I’m back. Due to other commitments, our current Chairman, Matt Saxe, was unfortunately forced to resign from the PPSA Board of Directors and I have been appointed to fill in for the remainder of this program year. I look forward to the challenge and I hope that I can live up to your expectations.

PPSA continues our management transition with TAPPI and already we are starting to see how well this arrangement can work. The association’s website looks great and we are working with TAPPI to keep the information on it relevant and fresh. In addition, we look forward to continued opportunities to provide our members with industry specific training and certainly TAPPI will be instrumental in helping with this.

The PPSA Board of Directors met the week of October 9th in Savannah, GA. In addition to the normal agenda items (i.e. financials, insurance, etc.) we discussed the theme and content of the 2014 Annual Conference, the location of the 2015 Annual Conference as well as consolidation of some of our committees. I am excited to say that the 2014 Annual Conference, which will be held at the Vinoy Renaissance in St. Petersburg, FL, is shaping up very nicely. Savannah, GA has been selected as the site of the 2015 Conference (the specific date and location will be decided at a later date.)

I look forward to serving you all this year. My best wishes that you and your companies have a safe and productive remainder of the year.

Peter G. Masias, CSP
PPSA Board Chairman
Lockout-tagout (LOTO)

By John Sunderland

On September 1, 1989, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued a final rule on the Control of Hazardous Energy (Lockout/Tagout) in 29 CFR 1910.147. This standard went into effect on January 2, 1990. It helps safeguard employees from hazardous energy while they are performing service or maintenance on machines and equipment.

Lockout-tagout (LOTO) is a safety procedure which is used in industry and research settings to ensure that dangerous machines are properly shut off and not started up again prior to the completion of maintenance or servicing work. It requires that hazardous power sources be "isolated and rendered inoperative" before any repair procedure is started.

So where did the locks come from?

The oldest known lock was found by archeologists in the Khorsabad palace ruins near Nineveh. The lock was estimated to be 4,000 years old. It was a forerunner to a pin tumbler type of lock, and a common Egyptian lock for the time. This lock worked using a large wooden bolt to secure a door, which had a slot with several holes in its upper surface. The holes were filled with wooden pegs that prevented the bolt from being opened.

Padlocks were known early in time to the Greeks, Romans, Egyptians, and other cultures of the Near East, including the Chinese. It was believed that the padlock was first used as a "travel" lock to protect merchandise from brigands along ancient trade routes and seaboards and waterways where commerce was centered. Made in small sizes to those of tremendous proportions, they represented various geometric shapes, religious symbols, animals, fish, birds, hearts. They were operated by keys that turned, screwed, pushed, and pulled. For better efficiency, letter locks, or combination padlocks, were developed, which eliminated keys and operated by alignment of letters or numbers on revolving disks.

In 1857, James Sargent invented the world's first successful key-changeable combination lock. His lock became popular with safe manufacturers and the United States Treasury Department. In 1873, Sargent patented a time lock mechanism that became the prototype of those being used in contemporary bank vaults.

Mr. Samuel Segal (former New York City policeman) invented the first jimmy proof locks in 1916. Segal holds over twenty-five patents. Harry Soref founded the Master Lock Company in 1921 and patented an improved padlock. In April 1924, he received a patent for his new lock casing. Soref made a padlock that was both strong and cheap using a case constructed out of layers of metal, like the doors of a bank vault. He designed his padlock using laminated steel.

Linus Yale invented a pin-tumbler lock in 1848. His son improved upon his lock using a smaller, flat key with serrated edges that is the basis of modern pin-tumbler locks. Linus Yale Jr. was an mechanical engineer and lock manufacturer who patented a cylinder pin-tumbler lock in 1861. Yale invented the modern combination lock in 1862.

Locks have come a long way to today’s many versions, but their intended purpose is still the same: to keep someone for obtaining or using something. While we trust our fellow workers, we still need to ensure that a personal lock is in place for everyone who can be in harm’s way if a machine was to start up or a circuit become energized.
How to Hot Wire a Logging Truck

Out in Mill Creek, WA, the driver was attempting to throw the logging cable over the logs to secure them. As you can see, he hooked the overhead electric line instead!

