrical & instrumentation – monitoring devices, interlocks, emergency shutdowns
- ☐ API 752 facility siting survey (if applicable)
- ☐ OSHA 300 Log for 3 previous years
- ☐ All internal PSM audit reviews
- ☐ Employee training records/certification
- ☐ Canceled hot work permits

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We are all on a journey of continuous improvement in all areas of our organization. That journey does not have an ending point as people, the environment, regulations, technology, etc. change. Our goal must incorporate continuous improvement efforts in a process that is understood, managed, enforced, and effective.

At EHS Support, we have been a trusted partner assisting countless organizations in the implementation of EH&S processes that lead to continuous improvement...and we would like to help you!

Ask yourself these 3 question:

Where are you now in regards to where you want to be?

- Establish goals
- Identify strengths and weaknesses
- Evaluate your roadblocks

How do you move forward with an improvement plan?

- Develop and implement improvement plans
- Conduct a gap analysis
- Determine capabilities

How do you manage, enforce and measure your progress?

- Measure goals and outcomes
- Embrace positive and negative feedback and results
- Capture and communicate lessons learned

Call EHS Support to get you started on your journey to EH&S Excellence

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Why is it that safety professionals are getting heckled when we provide reminders on basic safety information and then go into a facility to conduct a mock-OSHA audit and find the same type of potential hazards or non-compliance items over and over again? Here is another 'Caption Obvious' photo to serve as a reminder because we still find these issues every single day! We are devoting one section of this newsletter to sharing simple safety reminders that seem 'obvious' to everyone, but are constantly found during walkthroughs.

**CAPT.
OBVIOUS**

IT'S SO
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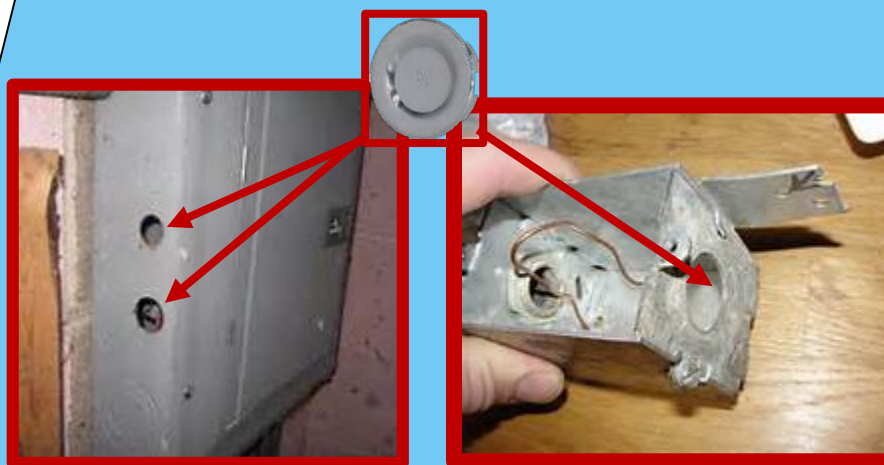
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**Electrical Safety –
Missing Knockout
Plugs**

Fill in holes with Knockout Plugs



Contact Monica Meyer at
[Monica.Meyer@ehs-
support.com](mailto:Monica.Meyer@ehs-support.com) today to learn
more about how we can help
you manage your health and
safety risks.