

17-Year-Old Laborer Works His Last Day

Two workers entered an unprotected trench (11 feet deep x 8 feet wide) to set new sections of pipe. Only one would survive.

Healthcare: Preventing Injury from Needlesticks and Sharps

Close to 400,000 healthcare workers a year sustain an injury by used hypodermic needles and other sharp instruments such as a scalpel blade and suture needles.

Laboratory Equipment Safety: Biosafety Cabinets

Recently, a researcher left a lit Bunsen burner inside a BSC, closed the sash and walked away. The type of biological safety cabinet she was using recirculates about 70% of the air with 30% of the air going out of the exhaust.

By the Numbers: 12 Tips for Safe Trenching and Excavation

One cubic yard of soil can weigh as much as a car and the pressure on the chest can make it impossible for a worker to breathe, even if his or her head is above the level of the collapsed soil. Often, it's impossible to rescue a trench collapse victim quickly enough to prevent death.

Picture This: Trenching Tragedy in the Making

There are some obvious hazards in this picture, yet it's still a good tool for training and learning. Share this image with your crew and see how many hazards they spot. Then discuss why they are hazardous, how these hazards can be corrected, and what they would do if they were asked to work in this excavation.

Healthcare: Keeping Housekeeping Staff Safe

Housekeeping staff working in healthcare play an important role in keeping the environment safe for patients, staff, and visitors. They may not provide direct clinical care to patients, but they work around patients, and in areas where clinical care has been given.

Trenching and Excavation – Daily Inspection Checklist

Trenching and excavation work puts workers in mortal danger if the excavation is not inspected and cave-in protections are not in place. Use this daily checklist as a starting point and edit the list as necessary for location specific regulations and work performed.

Walking and Working Surfaces Checklist

Use this checklist as a starting point and edit the list as necessary for location specific regulations and work performed.

Fundamentals of First Aid – Fractures

A fracture is the medical term for a broken bone. The break can be along the length of the bone or across the bone, so it looks as though the bone has snapped. These are generally clean breaks but sometimes the bone can fracture in several places, especially if the fracture is caused by a fall from a great height or from being crushed.

Healthcare: Keeping Healthcare Workers Free from MRSA

Staph is a very common, generally problem free, bacteria that lives in the nose or on the skin of up to 1 in 3 people. Staph only causes a problem if it gets somewhere it shouldn't, such as into a wound, or the blood.

Staph can be easily treated with antibiotics but over time some bacteria have developed a resistance. These strains are commonly known as MRSA, Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus and can cause a variety of problems ranging from skin infections to pneumonia.

Healthcare: Hand Hygiene

Infections are a serious problem in healthcare facilities. Many people develop an infection while using healthcare services. Such infections are known as healthcare associated infections (HAI).

Sexual Harassment: Defining Sexual Harassment in the

Workplace

Sexual harassment is defined as any conduct, comment, gesture, or contact of a sexual nature that is likely to cause offence or humiliation to any employee; or that might, on reasonable grounds, be perceived by that employee as placing a condition of a sexual nature on employment or on any opportunity for training or promotion.

Supervisor Secret: Powerful Secrets of Persuasion

As “safety people” we spend a good deal of our time consciously or unconsciously trying to persuade others. We try to persuade management to support and fund safety initiatives. We try and persuade supervisors to enforce safety rules. We try and persuade workers to follow those same safety rules. In his article, Powerful Secrets of Persuasion, speaker, trainer, and coach James Hurford, DTM, he goes over 20 ways to get people to take action.

Tool: Soil Types – Canada Soil Types United States

The type of soil determines the strength and stability of trench walls. These charts give you an overview of the four soil classifications in Canada and the U.S.

6 Tips for Avoiding Slips, Trips, and Falls in the Workplace

Slips, trips, and falls are consistently rank as one of the top 2 causes of injuries and deaths on the job. Our contributor, Zachary O'Dell from SafetyLine asks, "Have you taken these 6 precautions to avoid injuries in your own workplace?"

Healthcare: Formaldehyde Safety

During a busy shift, an OB technician helped with many crash deliveries and operations. Consequently, surgical instruments and trays that should have been washed, piled up on the sink counter and eventually knocked over a gallon jug of 4% formaldehyde. The employee was in and out of the utility room, doing the dishes between surgeries, and noticed that her throat was sore.

Stopping Slips, Trips, and Falls

Slip, trip, and fall injuries are one of the most common causes of workplace injuries and death. The falls from slips and trips can lead to disabling injuries, traumatic brain injuries, surgeries,

and countless hours in rehab. These types of injuries are painful and costly and can put stress on your relationships, lead to depression, anxiety, and in some cases post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD.

Workplan: Walking and Working Surfaces

Hazardous walking and working surfaces account for hundreds of thousands of injuries and hundreds of deaths every year. This translates into billions of dollars spent on work comp, lost-time injuries, and days away from work. Set yourself, your employees, and your organization up for success by doing your part to keep these surfaces safe.

Workplan: Excavation and Trenching

An excavation is any man-made cut, cavity, trench, or depression in an earth surface formed by earth removal. Trench is a narrow excavation (in relation to its length) made below the surface of the ground. In general, the depth is greater than the width.

Utilities: Safely Installing and Removing Overhead Power Lines

When you install or remove overhead lines, you must protect yourself and others against hazards that could expose you to shock, electrocution, falls, flying and falling objects, and burns.

Crane Safety – Safety Talk

Few experiences may be as frightening as when a crane becomes unbalanced while a load is being lifted or when the crane collapses under the weight of an excessive load. An unbalanced load or crane collapse can cause death to the operator, other construction workers, can cause damage to property or equipment.

Trenching and Excavation Safety

A trench is an excavation, too, if it isn't more than 15 feet (4.5 meters) wide at the bottom. And, if you install forms or other structures in an excavation that reduce its width to less than 15 feet, measured at the bottom, the excavation is also considered a trench.

Hazardous Locations Classifications for Electrical Equipment: Class/Division

Hazardous Locations are defined as premises, buildings or parts thereof where fire or explosion hazards may exist due to the presence of flammable gases or vapors, flammable liquids, combustible dusts, or easily ignitable fibers.

Hazardous Locations Classifications for Electrical Equipment: Zone System

Hazardous Locations are defined as premises, buildings or parts thereof where fire or explosion hazards may exist due to the presence of flammable gases or vapors, flammable liquids, combustible dusts, or easily ignitable fibers.

Cementing Safety for Concrete Workers: Cast-in-place Concrete

A 40-year-old worker was killed at a construction site recently in Toronto. According to police, concrete panels had fallen onto the worker as they were being unloaded, and the man became trapped.