He said the tires began to fry within seconds. Very lucky man; he could easily have been fried himself! You might say the truck was "hot wired", 7200 volts direct to ground.
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OSHA releases new resources to better protect workers from hazardous chemicals

WASHINGTON – Each year in the United States, tens of thousands of workers are made sick or die from occupational exposures to the thousands of hazardous chemicals that are used in workplaces every day. The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration today launched two new web resources to assist companies with keeping their workers safe.

While many chemicals are suspected of being harmful, OSHA's exposure standards are out-date and inadequately protective for the small number of chemicals that are regulated in the workplace. The first resource OSHA has created is a toolkit to identify safer chemicals that can be used in place of more hazardous ones. This toolkit walks employers and workers step-by-step through information, methods, tools and guidance to either eliminate hazardous chemicals or make informed substitution decisions in the workplace by finding a safer chemical, material, product or process. The toolkit is available at [http://www.osha.gov/dsg/safer_chemicals/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/dsg/safer_chemicals/index.html).

"We know that the most efficient and effective way to protect workers from hazardous chemicals is by eliminating or replacing those chemicals with safer alternatives whenever possible," said Dr. David Michaels, assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health.

OSHA also created another new web resource: the Annotated Permissible Exposure Limits, or annotated PEL tables, which will enable employers to voluntarily adopt newer, more protective workplace exposure limits. OSHA's PELs set mandatory limits on the amount or concentration of a substance in the air to protect workers against the health effects of certain hazardous chemicals; and OSHA will continue to enforce those mandatory PELs. Since OSHA's adoption of the majority of its PELs more than 40 years ago, new scientific data, industrial experience and developments in technology clearly indicate that in many instances these mandatory limits are not sufficiently protective of workers' health.

"There is no question that many of OSHA's chemical standards are not adequately protective," Michaels said. "I advise employers, who want to ensure that their workplaces are safe, to utilize the occupational exposure limits on these annotated tables, since simply complying with OSHA's antiquated PELs will not guarantee that workers will be safe."

The annotated PEL tables provide a side-by-side comparison of OSHA PELs for general industry to the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health PELs, National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health recommended exposure limits, and American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienist threshold limit values. They offer an easily accessible reference source for up-to-date workplace exposure limits, which are available at [http://www.osha.gov/dsg/annotated-pels/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/dsg/annotated-pels/index.html).

Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to ensure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit [http://www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

From the Annotated PELs page

To provide employers, workers, and other interested parties with a list of alternate occupational exposure limits that may serve to better protect workers, OSHA has annotated the existing Z-Tables with other selected occupational exposure limits. OSHA has chosen to present a side-by-side table with the Cal/OSHA PELs, the NIOSH Recommended Exposure Limits (RELs) and the ACGIH® TLVs®’s. The tables list air concentration limits, but do not include notations for skin absorption or sensitization.


OSHA's mandatory PELs in the Z-Tables remain in effect. However, OSHA recommends that employers consider using the alternative occupational exposure limits because the Agency believes that exposures above some of these alternative occupational exposure limits may be hazardous to workers, even when the exposure levels are in compliance with the relevant PELs.
I Chose to Look The Other Way

I could have saved a life that day,
But I chose to look the other way.
It wasn’t that I didn’t care,
I had the time, and I was there.

But I didn’t want to seem a fool,
Or argue over a safety rule.
I knew he’d done the job before,
If I spoke up, he might get sore.

The chances didn’t seem that bad,
I’d done the same, He knew I had.
So I shook my head and walked on by,
He knew the risks as well as I.

He took the chance, I closed an eye,
And with that act, I let him die.
I could have saved a life that day,
But I chose to look the other way.

Now every time I see his wife,
I’ll know, I should have saved his life.
That guilt is something I must bear,
But it isn’t something you need share.

If you see a risk that others take,
That puts their health or life at stake.
The question asked, or thing you say,
Could help them live another day.

If you see a risk and walk away,
Then hope you never have to say,
I could have saved a life that day,
But I chose, to look the other way.

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SAFETY ALERT

Beware exploding toilets!

Millions of Flushmate Flushing Systems Recalled

Submitted by A PPSA Member Company

September 2013 Incident at a PPSA member site - Near Miss – No Injuries

Article Written By: Mitch Lipka

Originally Posted on www.boston.com

More than 2.3 million toilet flushing systems are being recalled after hundreds of consumers reported incidents in which the units had burst. The pressure from the defective systems can lift and shatter the toilet tank lid, something that led to 14 reported injuries, according to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The CPSC said 304 incidents were reported. Given how few people report such problems and the difficulty in knowing where to report the problems, it is likely many times that many consumers have experienced this problem.

