Daily Safety Focus

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Daily Safety Focus

June 01: Confined Spaces: Potential for Entrapment, Critical Risk #4

OSHA (20 CFR 1910.146) identifies a confined space as follows:

1. The space is large enough and so configured that an employee can bodily enter and perform assigned work **and**
2. Has limited or restricted means for entry and exit (for example: tanks, vessels, silos, storage bins, hoppers, vaults, pits) **and**
3. Is not designed for continuous employee occupancy.

For a space to meet OSHA's definition of a Confined Space, it ***must*** meet **all three parts** of the definition.

Do's of working in Confined Spaces

- Complete all required training prior to working in the confined space
- Label and identify confined spaces in the work areas with signage
- Use the confined space permitting system prior to entry
- Make sure that you are well-informed of the specific risks with each confined space job. Are there severe hazards to be aware of such as flooding, drowning, asphyxiation, toxic fumes, flammable air, lack of oxygen etc.?
- Identify, designate and train a confined space attendant before anyone enters the space
- Perform a calibration/bump test of the atmospheric testing equipment prior to use
- Conduct an initial air test to sample the air quality of the confined space
- Ensure there is a form of two-way communication to be used between the attendant and entrant(s)
- Conduct continual atmospheric testing when hot work is being performed in the confined space
- Ensure there is a rescue plan in place prior to entry
- Use positive ventilation to increase the air quality in the confined space

Don'ts of working in Confined Spaces

- Enter a confined space unless you are adequately qualified, suitably trained and sufficiently experienced
- Use atmospheric testing equipment that has not been calibrated/bump tested prior to use
- Allow any untrained workers to enter a confined space
- Allow attendants to perform ANY other task while monitoring the confined space. This is their **ONLY** duty.
- Perform a confined space rescue without being trained and prepared with the appropriate rescue equipment
- Enter a confined space that has air quality which does not meet safe working environment requirements
- Conduct hot work activities in a confined space without a supplied air system
- DON'T Ignore the Hazards – Just because a confined space is safe one day doesn't ensure its safe the following day. It's imperative to be aware of the risks involved. (Carlough, Critical Risk #4 Confined Spaces, 2019)

Daily Safety Focus

June 02: Take the Safe-At-Work Pledge

June is National Safety Month

Workplace fatalities are unacceptable. According to Bureau of Labor Statistics data, total U.S. workplace fatalities reached 5,250 in 2018 – the third consecutive year surpassing 5,000 deaths. Preventable work deaths continue an upward trend, increasing from 4,414 in 2017 to 4,493 in 2018.

Safety is everyone's responsibility, and the COVID-19 pandemic has shown us how crucial it is for every employee to make a commitment to work safely. Employers must provide a safe work environment, as well as the financial support, management oversight, PPE, tools and training that workers need to do their jobs safely. Both management and workers need to do their part to make safety a personal priority.

Together, these elements are part of a greater safety management system – one which aims to continuously identify hazards and reduce risks to an acceptable level, thus lessening the likelihood of an incident occurring on the job. This system is particularly important as employees return to traditional work environments and schedules in a post-quarantine world. Take the pledge below to show your commitment to safety, from the workplace to anyplace.

I pledge to:

- Never compromise my own safety or the safety of my co-workers to get the job done
- Actively look for hazards, promptly report them and take appropriate action to warn others
- Be a good safety role model for my friends and family, even when off the job

(Take the SafeAtWork Pledge, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 03: Dangers of Driving into the Sun

Driving on a beautiful sunny day can provide stunning scenery, but it can also create a hazard if the driver's view is compromised by a glaring sun. Just after sunrise and before sunset the sun can shine directly into drivers' eyes, leaving many motorists driving with a glare. This glare can make it much harder to see the road ahead and potential hazards, creating an added risk to drivers. When sun glare is an issue, slow down and use extra caution especially while driving through school zones.

So how can you protect yourself? AAA offers these tips for motorists when driving into the sun:

- Invest in polarized sunglasses – they can help reduce glare.
- Utilize your sun visor – it can help to block out the sun.
- Leave more following room – when the sun is in your eyes it can be hard to see what the car ahead is doing. This is one more time when it pays to leave more room between you and the next vehicle.
- Drive with your headlights on to increase your visibility to other drivers

Additional tips:

- Keep your windshield clean, inside and out
- Check your windshield for pitting and cracks
- Avoid storing papers or other items on the dashboard
- If having a difficult time seeing the road, use lane markings to help guide you.
- Rarely will visibility be perfect while driving, but if motorists know this and make the proper adjustments, you can minimize any additional risks that come with less-than-optimal visual conditions.

(Dangers of Driving Into Sun, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 04: Does Attitude Affect Safety?

An often-overlooked aspect of safety is your attitude. A negative attitude towards safety can impact job performance and increases your chance of getting injured. Maintaining a positive attitude will help reinforce the importance of safety procedures and equipment.

What are some examples of attitudes that negatively affect safety?

- “This is the way we have always performed this task, and nobody has ever been hurt”.
- “It will only take me a minute and I’ve done it before, and nothing happened”.
- “That safety rule is just stupid”.
- “There are no safety people around so I can do this right quick and no one will know”.

Some common negative attitudes to Avoid include carelessness, complacency, distraction, fatigue, strong emotions, and recklessness.

Can our attitude affect the safety of others?

These are just a few attitudes that most likely you have heard or even postured yourself. Take just a moment to think of why safety policies are written. Most are written in someone’s blood or because of their death. Very rarely do we know of the people hurt that created a safety policy. Sometimes we choose to ignore safety thinking it will just slow us down and make our task harder to complete in the time frame we feel we need to meet. Having a bad attitude towards safety could not only hurt you, but it could cause someone else to develop the same attitude. Take a moment to consider how you would feel if your actions caused someone else to be injured, dismembered, or even fatally injured?

We are all responsible for creating a safe work environment. We are all safety people. We are all expected to follow the safety policies and coach our co-workers when we see them doing something unsafe. Being our brother’s keeper is not a job, it’s a privilege. Going home to our families each night is one of the greatest goals we need to have. Having a positive, proactive safety attitude is the first step in reaching that goal. Komatsu has many safety policies in place to protect us and our co-workers. They are part of our condition of employment. However, with a positive attitude they become a way of life not only at work, but even at home.

Please remember the attitude you have towards safety may just save a Life.

