

Get in S.T.E.P. Safety Takes Every Person

SAFE -- Staying Accident-Free Everywhere

Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP)

4 Major Elements

1. Management Commitment and Employee Involvement
2. Worksite Analysis
3. Hazard Prevention and Control
4. Safety and Health Training

REMEMBER !!!!!

Kids are out of school, watch for them walking around, riding bikes, skateboarding, etc.

As part of the Voluntary Protection Program The Safety Suggestions Boxes are still out there. It is the Safety Suggestion Box. They are located throughout The three directorates and are your link to the safety office.

They are here for anyone that happens to think of a safety idea, comments, or anything pertaining to safety. Please only use the Boxes for the purpose intended. They are checked every week; you can be anonymous or put your name Down. You never know, your safety suggestion could become reality.

So go find the box in your area or all the areas and start using them.

Locations of Suggestion The Boxes

For DPW: Location

1510 Directorate	Mail Room
163 Environmental	Break Room
102 Engineering	Foyer
1751 HVAC	Entrance Hallway
370 Water/Wastewater	Break Room

For SE: Location

1506 Main Building	Foyer Room
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For the FD: Location

Main Station	Main Office
Stallion	Main Office

WAREHOUSE SAFETY

Even though some warehouses are an accident waiting to happen, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has general safety standards that apply to the warehousing industry. The agency advises employers to clear aisles and passageways, keep areas clean (with materials properly stacked), use protective equipment such as earplugs and hard hats when necessary, and ensure that industrial trucks meet OSHA safety requirements.

Here are some other tips:

- ◇ Don't rush. Your life is too valuable to lose by overloading your forklift in an attempt to meet unrealistic deadlines.
- ◇ Take regular breaks or rotate positions to avoid fatigue.
- ◇ Lift properly. Hold the load close to the body, stand with feet apart, one slightly in front of the other, and bend the knees when lifting and lowering items. Never carry a load on one side of the body or over your head, and allow gravity to help whenever possible by using slides, chutes, hoists, and hand trucks. "Sometimes you get [guys] being macho men and deciding they'll just lift it themselves without assistance or proper tools," says industrial physician Chris Kunis of Shady Grove, Pennsylvania. "So they'll strain their shoulders, smash their hands, or pull the muscles in their back. When you have a heavy load, ask for help."
- ◇ Use protective equipment. Wear a hardhat, ear plugs, and steel-toe boots if your job requires it. Use metatarsal guards for foot protection when necessary.

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Have any questions, comments, or suggestion, call me TODAY. No comment or suggestion to small.

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.....WAREHOUSE SAFETY CONTINUED

- ◇ Get training before you drive a forklift or another industrial truck. Older vehicles can roll over and crush workers that are unfamiliar with them, so such training is essential, according to Robert Goldberg, MD, and president of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine. OSHA regulations on industrial truck operators that went into effect in 1999 require both classroom and practical instruction in how to operate the vehicle properly, as well as the hazards of driving the vehicle in the workplace. Employers must also reevaluate drivers every three years, and give them a refresher course in the event of a near-miss or accident.
- ◇ Hold emergency evacuation drills. Make sure employees know what to do in case of a fire or chemical spill. Emergency exits should be clearly marked in the warehouse. Weekly safety talks should cover all these topics to help raise awareness of hazards and reinforce the use of personal protective equipment
- ◇ Protect yourself while working in extreme heat. Goldberg warns that workers in sweltering, humid warehouses need to protect themselves with proper clothing that allows the skin to breathe. Protect yourself against dehydration by drinking a cup of water every 20 minutes.
- ◇ Protect yourself while working in extreme cold. Hypothermia can set in when body temperature drops to or below 95 degrees Fahrenheit, causing fatigue or drowsiness, uncontrollable shivering, confusion, and slurred speech. To prevent cold-related illness, Goldberg says, workers should take breaks as often as necessary to warm up.
- ◇ Make sure your warehouse is well ventilated. In addition, the exhaust can cause eye and skin irritation, upper respiratory problems, and even death from carbon monoxide poisoning. Ventilate your workplace by using fans, opening windows, and introducing fresh air into the environment through ducts. Tune up your equipment frequently to help reduce the levels of noxious fumes. In addition, stock the appropriate respirator for emergency use.
- ◇ Install carbon monoxide detectors. Found in diesel and car exhaust, carbon monoxide gas has been called "the silent killer" because it's a colorless and odorless substance. Large amounts of the gas can kill you in minutes. Smaller amounts can cause headaches, dizziness and loss of consciousness; repeated exposure can cause heart disease and hardening of the arteries. If caught in time, damage done by carbon monoxide can be reversed, so having a working detector in place is crucial.
- ◇ Get training in dealing with hazardous substances. Any worker who handles hazardous chemicals on a regular basis needs training before he or she begins work. Employees should know exactly where the hazardous materials are located, their risks, and what to do if there's a release or spill. In addition, the employee should be familiar with the MSDS, or material safety data sheets -- which contain detailed information about the chemicals -- and know where the MSDS book is kept. Ask for additional training each time a new chemical makes an appearance.

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Try to identify as many hazards as you can in the picture below.
Why are they hazards? How can you avoid those hazards?