So, check your toilets to see if you have a Series 503 Flushmate III Pressure-Assist Flushing System. The rectangular black molded plastic units were sold at Lowe's, The Home Depot and other stores and also came installed inside toilet tanks. Toilet companies that used the mechanism include American Standard, Crane, Eljer, Gerber, Kohler, Mansfield and St. Thomas. The recalled units were made between October 1997 and February 2008.

You can find the date code and serial number on the top of the unit to see if you have one of those being recalled. The first six numbers are the date of manufacture. "The date code range for this recall begins with 101497 (October 14, 1997) and continues through 022908 (February 29, 2008)," the CPSC said.

If you have one of the recalled Flushmate III units, turn off the water supply to your toilet and request a free repair kit.

You can get more information and a kit, by contacting Flushmate at (800) 303-5123 weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time or by visiting their recall site.

This blog is not written or edited by Boston.com or the Boston Globe. The author is solely responsible for the content.

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INSPECTION NOTICE — CHEST STRAP ADJUSTERS

Capital Safety has received reports that the plastic chest strap adjuster used in a very limited number of Delta and Exofit harnesses manufactured between November 2012 and April 2013 may break under load.

The chest strap adjuster is used only to hold the chest strap in place and a broken adjuster does not pose a safety hazard to the user of the harness provided the harness is properly adjusted as set out in the user manual. There have been no reported falls or injuries associated with this issue. Please see an example of proper adjustment on page 2 of this Notice.

Photograph 1 Location of chest strap adjuster: Photograph 2 Broken adjuster.

Only harnesses manufactured between November 2012 and April 2013 are subject to this Notice. The manufactured date can be found on the harness label and is identified as MFRD YR/MN. For example, “12/11” indicates 2012/November and “13/4” indicates 2013/April. Harnesses manufactured before November 2012 or after May 1, 2013, are not subject to this condition or this Notice.

Capital Safety would like to remind end users to inspect their equipment before each use. As stated in our user manuals: “Inspect harness hardware (buckles, D-rings, back pad, loop keepers). These items must not be damaged, broken…”

Although this condition does not create a safety issue, we are proud of our reputation as a leader in the industry and we will honor Capital Safety’s lifetime warranty that our products are free from defects in materials and workmanship under normal use and service. Accordingly, we will replace or repair at no charge any harness with a broken adjuster. If you find a harness with this condition, please contact your distributor who will arrange to return the harness to Capital Safety. We will inspect returned units and repair or replace them as set out in our warranty policy.

Please direct any questions you may have to Donna Sahlberg, North American Quality Manager, or to Frank Courtemanche, VP of Global Quality. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Thank you for your cooperation.

October 1, 2013
EXAMPLE OF PROPER HARNESS ADJUSTMENT

1. Locate back D-ring held in position by the D-ring pad. Lift up harness by back D-ring. Ensure straps are not tangled and hang freely.
2. Insert one arm into shoulder strap of harness and slip free arm into harness. Position shoulder straps on top of shoulder. When worn properly, the chest strap buckle will be positioned on the front chest side with the front D-ring (if present) attached to the chest strap, and the back D-ring will be centered between the shoulder blades.
3. Adjust the leg straps to a snug fit.
4. Adjust the waist belt (if present) to a snug fit.
5. Adjust the shoulder straps to a snug fit. The left and right sides of shoulder straps should be adjusted to the same length. Center the retrieval D-rings (if present) on top of each shoulder.
6. The chest strap should be centered on the chest, six inches down from the shoulders.

All adjustment points should be tightened to provide a snug fit.
Each quarter, PPSA conducts a member initiated survey. If you have a safety questions, please let us know and we will include it in the Safety Survey Queue.