(Turner, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 05: Telephone Threats

Threatening phone calls can be traumatic, affecting not just the person receiving the call, but everyone in a home or office. Regardless of what kind of threat you receive, or who it's directed at, try to stay calm. Write down what the caller says and any details of his voice, such as slurred speech, a deep voice, calm or panicky. While many calls may be hoaxes, it's important that you take threatening calls seriously.

Personal Threats

If someone is calling to threaten you personally, the wisest course of action is to simply hang up. Under no circumstances should you give out any personal information about yourself, your family or your co-workers. Don't try to be witty or ask the caller questions trying to determine who he is. This only encourages the caller. Make a note of the call, including the time, exactly what the caller said and, if you have call display, the caller's phone number. Report the incident to the police and, if the call happens at work, tell your manager. If threatening calls continue, contact the police.

Threats at Work

If you get a threatening call at work, try to determine if he is threatening you personally, someone else or your organization. If it's a personal threat, hang up. If it's a threat against someone else or your office, talking may help to defuse the situation. The West Virginia Judiciary recommends asking five questions. Begin by asking who the caller is talking about and why he's saying these things. Then ask if there is another way to help the caller. Ask the caller for his name and phone number and then confirm he is really threatening someone. Report the incident to your manager and the police.

Bomb Threats

If you receive a bomb threat, or any other terrorist threat, try to keep the caller on the phone. Signal a co-worker who can call 911 on another line. The FBI recommends writing down exactly what the caller says and details about the sound of his voice. Ask the caller where the bomb is located, what it looks like and when it will explode. You should also ask what kind of bomb it is and what will make it detonate. Finally, ask the caller the reason for the threat. Follow police instructions and be prepared to evacuate the building. The police department reports that only 22% of the bomb threats it responds to involve live devices.

(Weedmark, 2017)

Daily Safety Focus

June 06: Lyme Disease Risk on the Rise

Lyme disease is becoming more common outside the Northeast and more prevalent in the United States overall, a recent study by Quest Diagnostics shows. An analysis of more than 6 million lab tests conducted over the past seven years showed that positive tests for Lyme disease totaled about 35,000 in 2017. That's up from fewer than 20,000 in 2013.

More than 60% of the 2017 positive test results were in the Northeast, with Pennsylvania leading all states with 10,001 cases. In California, however, cases surged 194.5% from 2015 to 2017, while cases in Florida jumped 77% over that same period. Notable increases also occurred in Arizona, Georgia, Ohio, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

"Lyme disease is a bigger risk to more people in the United States than ever before," Harvey W. Kaufman, senior medical director for Quest Diagnostics and head of the company's Health Trends research program, said in a July 30 press release. "Our data shows that positive results for Lyme are both increasing in number and occurring in geographic areas not historically associated with the disease. We hypothesize that these significant rates of increase may reinforce other research suggesting changing climate conditions that allow ticks to live longer and, in more regions, may factor into disease risk."

Lyme disease, spread by bites from infected deer ticks, accounts for an estimated 329,000 illnesses in United States each year, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Symptoms include a bull's-eye rash, facial palsy, fever, chills, headache, fatigue, muscle and joint aches, and swollen lymph nodes.

"People treated with appropriate antibiotics in the early stages of Lyme disease usually recover rapidly and completely," CDC states.

(Lyme disease risk on the rise as more states see spike in cases: study, 2018)

Daily Safety Focus

June 07: The Sounds of Summer Can Lead to “Hidden” Hearing Loss

Concerts, fireworks, auto races, road construction and mowing the lawn are all summertime happenings that can cause permanent hearing damage, cautions Ball State University audiologist Lynn Bielski. “Our hearing is one of the senses that we, as humans, oftentimes take for granted,” Bielski said in a press release. “Excessively loud noise, music or other sound exposure will damage our hearing, and we need to take responsibility to protect it.”

Sounds louder than 80 decibels can cause hearing damage. Fireworks, concerts, lawn equipment and traffic range between 90 and 140 dB. After being exposed to loud sounds, people can experience:

- Immediate pain or ringing in the ears.
- Difficulty understanding someone talking a few feet away.
- Speech from people nearby sounding muffled.

Although these conditions may go away after a few hours, recent research shows that irreversible damage to the auditory system has already taken place, according to the release. This “hidden hearing loss” isn’t immediately apparent – but it is preventable.

“We live in a noisy world,” Bielski said in the release. “Similar to wearing a helmet when riding a bike, or a seat belt in a vehicle, hearing protection is critical safety equipment.” You can limit your noise exposure by reducing the volume, getting away from the source of the noise, and wearing hearing protection such as foam or rubber earplugs and earmuffs.

(The sounds of summer can lead to "hidden" hearing loss, 2019)

Daily Safety Focus

June 08: Portable Ladder Safety

Falls from portable ladders (step, straight, combination and extension) are one of the leading causes of occupational fatalities and injuries.

- Read and follow all labels/markings on the ladder.
- Avoid electrical hazards! – Look for overhead power lines before handling a ladder. Avoid using a metal ladder near power lines or exposed energized electrical equipment.
- Always inspect the ladder prior to using it. If the ladder is damaged, it must be removed from service and tagged until repaired or discarded.
- Always maintain a 3-point (two hands and a foot, or two feet and a hand) contact on the ladder when climbing. Keep your body near the middle of the step and always face the ladder while climbing.
- Only use ladders and appropriate accessories (ladder levelers, jacks or hooks) for their designed purposes.
- Ladders must be free of any slippery material on the rungs, steps or feet.
- Do not use a self-supporting ladder (e.g., step ladder) as a single ladder or in a partially closed position.
- Do not use the top step/rung of a ladder as a step/rung unless it was designed for that purpose.
- Use a ladder only on a stable and level surface, unless it has been secured (top or bottom) to prevent displacement.
- Do not place a ladder on boxes, barrels or other unstable bases to obtain additional height.
- Do not move or shift a ladder while a person or equipment is on the ladder.
- An extension or straight ladder used to access an elevated surface must extend at least 3 feet above the point of support. Do not stand on the three top rungs of a straight, single or extension ladder.
- The proper angle for setting up a ladder is to place its base a quarter of the working length of the ladder from the wall or other vertical surface.
- A ladder placed in any location where it can be displaced by other work activities must be secured to prevent displacement or a barricade must be erected to keep traffic away from the ladder.
- Be sure that all locks on an extension ladder are properly engaged.
- Do not exceed the maximum load rating of a ladder. Be aware of the ladder's load rating and of the weight it is supporting, including the weight of any tools or equipment.

(Portable Ladder Safety, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 09: What is Stop Work Authority?

