BuildLACCD

Building for Tomorrow's Leaders

JACOBS

LACCD Program Management
1055 Corporate Center Drive
Monterey Park, California 91754
www.build-laccd.org

323.981.7200   tel

**Program Management Office
Safety Bulletin for March   2019**

Common Safety Mistakes

Some of the most dangerous situations arise out of common mistakes that can be easily avoided. This tailgate focuses on some of the more common (and commonly overlooked) safety issues that should be prevented to help improve safety performance.

➢ **Lack of Housekeeping**: It may seem simple, but a messy/dirty work area makes for an unsafe work environment. Pallet banding lying on the ground, spilled oil and obstructed walkways all result in thousands of injuries each year.

➢ **Not using Lockout/Tag out on equipment needing repair:** Thousands of injuries are caused each year by the failure to lockout or tag out equipment and machinery needing repair. Often times someone knew ahead of time that the equipment was not functioning properly. It is imperative to disable the equipment as soon as someone knows it is not functioning properly. This will ensure the equipment does not cause injury or an unsafe work environment.

➢ **Improper use of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** It is a common, yet incorrect practice to wear hard hats backwards, or to put hearing protection in improperly. A walk around a shop might find face shields that are scratched to the point where visibility is poor. All of these are examples of failures in the proper use of Personal Protective Equipment. PPE is the last line of defense in protecting the employee. Therefore, the improper use of PPE, or failure to maintain and replace defective PPE, increases the likelihood of injury.

© 2011 Ted Goff www.tedgoff.com

➢ **Not having a process or plan**: Most workplace injuries occur when work being done is not part of a normal process. It is important to have a work plan for non-process work. *No matter how it is done, planning the work and asking 'What if…?" questions will help identify hazards and implement controls to prevent injuries*. **Complete daily hazard assessments and review with your crew before commencing work**.

"Your idea is flawed. I just want to let you know that before I hear it."

➢ **Failure to communicate**: One of the easiest things to prevent unsafe conditions is to discuss what hazards or unsafe acts have been noticed. Communicating the hazards and failures in processes is an essential element of protecting ourselves and our co workers from the hazards that potentially exist in our workplace.

For Safety's Sake...
Communicate!