### Strain Prevention Programs

**Q1 What programs and processes are you currently using to better anticipate and control strains in the workforce, especially with an aging workforce? Please choose all that apply.**

- Working through job-specific assessments
- Wellness Initiatives
- On-site medical professionals to consult with employees
- Employee ergonomics teams or other employee engagement tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Other (please specify)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Site by site initiatives, we currently do not have a corporate focus on ergo.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Early pain reporting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>We have physical therapists and chiropractors come in once a year for a monthly safety meeting with all employees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pre-shift stretching program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Task specific ergonomic analysis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Employee Education, Stretch &amp; Flex Program</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, as modified by the March 2012 GHS Amendment is known as HCS 2012. It applies to any hazardous chemical that is known to be present in the workplace in such a manner that employees may be exposed “under normal conditions of use or in a foreseeable emergency.” Chemical manufacturers are required to identify the hazards posed by the chemicals they produce or import, classify the chemicals based on those hazards, and communicate those hazards to downstream users in safety data sheets and container labels.

I. Classification

The term “hazardous chemical” includes any chemical that is classified as a combustible dust. If starting with a clean slate, a logical argument could be made that a manufacturer of an untreated piece of lumber or a roll of paper is selling a non-hazardous chemical and it is the downstream user that cuts or otherwise processes that lumber or paper roll in a way that generates combustible dust that is the manufacturer of a hazardous chemical. However, that approach does not appear to be consistent with the “article” exemption of the HCS, it conflicts with the approach OSHA has taken in interpreting the HCS over many years, and it is clearly contrary to the preamble of the final rule adopting HCS 2012 (“Final Rule”).

In the preamble to the Final Rule, OSHA stated:

Chemical manufacturers and importers must be aware of the hazards of their products, both in the shipped form, and under normal conditions of use or foreseeable emergencies in downstream workplaces, in order to comply with the HCS. Information about these hazards is required to be transmitted through labels and SDSs as specified in the standard. The protection of workers in downstream workplaces depends on the provision of accurate information to their employers.

There are complete exemptions from the HCS for the following described wood products and any item that qualifies as an “article”:

Wood or wood products, including lumber which will not be processed, where the chemical manufacturer or importer can establish that the only hazard they pose to employees is the potential for flammability or combustibility (wood or wood products which have been treated with a hazardous chemical covered by this standard, and wood which may be subsequently sawed or cut, generating dust, are not exempted); and

"Article" means a manufactured item other than a fluid or particle: (i) which is formed to a specific shape or design during manufacture; (ii) which has end use function(s) dependent in whole or in part upon its shape or design during end use; and (iii) which under normal conditions of use does not release more than very small quantities, e.g., minute or trace amounts of a hazardous chemical (as determined under paragraph (d) of this section), and does not pose a physical hazard or health risk to employees.

1. 29 C.F.R. § 1910.1200(b)(2).
Applying these principles, OSHA’s position is that wood and paper products that will be cut or otherwise processed in a way that generates combustible dust do not qualify for either exemption from the HCS. Therefore, the manufacturer of those products is responsible for identifying and communicating the hazards of combustible dust generated from the processing of those products by the downstream user because wood or paper dust is known to be present in the downstream workplace in such a manner that employees may be exposed under normal conditions of use or in a foreseeable emergency.

As a general principle, all organic material (including wood and paper) with a particle size (diameter) of 500 um or less is presumed to be a combustible dust. The cutting and other processing of wood products and paper products is known to wood dust and paper dust particles smaller than 500 um, causing the wood products and paper products to be classified as combustible dusts.

II. Hazard Information for the Container Label

Subject to the special one-time label provision, HCS 2012 requires chemical manufacturers, importers, or distributors to ensure that each container of hazardous chemicals leaving the workplace has a label with, among other things, the following chemical hazard information:

1. pictogram for each hazard for which a pictogram is specified by HCS 2012;
2. signal word for each hazard for which a signal word is specified by HCS 2012;
3. hazard statement(s) for each hazard for which hazard statements are specified by HCS 2012; and
4. precautionary statement(s) for each hazard for which precautionary statements are specified by HCS 2012.
Under Section C.4.30 of HCS 2012, the container label for a chemical that is classified as a combustible dust must include the following information to address combustible dust:

1. **Hazard:** combustible dust
2. **Signal word:** warning
3. **Hazard statement:** “May form combustible dust concentrations in air.”