The Stop Work Authority (SWA) is the right and obligation to stop work when an uncontrolled health, safety, and environment risk exists in the workplace. It's an administrative control you can use to protect yourself and your coworkers from dangerous job situations. If you see a coworker doing something that could cause them to be killed or seriously injured, you must use your SWA to keep your coworker (and yourself!) safe.

An example of a stop work order.

Two Construction Inspectors are onsite to conduct soil compaction testing within an excavation. Worker A heads down into the 10-foot excavation to conduct the testing. Worker B realizes that there is no protective shoring for the excavation. He yells for Worker A to exit the excavation who reluctantly comes back out despite not completing the testing. Worker B discusses the lack of protective shoring and that they should call their supervisor as this has become a stop work order. The supervisor speaks to the General Contractor (GC) about the matter. An emergency meeting is held onsite and the GC agrees to install protective systems. The workers wait for the systems to be installed and then complete the work.

How do we prevent issues that may arise from a stop work order?

Pre-planning is key to preventing the need for stop work orders. Work practices should be discussed and reviewed before the work begins. If a procedure or practice is confusing or unclear, talk to a supervisor. However, once the work begins, unexpected hazards may arise, and workers are encouraged to initiate stop work orders. Also, respect others' use of stop work orders. Remember, the intent of the order is to protect against an unsafe condition. We all want to stay safe on the job site.

(Stop Work, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 10: Crane and Hoist Safety

While working with or near cranes and hoists employees are more exposed to serious hazards. Certain safety rules must be applied when working in this type of work environment.

Workers not involved in the operation of the crane or hoist, but who are in the operating area need to:

- Never stand or walk under a load, whether moving or stationary.
- Stay alert and pay attention to warning signals.
- Do not distract the signal person when a load is being lifted.

Workers involved in the lift need to follow the following safety guidelines:

- Never operate a crane that is unsafe.
- Inspect the equipment before using it.
- Never let an unauthorized person operate the crane or give hand signals.
- Make sure the operator and signal person are in direct contact.
- Never carry a load over another worker.
- Lockout equipment when doing any repair work.
- Never exceed the limits of the equipment
- If the lift appears to become unstable or unsafe, stop immediately.
- The safe operation of cranes and hoisting equipment require a team effort.
- Ensure that all employees are properly trained to identify hazards and protect employees.

(Whynot-Young, 2017)

Daily Safety Focus

June 11: Machine Guarding

The basic motive for guarding is to protect, not prohibit; guards are often looked upon by employees as obstacles. However, guards wherever they are and whatever they are, are placed for protection.

Specifically, machine guards are used to protect against direct contact with moving parts. There are also guards designed to protect against flying chips, kickbacks and splashing of metal or harmful liquids.

Another area involves guards against human failures. Guards are engineered to give as much protection as possible, even to machine operators who deliberately take chances or who are distracted or emotionally upset on the job.

While guards may often appear to be a hindrance, overall, they have proven to be otherwise. They've made large contributions to both security and production. Greater machine speeds have been made possible through proper guarding and certainly the conscientious employee works with greater confidence knowing that a machine offers maximum protection.

Two types of guards are used to protect machine operators and probably most of you have been involved with one or the other. These are fixed guards and interlocking gate guards. Fixed guards are most used and are preferred over others; the obvious reason being that the fixed guards always protect you from dangerous parts of machines. Fixed guards may only be adjusted by authorized persons.

Interlocking guards are used if a fixed guard is not practical. This type will not allow the machine to operate until dangerous parts are guarded. The interlocking guard is designed to disconnect the source of power from the machine. Safety devices such as pullbacks, sweeps and electronic devices are used where neither a fixed nor interlocking guard can be used satisfactorily.

Safety devices are operated by the machine itself. When this type of guard is used on a machine that is loaded and unloaded by hand, the operator must use hand tools.

As I pointed out earlier, no guard can do the job without the cooperation of the person operating the machine. It is important that everyone working with or around machinery understands the generally accepted safe procedures for this type of work. No guard shall be adjusted or removed unless permission is given by the supervisor, or the employee concerned is specifically trained and the adjustment is considered a normal part of the job. In addition, no machine should be started without guards in place. When guards or safety devices are removed for repair or adjustment, the power for the machine should be turned off and the main switch locked and tagged.

Everyone wants to work safely. To do this, you must have a mature respect for machinery and for safeguards. They both will do this job for you if you let them. (Machine Guards, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 12: Proper Use and Selection of No-Touch Tooling

The Correct Mindset

Changing the way we have done things for years always results in an element of “pushback” from people set in their ways. It is a natural reaction to hold the rigging in place until tension is taken up to make sure the load is properly slung and balanced. Nevertheless, how often have you heard of people getting hands, fingers and body pinched, trapped or crushed by the rigging?

Benefits of Hands Free – No Touch Lifting

1. Significantly reduces crush, entanglement, and hand injuries
2. Removes you of the potential injury zone for dropped objects
3. Clears you of any potential swing area
4. Personnel can see more of the load zone
5. Better posture when pushing and pulling objects
6. Less strain on the lower back and neck area
7. Creates a strong safety culture for all lifting and rigging personnel

Tag Lines

1. Tag lines must be attached to a load prior to lifting and provided at the appropriate length to allow employees to stay clear of the drop zone and any pinch/crush points the load may create. Whether or not to use tag lines has always been a controversial point, but the consensus is that although their use can introduce additional hazards, their use generally increases the safety of the lift. The advantages and disadvantages of tag lines will be considered, and their use determined during the risk assessment and documented
2. Push/Pull sticks are simply non-conductive wooden or fiber glass poles. These should be about 6’ /2 meters long. Their primary use is to push, and maneuver loads in the correct orientation, and their secondary use is to retrieve tag lines hanging vertically down from the load so that personnel do not have to get too close to the suspended load. Some push/pull sticks are designed with a hook at one end and a rubber or leather pad at the other.

The most hazardous parts of a lifting operation are performing the hoisting and landing of the component or part being lifted. Therefore, at these critical stages, personnel must be as far away from the load as practical in case the load shifts or drops. To ensure this happens, it is essential to adopt a “hands free”- “no touch” lifting guideline that is strictly followed.

Employees are strongly discouraged from placing their hands directly on suspended loads and are encouraged to use no-touch tooling when applicable.

(Guthrie, Hands Free, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 13: The Accident Report (Sometimes you just have to Smile)

I am writing in response to your request for “additional information.” In block number 30 of the accident report form, I put “poor planning” as the cause for my accident. You said in your last letter that I should explain more fully. I trust that the following detail will be enough.

