

NASA - LaRC
SAFETY NEWSLETTER
A PUBLICATION OF THE OFFICE OF SAFETY AND FACILITY
ASSURANCE, OSEMA

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Lost Time Accident

On February 12, 1998, a NASA Civil Servant was injured while working in the NASA 757 aircraft. The employee stepped into an open floor deck panel, lost his balance, fell backward to the floor sustaining a back injury resulting in one lost time work day.

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MS 429

LaRC Fire Extinguisher Training

It is the Policy of the Langley Research Center that our employees do not use portable fire extinguishers unless the employee has been properly trained in the use and handling of these extinguishers. If there are employees interested in this training, please have your Facility Safety Head or Facility Coordinator contact the Fire Department Dispatcher at Ext. 4-5600 to schedule this OSHA required training. This training may be included in the annual Fire Safety Audit and drill for your facility.

FACILITY HALLWAYS AND EXITS

All Facility Safety Heads and Facility Coordinators are reminded that the placing of cabinets and other material in facility hallways is a safety violation. OSHA prohibits the restriction of any hallway that serves as a main exit from the facility. In the past Safety and Health Audits we have found a number of violations of this requirement. All Facility Coordinators and Facility Safety Heads should review their facilities and ensure that the main hallways are unobstructed (i.e. no material or objects placed in the main exit hallways). If you need assistance, call the Safety Office at Ext. 4-7233.

IRREPLACEABLE TOOLS

Your hands and fingers are irreplaceable tools. They are used for eating, driving, painting, hammering, typing, climbing, lifting and the list goes on. Due to the above mentioned tasks they are involved with, your hands and fingers are prime targets for injury. Almost one in four work-related injuries happens to hands and fingers.

There are three important guidelines that can help guard against these injuries.

- Become aware of potential dangers.
- Know and develop safe work habits.
- Use and keep in good condition the proper personal protective equipment.

Your irreplaceable tools are exposed to potential dangers such as mechanical hazards and contact with irritating substances. Mechanical hazards are present whenever and wherever you incorrectly use machinery in the workplace. Cuts, punctures, crushing, pinching and burns are some of the injuries that may occur.

To avoid mechanical hazards, you should always be alert around machinery and keep hands and fingers away from moving parts. Never remove or tamper with safety devices such as guards and push sticks. Disconnect power when adjusting, cleaning or repairing machinery. Use the Red Tag procedure to alert others to the status of the machine. Avoid wearing loose-fitting clothing, ties or jewelry when operating machinery, also remember long hair. Always use the correct hand tool for the job. All of us know how important our hands and fingers are to us and by following common sense, operating instructions and

safety procedures we will be able to keep these irreplaceable tools.

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| SAFETY CLASSES OFFERED |
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Just a reminder that the following safety training classes are available to be presented for you at your safety meetings.

Confined Spaces (permit required)
Confined Space Awareness
Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
Ergonomics (Office or Industrial)
Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS)
Heat Stress
Cryogenics
Chemical Safety (Chemical Refresher)
General Office Safety
Coming soon Hand Tool Safety

If you would like to setup a class, contact your supervisor and he can schedule by contacting Butch Jones at 4-8743.