Industry groups advised OSHA that it seemed confusing if not silly to state that a piece of lumber or roll of paper could form combustible dust concentrations in air. Acknowledging that concern, OSHA issued a March 25, 2013 letter of interpretation advising that either of the following hazard statements would also be acceptable:

- If converted to small particles during further processing, handling, or by other means, may form combustible dust concentrations in air.
- If small particles are generated during further processing, handling or by other means, may form combustible dust concentrations in air.

No pictogram or precautionary statements are required for this OSHA-designated hazard class, which is not part of the GHS.

**III. Application of the One-Time Label Rule**

Section 1910.1200(f)(4) of HCS 2012 establishes a special container labeling rule for solid items that are not exempted from the HCS under the wood products or article exemptions because of the exposures created in their downstream use. Under what is commonly referred to as the “one-time labeling rule,” the label for a container of these solid materials may be supplied to the customer with the initial shipment or with the SDS in advance of the initial shipment. Under the HCS, a label would not be required with subsequent shipments unless there is a change in the hazard communication information on the label.

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While OSHA has not yet issued guidance on HCS 2012, it would seem appropriate to interpret the one-time labeling rule as follows:

(1) In situations where a wood or paper product is not a combustible dust in the form shipped, but may become one when processed by a downstream user, and the responsible party provides the one-time container label in accordance with Section 1910.1200(f)(4), the downstream user’s obligation to label any workplace containers are determined as follows:

(a) If the wood or paper product will not be processed in a way that creates a combustible dust hazard, there is no Section 1910.1200(f)(6) labeling requirement.

(b) If the wood or paper product will first be placed in a stationary process container (e.g., debarker, chipper, grinder, shredder) where it will be processed in a way that creates a combustible dust hazard, the downstream user may comply with the alternative labeling methods (e.g., use of process sheets) provided by Section 1910.1200(f)(7) and need not label the shipping container.

(c) If the wood or paper product will first be placed in a non-stationary process container where it will be processed in a way that creates a combustible dust hazard, it appears that the downstream user would be required to label the non-stationary process container with the Section 1910.1200(f)(6) label, but not the shipping container.

(d) If the wood or paper product will processed in a way that creates a combustible dust hazard before it is placed in a process container, the chemical would be subject to the Section 1910.1200(f)(6) labeling requirement once the chemical is brought into the work area where it will be processed in a way to create the combustible dust hazard. If the chemical is not in a container when brought into the area where it will be processed, no Section 1910.1200(f)(6) labeling would be required prior to processing.

2. The standard explicitly refers to solid metal, wood and plastic items, and whole grain. By interpretation, OSHA has extended this special provision to paper products and all other solid items.
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About our Organization

A non-profit, non-political, international organization, devoted to safety throughout the paper industry. From forest products to paper mills, to converting plants, to recycle collections centers, our membership is grouped by category to ensure a fair and appropriate basis for comparison.

The association began in the 1940’s as the Southern Pulp and Paper Safety Association, later changing the name to reflect our widening membership base. We currently have members throughout The United States, Canada and other countries. We work to promote safety, to set reasonable and attainable goals, to educate our members, and to give the members a forum for discussion.

Membership in the Association is by operating facility, such as a paper mill, box plant, sawmill, woodlands, etc. Approximately 380 operating facilities are currently members. Annual Membership is based on employee numbers. We also welcome supplier members as well.

Membership in the Association has many advantages:

- Participation in the Annual Health and Safety Conference and service as a member of the Board of Directors provides an opportunity for personal and professional growth.
- Participation in our webinars and training seminars.
- The Pulp and Paper Safety Association is the ONLY national organization exclusively concerned with accident prevention in the forest product industry.
- The annual Conference provides great face-to-face networking opportunities.
- The Quarterly Report provides a way of benchmarking your own performance with others in similar operations.
- The Awards program provides a prestigious form of recognition to outstanding short-term and long-term safety performance by operating categories.
- The Association is an excellent forum for keeping up with latest OSHA standards. In-depth information on specific subjects is increasingly available at regional seminars. The cost of these seminars is minimized by virtue of holding them on a regional basis.
- The annual conference provides a fine external motivational boost to hourly Safety Committee members as recognition for their active participation in your safety program.
- The cost of membership is the lowest of any association to our knowledge.
- The attendance of vendors at our annual conference allows safety people to keep up with the latest safety equipment, tools and training.

Visit our website at www.ppsa.org for more information

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