I am an amateur radio operator. On the day of the accident, I was working alone on the top section of my new 80-foot antenna tower. When I completed my work, I discovered that I had, over the course of several trips up the tower, brought about 300 lbs. of tools and spare hardware. Rather than carry the now unneeded tools and materials down by hand, I decided to lower the items in a small barrel by using a pulley, which fortunately was attached to the pole at the tip of the tower. Securing the rope at ground level, I went up to the top of the tower and loaded the tools and materials into the barrel. Then I went back to the ground and untied the rope, holding it tightly to insure a slow descent of the 300 lbs. of tools.

You will note in block number 11 of the accident report form that I weigh 155 lbs. Due to my surprise at being jerked off the ground so suddenly, I lost my presence of mind and forgot to let go of the rope. I proceeded at a rapid rate up the side of the tower. Near the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming down. This explains my fractured skull and broken clavicle.

Slowed only slightly, I continued my rapid ascent, not stopping until the fingers of my right hand were two knuckles deep into the pulley. Fortunately, by this time I had regained my presence of mind and was able to hold tightly on the rope despite the pain. At about the same time however, the barrel hit the ground. The bottom fell out of the barrel. Devoid of the weight of the tools, the barrel now weighed 20 pounds.

I refer you again to my weight in block number 11. As you might guess, I began a rapid descent down the side of the tower. Near the 40-foot level, I met the barrel coming up. This accounts for the two fractured ankles and the lacerations or my legs and lower body.

The encounter with the barrel slowed me enough to lessen my injuries when I fell into the pile of tools, and fortunately only three vertebras were cracked. I am sorry to report, however, that as I lay there on the tools in pain, unable to stand, and watching the empty barrel 80 feet above me, I again lost my presence of mind.

I let go of the rope…

(Benton, 2013)

Daily Safety Focus

June 14: Hot Tips for Summer Safety

Summer is well under way in North America, and with the sun and fun comes some safety concerns to keep in mind. Many safety-related agencies and organizations have issued safety warnings and tips for a variety of summer celebration hazards and activities. We've collected them here for you:

Sun Exposure (via CDC NIOSH)

- Wear a broad-spectrum sunscreen with a minimum of SPF 15.
- Follow the application directions on the sunscreen bottle.
- Apply sunscreen liberally (a minimum of 1 oz.) at least 20 minutes before sun exposure.
- Make sure to cover the ears, lips, neck, tops of feet, and backs of hands.
- Reapply sunscreen at least every 2 hours and each time you get out of the water or sweat heavily.
- Throw away old sunscreen, as sunscreens lose their potency after 1-2 years.
- Some sunscreens may not work as well when used with insect repellent, requiring more frequent reapplication when the two are used together.
- Wearing protective clothing can also help prevent sunscreen, particularly high-SPF clothing.
- Workers should wear wide-brimmed hats and sunglasses. Sunglasses with 100 % UV protection and side panels are recommended.

Hot Cars

- Always check the vehicle for passengers and pets after parking.
- Remember that the inside of a parked car can reach up to 120 degrees Fahrenheit within minutes on a 78-degree day, and 160 degrees in less than 10 minutes on a 90-degree day.
- If you see a person or animal trapped in a hot car, have the driver paged in the nearby store and/or call 911 immediately.

Water Safety

There are many electrical hazards in swimming pools, hot tubs and spas, on board boats, and in the waters surrounding boats, marinas, and launch ramps. One such danger is electric shock drowning (ESD), when marina or onboard electrical systems leak electrical current into the surrounding water. The current then passes through the body, causing paralysis that results in drowning. In addition, drowning is the leading injury-related cause of death for children ages 1-4 and the third leading cause of injury-related death among children age 19 and under.

Be careful so your summer fun isn't cancelled by accident.

(Hot Tips for Summer Safety, 2018)

Daily Safety Focus

June 15: Hazardous Energy, Critical Risk #5

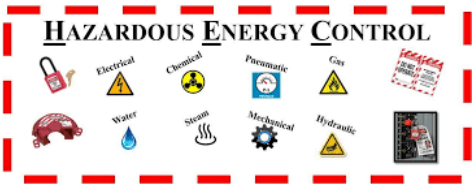
Hazardous energy is defined as "any electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, pneumatic, chemical, nuclear, thermal, gravitational, or other energy that can harm personnel" (CSA Z460-13 "Control of Hazardous Energy - Lockout and Other Methods"). Some energy sources are obvious, such as electricity, heat in a furnace, or something that might fall. Others may be hidden hazards such as air pressure in a system or a tightly wound spring.

Electrical Energy is the most common form of energy used in workplaces. It can be available live through power lines or it can also be stored, for example, in batteries or capacitors. Electricity can harm people in one of three ways: By electrical shock, by secondary injury, by exposure to an electrical arc.

Is Lockout and Hazardous Energy Control the same thing?

The terms lockout and hazardous energy control are sometimes used interchangeably, but they are **NOT** the same thing. Hazardous energy control is a broad term describing the use of procedures, techniques, designs and methods to protect personnel from injury due to the inadvertent release of hazardous energy. Lockout is the placement of a lock or tag on an energy-isolating device in accordance with an established procedure. It indicates that the energy-isolating device is not to be operated until removal of the lock or tag. Therefore, lockout is one way in which hazardous energy control can be achieved.

Do's of Hazardous Energy Control



- Develop a Hazardous Energy Control Program
- Perform a task analysis and a Formal Risk Assessment
- Implement all required controls
- Communicate to all, include necessary training

Gather Information

- Know where the energy isolating devices are located and what procedures are required. Trained personnel.
- Know the step-by-step procedures for servicing or maintaining the system
- Know how to safely address malfunctions, jams, misfeeds, or planned or unplanned interruptions.
- Know how to install, move, and remove any or all parts of the system safely

The controls required will follow the hazards and risks identified during the analysis and assessment. For example, identify what types of hazardous energy are present in a system that needs to be controlled, and what types of energy-isolating and de-energizing devices are required.

Don'ts of Hazardous Energy Control

- Never start up work before reviewing a hazardous Energy Control Program
- Never perform LO/TO unless trained to do so
- Never conduct servicing or maintenance activities that require placing any part of the body within the point of operation or danger zone of any machine or piece of equipment unless it has been locked out, tagged out and verification of zero energy state has been conducted.
- Never attempt to remove LO/TO devices or start/energize equipment that has been locked/tagged out by another person. (Carlough, Hazardous Energy: Uncontrolled Release of Energy Sources, 2019)

Daily Safety Focus

June 16: Think Safety, then Act Safely!

