

# Workplan: Heavy Equipment Hazards and Controls

Are you considering the following heavy-equipment-related hazards and safe work practices in your heavy equipment policies and programs? Whether you're creating a policy for the first time or reviewing and updating existing policies and procedures, use these recommendations as a guide for heavy equipment safety.

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## Focus On: Presenteeism

The overwhelming majority of health-related productivity losses occur on the job from reduced performance by employees who show up for work not feeling their best. This is commonly known as presenteeism. The implications and costs of presenteeism are enormous and can be highly disruptive. Integrating wellness strategies into a safety program can help combat the effects. Here's a 4-step model by the Canadian Mental Health Association, Manitoba Division (Manitoba Model) to consider.

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## Handling Work Refusals and Avoiding Reprisal Complaints

March 27th, 2019 | One of the most powerful protections for employees under the Occupational Health and Safety Act is the right to refuse unsafe work. While the right to refuse unsafe work has proven to be an essential element of safeguarding workplace safety, it has also been improperly used as a tool for other, non-

safety related ends by employees and organized labour. Employers must navigate these treacherous waters, ensuring that legitimate work refusals are dealt with appropriately, while preventing abuse of this significant power.

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## **Don't Blow Off Snowblower Hazards**

Those fabulous machines eat snow for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Unfortunately, they can also chew the operator up if you're not careful.

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## **Noise Levels: Pick Six**

Hearing damage, and the symptoms can take time to develop. You are likely to be exposed to different types and levels of noise during your work day.

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## **Safe Patient Handling in Healthcare**

Developed by Oregon Nurses Association, Bay Area Hospital, and The University of Oregon Labor Education and Research Center.

This material has been made possible by a grant from Oregon

Occupational Safety and Health Division (Oregon OSHA), a division of the Department of Consumer & Business Services.

The content is intended to provide current information about ergonomics and safety issues related to patient handling and care tasks. The field of ergonomics is dynamic, and new information is constantly being developed.

There may be instances in which workplace issues are more complex than those presented here. You may need the advice of a professional Ergonomist or other experts.

Brand names mentioned or seen in the training materials do not constitute endorsement of the device, equipment, or product.

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## **Supervisor Secret: Are You Doing Enough to Protect Lone Workers?**

Ten things to consider if you are responsible for the safety of lone workers.

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## **Two Die When Fumes Ignite in Elevator Car**

Three workers were using solvent to refinish an elevator interior. One of the solvent-soaked rags was ignited by either a spark from a light fixture panel or a worker's rag brushed against one of the recessed lights in the roof of the elevator, shattering the bulb

and igniting the rag. The worker dropped the rag on the floor to try and extinguish the flame but the accumulated fumes of the cleaner ignited and the entire cab became filled with flames. Trapping the workers inside the elevator.

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## **Don't Tempt Fate by Working Solo**

The freedom of working alone sounds like a dream job for many, but the downside is there's nobody around to help you if something goes wrong. Social workers, home care nurses, custodians, security guards and late-night convenience store clerks all face hazards from working solo. People might not be able to hear your calls for help and come to your rescue when you work alone.

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## **Lone Worker Safety Checklist**

Complete this checklist before an employee is set to work alone. Distribute the checklist to the supervisor in charge of the lone worker and to the lone worker. These items are minimum requirements to be met before the work begins. You can edit this list to better suit your specific situation.

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# Picture This: Hazards of Working Alone

There are several unsafe conditions in this image that could be harmful to any worker, but especially for a lone worker. Use the Picture This to spark discussion about the hazards of working alone and the precautions and procedures your organization has in place to protect lone workers.

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## Two Lone Worker Deaths in 24 Hours

The Mine Safety and Health Administration has issued a Fatal Accidents Alert in response to the deaths of two miners that occurred within 24 hours of each other. Both fatalities involved miners working alone in restricted areas with hazardous conditions.

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## Workplan: Four Steps to Protect Lone Workers

Many of the procedures and precautions taken for general employee safety and health are applicable and necessary for those employees who work alone. However, as a supervisor you do need to take into consideration additional factors for lone workers.

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# **By the Numbers: 10 Tips for Lone Workers**

Working alone can expose workers to hazards and dangers that aren't found in other types of work settings. Prepare your workers through well-thought-out policies, communication plans, and knowledge on what to do in different situations. Share these 10 tips with workers and adjust as your situation calls for.

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## **Injury and Illness Prevention Plan Self-Assessment**

An Injury and Illness Prevention Program can help you save lives, save money, and comply with regulations.

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## **By the Numbers: Why Accident Prevention is Important**

The most recent work-related fatality information reinforces the need for an ongoing focus on incident prevention.

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# Focus On: The Role of Hazard and Risk Assessments in Accident Prevention

The hazards you and your workers are up against depend on factors such as the type of job, how it's done, and the environment in which it's carried out. As a supervisor part of your responsibility lies in identifying exposure to hazards and finding ways to protect workers from them. One of the best ways to do this is by conducting hazard and risk assessments.

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## Workplan: Hazard Prevention and Control

Do you know the six elements of a successful hazard control plan? Here's a hint...an effective hazard control plan involves worker input; reduces or removes hazards; and minimizes or eliminates risk.

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## Safety When Working Alone

Working alone means working where you cannot be seen or heard by another person and where you cannot expect a visit from another person.

While not an ideal situation, sometimes it is necessary. In occupations as diverse as a home care nurse, security guard,

property manager, plant attendant, taxi driver, custodian, logger, ranch hand, retail clerk and oil field mechanic, sometimes must work alone.

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## **Picture this: You Make the Call**

Use this Picture This as a tool to train and inform workers on injury prevention. Show them the image and ask them: Pretend you're the supervisor who instructed this chap to do this work. First, think about how you would have set him up to be safe. Second, what would your reaction be if you pulled up to this scene and saw how the work was being performed. Then discuss their feedback and cover anything they might have missed.

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## **Managers Work on What is Urgent, Not What is Important**

There is a direct link between the profitability of your business and your manager's focus on what is important – the quality and quantity of time they spend actively planning, communicating and following up on the key drivers of profit – but the odds are against you.

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# **Contributor Article: If You Can't Buy Capacity You Have to Make It**

CEO's that identify, recognize, and attack the business constraint win – but they can't do it themselves. In a survey of 1,000 qualified, intelligent and hard-working managers, only 10% could accurately identify and describe the constraints in their business.

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## **Safety Video Loop – Q1**

This video is the perfect way to introduce new employees to general occupational hazards to which they may be exposed and to re-train experienced workers. Program includes basic safety rules, electrical hazards, powered equipment and machinery, back injury prevention, fire protection and more.

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## **Preventing and Protecting Against Tuberculosis – Healthcare**

Tuberculosis (TB) is a serious and infectious condition that can affect different parts of the body but is most commonly considered to be a disease of the lungs. People often develop TB if their immune system is lowered due to conditions such as aging, major

illness, and surgery.

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## **Safety in the Trenches**

Maintenance workers may be involved in new landscaping, plantings or playground equipment footings with the aid of a shovel or powered digging equipment. Digging also encompasses excavation and trenches.