

NASA-LaRC

SAFETY NEWSLETTER

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On October 22, 1992, Walter C. Hoggard, Chief SSQRD unexpectedly passed away. Walt's leadership in safety made LaRC the benchmark within the Agency. This newsletter and many other programs were created under his leadership. Walt will be missed by his many friends.

STEPS TO SAFETY

Stepladders are virtually everywhere. Stepladders are a convenience that are used both at work and at home.

Stepladder safety is necessary to prevent falls and injuries. Remind yourself to do the following when using a stepladder.

Inspect the stepladder - Before taking the first step up, check to see that the stepladder isn't bent, broken or damaged in any way. All steps should be secure and all feet should rest flat on the floor or ground.

Set the stepladder up correctly - The stepladder must be fully opened and on a level surface. It should never be placed on boxes, skids or unstable bases in an attempt to gain additional height. Special care must be taken with metal ladders to prevent contact with electrical sources.

Climb with care - Both hands should be used when climbing a stepladder. Don't climb higher than the manufacturer's recommendations.

Move the stepladder with the work - One of the most common mistakes made on a stepladder is not moving it enough. Reaching too far to one side is an invitation for disaster.

Choose the correct stepladder - Be sure your stepladder is tall enough and strong enough to support you and your tools.

F.Y. 1992 Annual Safety Summary

LaRC had another exceptional year regarding its safety record. While our civil servants continue their very low lost time injury rate, the support contractor program also continues to improve. The total dollar value for facility and equipment damage due to incidents was \$7,500.

The Center civil servant staff reported a total of 9 lost time accidents for the fiscal year, corresponding to a lost time rate of 0.32 lost time accidents per 200,000 hours worked. This is below the F.Y. 1992 lost time goal of 0.37 (not to exceed). A total of 78 days were lost this year compared to 100 days in F.Y. 1991.

The support service contractors recorded an all time low of 11 lost time accidents resulting in 104 lost days. Last year 15 lost time accidents and 128 lost days were reported. The F.Y. 1992 lost time rate for the support service contractors 0.48, well below the 0.67 reported last year and the lost time goal of 0.82 (not to exceed). It is a great accomplishment to note that the composite of our contractor programs is now approaching the Center's civil servant program.

Everyone should be proud of their efforts in the past and continue with these efforts. It is this type of pride and teamwork that has made LaRC the leader of safety within the Agency!