If you were asked to define “safety” in one word, what would be your reply? Would you define safety as alertness, always ready for the unexpected? Would you define safety as skill, the art of being ultra-adept? Would you define safety as experience, asserting that the veteran never gets hurt?

Would you define safety as cooperation, the ability to exercise patience and get along with your fellow worker? Or after deliberation, would you finally define safety by using the single word “think”?

Perhaps Alertness, skill, experience and cooperation could be associated with safety; however, these are subservient to the word “think” and must be construed as secondary definitions.

As has been so often stated, 90% of all accidents are attributed to unsafe acts on the part of the worker, and failure to think before acting constitutes the cause of practically all accidents in this category.

- A lineman doesn’t put cover-up on an energized line he is working near for the purpose of expediency, an injury is the result. The lineman had not given thought to the original purpose of the cover-up and has suffered the unfortunate consequences.
- Another individual, again for the sake of saving time, fails to don safety goggles for a project “that will only take a minute.” Again, injury results because of failure to think of the possible negative results.
- A truck driver is involved in an accident because he knew he had the right of way but failed to think that perhaps the second party involved would not recognize this established right.

Many accidents can be averted if we will discipline ourselves to give full thought prior to the application of our actions.

(Think, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 17: Working around Heavy Equipment

75% of construction related “struck by” and “run over” fatalities involve heavy equipment. The use of such equipment is essential on construction projects. Some of the equipment on such sites are dump trucks, cranes, pay loaders, bull dozers, excavators, skid steers, graders, aerial lifts, forklifts, etc.

When construction equipment is rumbling around a project, you've got to watch your step. Safely working in the area of any heavy equipment requires the shared responsibility of both the equipment operator and their coworkers. If both the workers and equipment operators keep their eyes open, no one's going to get hurt. Following are ways to help you maintain a healthy respect for working around heavy mobile equipment:

- Never take for granted that equipment operators see you.
- Never depend upon hearing a horn or other warning signals; it might get lost in the general noise around a project.
- Equipment shouldn't be backed without someone to check the blind spots and give signals; nevertheless, keep in the clear whenever equipment is traveling backwards, as that's when most equipment accidents happen.
- Swinging counterweights often create a dangerous pinch-point. Don't get into a spot where you could get squeezed in between.
- Never hitch a ride on the running board; it's fatally easy to fall under moving equipment.
- No riding on top of loaded trucks; the load might shift, and you might not have enough over-head clearance in a tight spot.
- If you're riding in a transport vehicle to a job, or between jobs, keep your arms, legs, and all parts of your body inside the unit.
- Never walk alongside moving equipment. Keep in the clear in case the unit suddenly turns your way, or slides, or the load shifts.
- Stay out from under loads on cranes or hoists. Use established walkways and beware of shortcuts.
- If the boom of a unit ever hits a power line, keep away from the frame of the unit and the load cables.
- Never lubricate, clean or work on a machine that's in operation. Stop the machine. If you must remove a guard, replace it as soon as the work's done.
- Construction equipment is husky, heavy, and extremely unhealthy to tangle with. Always assume that the operator doesn't see you; doesn't even know you're around. Always figure that it's up to you to keep in the clear.
- Always inspect equipment prior to operating; check for working lights, backup alarms, etc.

(Be Alert to Moving Equipment, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 18: Eye Injuries

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) reports that every day about 2,000 workers sustain job-related eye injuries requiring medical treatment. However, safety experts and eye doctors believe the right eye protection can lessen the severity or even prevent 90% of these eye injuries. Chemicals or foreign objects in the eye and cuts or scrapes on the cornea are common eye injuries that occur at work. Other common eye injuries come from splashes with grease and oil, burns from steam, ultraviolet or infrared radiation exposure, and flying wood or metal chips.

Workplace eye protection is needed when the following potential eye hazards are present:

- Projectiles (dust, concrete, metal, wood and other particles)
- Chemicals (splashes and fumes)
- Radiation (especially visible light, ultraviolet radiation or heat)

Four things you can do to protect your eyes from injury:

1. Know the eye safety dangers of your task.
2. Eliminate hazards before starting work by using machine guards, work screens or other engineering controls.
3. Use proper eye protection with no more than a 5mm gap.
4. Keep your safety eyewear in good condition and have it replaced if it becomes damaged.

Create a safe work environment by minimizing hazards from falling or unstable debris. Make sure that safety features (machine guards) are in place and ensure employees know how to use tools properly.

Evaluate safety hazards: Identify the primary hazards at the site and the hazards posed by nearby workers, large machinery, and falling/shifting debris.

Wear the proper eye and face protection: Select the appropriate ANSI Z87 eye protection for the hazard. Make sure the eye protection is in good condition, that it fits properly and will stay in place. (5mm Maximum Gap). Clean eyewear regularly. Brush, shake, or vacuum dust and debris from hardhats, hair, forehead, or the top of the eye protection before removing the protection and do not rub eyes with dirty hands or clothing. Always ensure you remove eye protection with clean hands.

Best Practices:

- Ensure proper eye protection for the job
- Ensure proper fit of selected eye protection.
- Keep eye protection clean and free of debris
- If overly scratched, select new protection.

Daily Safety Focus

June 19: Hand Injuries

Hand Injury Statistics

Lacerations can occur anywhere, of course, and with any number of pieces of equipment. But the numbers are clear. When it comes to protecting different parts of the body from lacerations, hands are the most important. This is because just over 40 % of hand injuries are lacerations. That's huge. Imagine the difference removing those injuries would make.

But, how can we stop those injuries? The biggest two causes of lacerations: machinery and hand tools. Machinery (26% of machinery injuries are lacerations) is often specialized for your industry and therefore the best protection is gloves. When it comes to hand tools, a full 56% of injuries they cause are lacerations. Gloves can help here too, but innovative cutting tools designed for safety, no touch tooling, and awareness of pinch points can drastically reduce injuries. So can proper hand tool safety training.

Safeguarding

- Eliminate the hazard by ensuring proper guarding is in place.
- Pay attention to where your hands are around any moving parts or any objects that have the potential to move.
- Do not place your hands where you cannot see them.
- Wear the proper gloves for whatever work task you are completing to reduce the amount of damage to your hands, if they do end up in the line of fire.
- When working on equipment or machinery ensure they are properly locked out and tagged out to prevent unexpected start up.
- Properly block any equipment or parts where stored energy could be released.
- When working with others make sure to communicate and let each other know if you are out of the line of fire before moving objects or starting up equipment.

