

S a f e t y - P l u s

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SAFETY IS OUR ONLY BUSINESS

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NEW NEWSLETTER FORMAT

We apologize for the delay in getting the September newsletter out to everyone. The team at Safety Flare has been working diligently on making some changes to the website. The monthly newsletter will now be posted monthly on the website. We will continue sending notification emails when the newsletter is posted. If you do not have an e-mail address and would like the newsletter mailed to you, please contact us. Also, if you are not on the e-mail list and would like to be added, give us a call and we would be happy to add you to the list. Thank you for being a part of our effort to GO GREEN!

Safety Pros Report High Rate of PPE Noncompliance

(Professional Safety September 2011)

In a survey by Kimberly-Clark Professional, 89% of safety professionals said they had observed workers not wearing safety equipment when they should have been. Twenty-nine percent said this had happened on numerous occasions. Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) show that most workers who sustain on-the-job injuries were not wearing PPE.

The survey also examined the reasons for such high levels of noncompliance. Of those respondents who observed PPE noncompliance in the workplace, 69% said the primary cause was workers thinking that PPE wasn't needed. This was followed by factors such as uncomfortable, too hot, poor fit, not available near work task and unattractive looking.

So what are safety managers doing to encourage greater PPE compliance? The top strategies cited were improving existing education and training programs (61%) and increased monitoring (48%). Other strategies include purchasing more comfortable and/or stylish PPE; tying compliance to individual performance evaluations; and developing incentive programs.

When it comes to compliance with PPE protocols, 24% reported that eye protection was the "most challenging" PPE category. The next highest category for noncompliance was hearing protection (18%), followed by respiratory protection/masks (17%), protective apparel (16%), gloves (14%), and head protection (4%).



We will dedicate our entire October Newsletter to Fire Prevention. Please do not miss the October issue as there will be important information for your workplace as well as your home fire safety.





Coren's Corner for Safety:

I recently attended the AGC Building Branch Safety Awards Luncheon. Dr. Todd Conklin from Los Alamos National Laboratory was the keynote speaker for the luncheon. Dr. Todd discussed Human Performance and Learning as it relates to safety in the workplace and the way a company responds to incidents as they occur. Several strong statements were made that had all of us in the room think about daily activity on jobsites. Here are just a few of the statements that were presented:

- *Safety is not the absence of accidents. Safety is the presence of defenses.
- *Safety is the ability to perform work in a varying and unpredictable work environment.
- *People are as safe as they need to be, without being overly safe...in order to get their job done.

And one final thought:

NEVER TAKE A SLEEPING PILL AND A LAXATIVE AT THE SAME TIME!!!

FIRST AID KIT REFILL SUPPLIES

Are your first aid kits lacking some supplies? Don't throw away that half-empty box...give us a call and we can assist you in replenishing the first aid items that you need in a quantity that fits your needs for a reasonable price.



Let us know if you have any special needs for your first aid supplies.

CALL US FOR PRICING INFORMATION



Fall is coming and so is the Balloon Fiesta! With that in mind we at Safety Flare would like to remind all those who are working up high to inspect and maintain their fall protection. Fall protection equipment does, unfortunately, receive a lot of abuse and damage due to normal working conditions. Personal fall protection is literally a workers life line and should not be take lightly. Inspect your harness each and every time you put it on. Make sure that your anchorage points are compatible. Remember that gravity is a force to be reckoned with, accounting for 14% of occupational deaths in 2010 according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics 2010 census of fatal occupational injuries. Also, make sure that the equipment you are using is the right equipment for the job you are doing and the position you are in. If you are six feet tall and are working 10 feet above the ground a six foot lanyard is not going to stop you from hitting the ground. Take time to think about the possible disasters, your life may depend on it. Enjoy the fall season and stay safe.

Back to School Facts

- ☺ **55.5 million:** Projected number of students to be enrolled in elementary through high schools in the U.S.
- ☺ **11.2 million:** Number of school-age children who spoke a language other than English at home in 2009; 8 million spoke Spanish at home.
- ☺ **19.7 million:** Projected number of students enrolled in colleges and universities in the U.S.
- ☺ **9.21 billion:** Nation's total apple production, in pounds, in 2010. Teachers everywhere are smiling

A WORD FROM RHONDA: Fall is quickly approaching and the holiday season will soon be upon us. I hope that you all take time to enjoy the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta the 1st week in October. This event is a favorite of mine as I have been on a chase crew for many years. Stay safe in everything you do!