(Guthrie, Hand Injuries, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 20: COVID-19 – No Face Touching

The COVID-19 virus manifests itself in the back of our throats. It gets into our system through our mucus membranes such as our eyes and mouth. In addition to distancing, cleaning, and hygiene; we need to stop touching our face. I can't speak for everyone, but I had no idea how much I touch my face until recently. Either I have developed a new bad habit, or I've had one all along that I never recognized.

Just like every other habit, it takes an active effort to change. It's like our weight and/or health; if we want to improve ourselves – it takes an effort on top of a desire. As for safety, we need action! 100% of the team (family, community) 100% of the time. Errors equal opportunity for failure.

We're at ZERO for a reason, let's do our part to keep it that way today.

(Covid - No Face Touching, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 21: Safety Away from Work

Any employee of a mining company or mine support employesr are very aware of safety. It starts from the day we are hired, with our New Miner Training, and continues throughout our mining career. Every company has some sort of Safety Manager or Safety Director, with multiple programs, training techniques and guidelines that are implemented to keep safety in the forefront of what we do every day. No mining company ever wants to see an employee, vendor, visitor or anyone else get hurt on their mine site.

What I would like to touch on today is safety away from work. Driving to and from work every day is likely more dangerous (depending on where you live, traffic, posted speed limits, etc.), than the job you do at the mine. Let's think about changing a light bulb on a ceiling fan at your house. Have you ever reached for a chair; because it was there, rather than getting a step stool or short ladder? Or witnessed your spouse or child doing it, but never considered the risk that they were taking? Have you cut the grass in flip flops? Ran the weed eater while wearing shorts and no safety glasses? Used a screwdriver like a chisel or prybar because it was there? These and many other examples happen every day in our homes, not just by us, but by our other family members, each one introducing a risk, that could turn into a serious injury.

So, the next time you are about to do a task, whether for the first time or one-hundredth, think it over and do it the safe way. Just another way to protect you and your family.

(Eckert, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 22: How Angry Driving Escalates into Road Rage

You're driving in the right lane and notice a driver tailgating you. A jammed acceleration lane prevents the driver from crossing over. You're going the speed limit and remain at your normal speed, ignoring the driver. The driver begins honking incessantly and acts aggressively. Through your rear-view mirror, you notice that the driver is angry and gives you the middle finger. You grow fearful by the motorist's angry driving. When enough space opens, the driver moves to the acceleration lane and throws something at your driver window while speeding by. You're spooked by the entire ordeal but glad the driver moved ahead of you.

Road rage can occur in the event of construction, detours, cutoffs, or slow drivers. Road rage is illegal and can lead to physical altercations and shootings. Overall, you should deescalate a road rage situation.

How Does the Law Define Road Rage?

- The law distinguishes between aggressive driving and road rage. Aggressive driving occurs when a driver exhibits aggressive tendencies on the road, such as speeding or tailgating. Officials may also ticket you for following too closely or reckless driving.
- Road rage is a serious offense because the law sees road rage as a threat to public safety. Road rage involves a violent intent in some form, which can include physical altercations, cutting people off with their car, swerving into cars, running cars off the road, shooting a gun into the car and abrupt braking in front of another car.

All these factors can jeopardize the lives of fellow motorists. Under the law, you have a duty to care for fellow motorists. A duty to care is a legal term that compels citizens to care for the safety of others. Acting recklessly on the road violates the duty of care obligation and exposes you to criminal charges and/or civil lawsuits if you injure or kill someone. Road rage within itself isn't a crime, but actions arising from a road rage incident can cause harm. For instance, yelling or displaying rude gestures at someone qualifies as road rage but it's not a crime. If an irate driver fires a gun into a car, however, a cop could charge you with such offenses as the reckless discharge of a firearm or attempted murder. Further, if both parties engage in a fight in the middle of the road, they could face assault charges and/or disturbing the peace. Since you don't know where a road rage case may lead, it's best to deescalate the situation rather than stoke the flames.

How Can I Walk Away from a Road Rage Incident Safely? One good way to ease tensions is to look away from drivers. Avoid eye contact because it signals your intention to engage with the other person. While avoiding contact, apply the brakes to place some distance between yourself and the other driver. Additional space also allows you to brake or maneuver suddenly if necessary. You can also wave apologetically at an angry driver if you make a mistake on the road. A friendly wave or gesture goes a long way in diffusing tensions.

If all else fails and another driver threatens or harasses you, call 911 immediately. After phoning the authorities, provide any description you can on the driver and the motor vehicle. (Staff, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 23: Welding, Cutting and Brazing

Welding, cutting, and brazing are different hot work techniques used to bond, cut, solder, or form metals at high temperatures. Specific precautions must be taken during this high-hazard work to prevent personal injury and workplace damage.

The most common welding, cutting and brazing hazards include:

- Electric Shock, when two charged metal objects are touched
- Secondary Voltage Shock, from an arc welding circuit
- Primary Voltage Shock, when contact is made with electrically 'hot' metal parts
- Fumes and Gases, inhalation of harmful fumes due to lack of ventilation
- Fire and Explosions, may result from the intense heat & sparks near the welding arc
- Burns, often the result of insufficient PPE
- Welder's Flash, extreme eye discomfort, swelling or temporary blindness due to improper eye protection

Any worker performing hot work must read and understand manufacturer instructions for the equipment; be trained and authorized to handle the equipment they are using and review applicable safety data sheets before starting work. Electric shock, while performing hot work, can lead to serious injury or death caused from either the shock itself or from a fall caused by the reaction to the shock.

Important points to remember to avoid electric shock:

- Operators should be insulated properly from the work and from the ground.
- Never touch the electrode or metal parts of the electrode holder with skin or wet clothing.
- Always wear dry gloves that are in good condition.
- Only qualified technicians should attempt to service or repair welding equipment.
- Inspect the electrode holder before work. Ensure the welding cable and electrode holder insulation remain in good condition. Repair or replace damaged insulation before use.

Remember, even when not turned on, welding equipment can still have 20 to 100 volts at the welding circuit. Even a shock of 50 volts or less can be enough to cause injury. Employees exposed to the hazards created by these operations shall be protected by proper PPE:

- Leather and flame-resistant treated cotton clothing is recommended in welding environments.
- Don't roll up sleeves or pant cuffs as sparks or hot metal can get into the folds and burn through the clothing.
- Even when wearing a helmet, always wear safety goggles with side shields or goggles to prevent sparks or debris from hitting the eyes.
- Heavy, flame-resistant gloves should always be worn when performing hot work.
- Wear hearing protection if working in an area with high noise levels.
- A fire watch is required when there is a high risk of fire.

If welding, cutting, brazing or soldering is a required task in your workplace, then make sure you don't skip the safety meeting! All employees who work in the area should be familiar with the unique hazards associated with welding activities and the safe work practices expected in the workplace. (Safety Precautions, 2020).

Daily Safety Focus

June 24: Avoid Injuries & Use Hand Tools as Intended

Tools are a necessary requirement on most job sites, indoors and out. However, hand tools, when used improperly or not kept in good condition, can result in very serious injuries. Workers should be sure that they take good care of their hand tools to avoid common injuries such as:

- Severe cuts or punctures that require stitches
- Scrapes and abrasions that can end up with skin infections
- Eye injuries or blindness from chipping or chiseling
- Electrical shocks from using improperly insulated tools for electrical work
- Carpal tunnel syndrome if the wrong tool is used repeatedly or the right tool is used incorrectly
- Bruises or broken bones when tools slip, fall or are carelessly thrown

Injuries with tools often take place when workers fail to use them as intended or forget to inspect them before using. Hand tools should always be inspected before use. Never use hand tools that are rusted, cracked, warped, splintered, loose, damaged or broken!

- Look for any damage such cracks in handles, sharp edges, or splintering. If a wooden handle on a tool, such as a hammer or an ax, is loose, splintered, or cracked, the head has the potential to fly off causing injuries.
- Make sure that tools are not covered in paint, grease, or dirt that can create a hazard or hide a serious defect.
- Wrenches that are warped, rusted, or sprung can result in breaking or slips that can lead to serious hand injuries.
- Saws, knives, scissors, or other similar tools should be sharp. Dull tools can be more hazardous than sharp ones.
- Spades, shovels, and other long handled tools should not be used unless they are in good working condition.
- If performing work around flammable gases, volatile liquids or other explosive materials use a hand tool made of nonferrous material. Iron or steel hand tools may produce sparks that can be an ignition source around flammables
- Ensure hand tools are insulated if working near energized electrical parts
- Remember to use the right PPE such as gloves, safety glasses, goggles, or face-shields.
- Always use the proper attachments, handles, and grips provided by the manufacturer!
- Never use impact tools that have mushroomed heads. They can chip and send pieces flying off as projectiles.

Hand tools can also pose a risk even when they are not in use if they are not carried, stored, or handled properly.

- Never carry sharp tools like screwdrivers or chisels in your pocket! Only carry them with the point side down in a tool belt or in a toolbox.
- Instead of carrying tools up and down a ladder by hand, consider using a bucket or a strong bag.
- Never toss or throw any hand tool to a co-worker.
- When carrying larger tools pay attention to corners and doorways. Ensure the work site has clear walkways and maintain good housekeeping to prevent slips, trips and falls while carrying tools.
- Always put tools away when not in use. Don’t leave any tools lying on any elevation, like scaffolding, where there is a risk to people or property below.

- (Avoid Injuries and use Hand Tools, 2020).

Daily Safety Focus

June 25: Overhead Work – Safety Best Practice

Objects falling from above and striking people below cause some of the most serious industrial injuries and account for several fatalities every year.

Here are some basic precautions to be followed:

- Warn those below that you're about to begin an overhead job by signs, barricades, and good communications.
- Don't carry tools or materials up a ladder. Use a hand winch line, containers, or buckets lifted by a line.
- Before raising tools or materials with a hand line or a winch line, make sure they are securely fastened so they won't slip out.
- When you pile materials on scaffolds, make sure scaffolding and platforms are provided with toe boards so objects don't fall off.
- Never throw materials or tools.
- Make sure the load being lifted by hand line or scaffold is balanced and that no one is under the load being lifted.
- Keep tools and materials away from the edges of platforms and ladders.
- Don't stick tools in your pockets because, when you bend over or reach, they may fall out.
- Practice good housekeeping on the overhead job and keep tools and materials that are not in use picked up and stored properly.
- If the nature of the overhead job involves the danger of falling objects, have the area below cleared, and post the necessary warning signs. Tape off the area.

It is equally important that personnel on the ground are aware of overhead work and obey the signs and barricades. Whether your work takes you overhead or keeps you below, you can always eliminate falling objects as a source of danger by following these rules.

(Scaff, Overhead Work, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 26: Hazardous Materials

Hazardous materials serve valuable functions in the workplace like the flammable liquids used for cutting and welding or the compressed gas used to fuel forklifts. Hazardous materials in work area:

- The vapors from flammable liquids can ignite at normal working temperatures.
- Compressed gases and liquefied petroleum gases (LPG) are under high pressure posing both fire and explosion risk.

Compressed Gases are under high pressure and may contain dangerous gases that can affect your health in unsafe conditions. Some types of compressed gases commonly found in workplaces include:

- Acetylene - for fueling cutting torches
- Argon – welding
- Freon - refrigeration coolant
- Oxygen - welding, metal cutting

To prevent injury and accidents, compressed gas cylinders must be used, stored, and transported properly.

- Do not smoke, have open flames, or use spark-producing equipment around compressed gas containers.
- Inspect regulators, cylinders and cylinder valves of compressed gas containers regularly to ensure safe operation.
- Gases that may react with each other must be stored separately.
- Do not vent flammable gases indoors.
- When not in use, ensure bottles/cylinders are chained or locked in an upright position with caps securely in place.

There are two primary hazards associated with Flammable Liquids: Explosions and Fire.

Flammable liquids commonly found in the workplace include:

- Acetone – solvent
- Benzene – plastics manufacturing
- Carbon Disulfide – cellophane manufacturing
- Gasoline – fuel
- Hexane – textile manufacturing, glue production
- Isopropanol – solvent, cleaning fluid
- Methanol – antifreeze, solvent, fuel
- Toluene – solvent, explosives manufacturing

Flammable liquids must only be stored in proper, approved containers that are labeled correctly.

- Flammable liquids should be stored in approved cabinets (commonly referred to as a fire cabinet).
- Exits, stairways and doors shall not be blocked by flammable liquid containers.
- In areas where flammable liquids and/or vapors may be present, employees must not smoke, light

“Hazardous Materials” is one safety meeting topic you don't want to skip! Employees may not have had experience working with or near the hazardous materials found in the workplace and going over the basics a few times a year is always a good idea.

(Hazardous Materials Handling & Storage at Work, 2019)

Daily Safety Focus

June 27: Coronavirus in the US – Considerations for Travelers

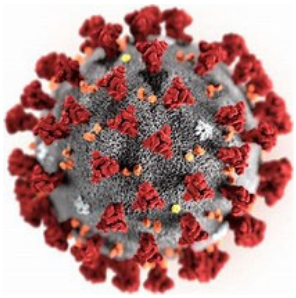
COVID-19 cases and deaths have been reported in all 50 states, and the situation is constantly changing. Because travel increases your chances of getting infected and spreading COVID-19, staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from getting sick.

If you are thinking about traveling away from your local community, ask:

- Is COVID-19 spreading where you're going? *You can get infected while traveling.*
- Is COVID-19 spreading in your community? *Even if you don't have symptoms, you can spread COVID-19 to others while traveling.*
- Will you or those you are traveling with be within 6' of others during or after your trip?
- Are you or those you are traveling with more likely to get very ill from COVID-19? *risk for severe illness from COVID-19.*
- Do you live with someone who is more likely to get very ill from COVID-19? *If you get infected while traveling you can spread COVID-19 to loved ones when you return, even if you don't have symptoms.*
- Does the state or local government where you live or at your destination require you to stay home for 14 days after traveling?
- If you get sick with COVID-19, will you have to miss work or school?
- Do not travel if you are sick, or if you have been around someone with COVID-19 in the past 14 days. Do not travel with someone who is sick.

If You Travel protect yourself and others during your trip:

- Clean your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after you have been in a public place, after touching surfaces frequently touched by others, after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing, and before touching your face or eating. If soap and water are not available, bring and use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub your hands together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
- Avoid close contact with others, keep 6' of physical distance from others.
- Wear a cloth face covering in public and cover coughs and sneezes.
- Pick up food at drive-throughs, curbside restaurant service, or stores.



(Coronavirus and Travel in the US, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 28: Common Sense Isn’t Always Enough

Common sense refers to thinking or reasoning in a manner that is prevalent in the general population. All employees are expected to use common sense in their daily work activities. However, many items of safety must go beyond common sense because of factors that employees are not aware of. Without safety training, how would an individual know the health and physical hazards of various job site chemical products which appear to be benign? Without safety training, how would an individual know the safety procedures on a powered tool or piece of equipment which seems so easy to operate? Without safety training, how would an individual know the levels and duration of sound that can cause permanent hearing loss while there is no immediate pain? Without safety training, how would an individual know the dangers of bloodborne pathogens when they are totally invisible and, initially, painless? Without safety training, how would an individual know the levels of respiratory protection required for invisible, odorless particles of lead, asbestos, silica, and arsenic? Without safety training, how would an individual know the importance of ground fault circuit interrupters. The list can go on and on but remember this - all safety requirements and safety programs have been developed as a result of the general population, using common sense, screwing up big time and winding up injured, maimed, sick, or dead. Safety standards are not developed because of one or two freak accidents - they are developed after numerous, documented, related accidents are analyzed and a safe method of defeating these accidents has been created. Not all occupational hazards are as obvious as one would like to believe. Pay attention during safety training and don’t short-circuit safety!

(Scaff, Common Sense isn't Enough, 2020)

Daily Safety Focus

June 29: Here are Some Tips to Help Prevent...

A bruised knee, sprained ankle, broken arm, head laceration, broken leg and even death. What do all of these have in common? They can all be caused by **slips, trips and falls.**

I was looking over a company's 300 log this week and saw that out of 12 recordable incidents, 7 were caused by a slip, trip or fall. That is almost 60% of their recordable incidents.

Now, I can tell you none of their slips, trips or falls led to a fatality, but there was a broken leg in the mix and that was caused by an easily preventable trip hazard. And that trip hazard was caused by a housekeeping issue - some excess material and debris that was scattered all around the work area. But rather than someone taking a few minutes to clean it up, it was left in place - just waiting for the right person to come along.

Most slip, trip and fall hazards are seen and easily preventable while others are more difficult to see. But with a little effort on everyone's part, accidents caused by those hazards can be easily prevented.

Here are some tips to help prevent slips, trips and falls:

- Maintain a clear line of vision, particularly when carrying a large object.
- Use handrails.
- Keep your work area clean of debris.
- Wear the proper work shoes/boots and make sure they are laced or buckled.
- Pay attention to what you are doing and be aware of what is going on around you.
- Clean up spills -- liquids are slippery.
- Ensure you have adequate lighting.
-

Remember to always do what you can to prevent slips, trips and fall hazards. It's in everyone's best interest.

(Here are some Tips to Help Prevent..., 2018)

Daily Safety Focus

June 30: Mobile Equipment at Surface Mines

Haul trucks and other large surface mining vehicles can destroy smaller vehicles that cannot be seen by the operator. Traffic controls, training, and avoiding distractions are key to enhancing safety. Collision warning and avoidance systems can also help.

Key Safety Practices

- Communicate and verify with all equipment operators any planned movements and location upon entering or exiting a work area.
- Ensure all persons are trained to recognize workplace hazards. Specifically, train equipment operators on the limited visibility and blind spot areas that are inherent to the operation of large equipment. Do not drive or park smaller vehicles in mobile equipment's potential path of movement.
- Instruct all operators on the importance of using flags or strobe lights on the cabs of their vehicles to make haulage truck operators aware of their location. Flags must be high enough to be in the view of equipment operators.
- Install and maintain collision avoidance/warning technologies on mobile equipment.

Powered Haulage Collision Prevention Best Practices

- Follow site traffic plan, know haul road traffic patterns and stay on your side of the road.
- Avoid driving in reverse whenever possible
- Keep small equipment away from large equipment.
- Avoid parking in haul truck load & dump zones; create safe zones around large equipment by parking only in safe zones.
- Follow site communication p; large equipment always has the right of way
- If you must approach large equipment, first make eye contact or radio contact with the operator. Know Blind Spots
- **DO NOT ASSUME** large equipment operators can see you or small equipment. Before moving, large equipment operators need to know if other equipment or vehicles are near. If a large equipment operator is not certain of his/her surroundings or does not know for sure that the way is safe, radio others and get an ALL CLEAR signal before moving.

To Avoid Tragedy, Follow These Best Practices

- Identify small equipment using whips, flashing lights, or other visibility devices
- Stay focused: Distracted driving is not acceptable on highways or mine property and avoid drowsy driving. NEVER drive under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- ALWAYS keep back-up alarms and horns operational
- Operators: Blow horn and pause before moving stopped equipment. Follow site protocol for number of horn blasts for forward or reverse

(Mobile Equipment at Surface Mines, 2020)