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A Letter From Our Chair

Matthew Kanneberg
Director of Safety & Health, Paper Solutions
WestRock



Thank you for your ongoing support of PPSA. Along with our industry members and vendor partners, we continue to sustain year over year growth. As we have grown, we have focused on enhancing the value as well as quality of member benefits. Our conference speaker critique ratings continue to climb, webinar attendance increases each quarter and each year we bring on new member locations and vendor/supplier partners. We are so thankful for a healthy and viable organization!

We hope you plan to join us at the Charleston Marriott in Charleston, SC June 18-21, 2017 at our 74th annual safety conference for what promises to be a unique learning experience. Our sessions cover a wide variety of topics including skills that can improve working relationships and insights that help us prevent errors. We will also benefit from case studies in our industry that provide valuable information to improve workplace safety. Not only does the PPSA conference provide updates on the constantly evolving safety regulatory environment, it also represents a unique opportunity to learn about leading edge safety technology from industry suppliers, as well as network with a large group of safety professionals.

We are excited to collaborate with the American Forest & Paper Association (AF&PA) in 2017 on a safety initiative focused on Serious Injuries & Fatalities or SIF. As we look at our industry compared to other heavy manufacturing, we are not making fast enough improvements in our most serious of injury categories. The AF&PA has organized a work group of its industry members to develop a strategy to make a step change improvement in SIFs. The PPSA has offered to help drive and support the challenge as both organizations share members and the safety topic falls within our primary goal of **'Bringing the Industry Home Safe'**. In 2017 we will commit our board and member safety experience, our communication platforms to include webinars, website and conference to help communicate progress, work actionable items and drive results against the SIF challenge.

Lastly, we are thankful for our continued partnership with TAPPI as they provide PPSA with management services and administrative resources. TAPPI was founded as the Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industry but now is referred to as TAPPI to reflect the multiple industries in which they serve. We enter our fourth year and appreciate their professional and dedicated support and service.

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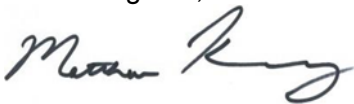
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For those of you who are unfamiliar with TAPPI, it is a non-profit organization sustained by the dues of its members and the contributions of its active volunteer committees; it has a Board of Directors elected annually from the membership, and values education and knowledge-sharing as vital to the success of the industries it serves. Learn more about [TAPPI](#)

I welcome your feedback, questions and suggestions. Please [drop](#) me a note.

Hope to see you in Charleston in 2017!

Best Regards,



Matthew Kanneberg, PPSA Board Chair



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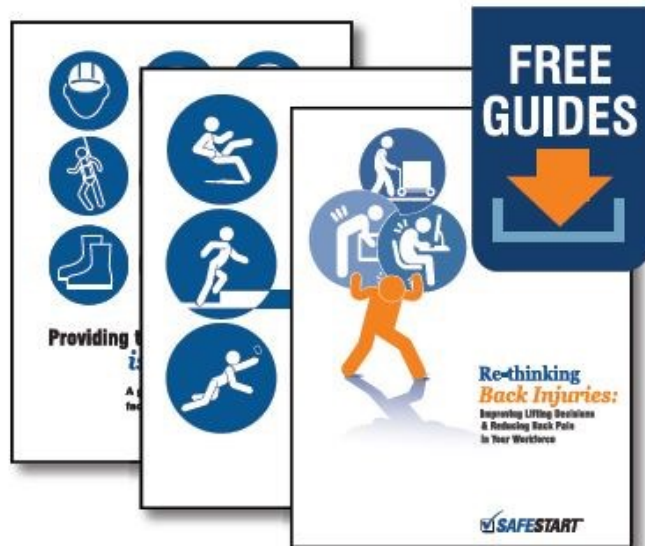


Your Biggest Safety Challenges Solved

A survey of 1,101 safety managers conducted by Safety Daily Advisor found that 85% of respondents cited human factor incidents and employee noncompliance as their biggest safety challenge with the 5 items shown on the left topping the list.

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Attendees will be exposed to their own error rate and will be involved in table top exercises demonstrating the points made in the course. This is a thought provoking course with immediate application of HPI tools and HPI processes. The overall objective of the Human Performance Improvement process is to "Proactively Prevent Unwanted Outcomes Triggered by Human Error".

Registration Information:

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Shane Bush - co-owner of BushCo, Inc.

Shane Bush has worked with numerous industries and companies helping them manage human fallibility as it relates to meeting the mission of their organizations. While human error is by no means a new subject, the science behind the 'New View' (Author - Sidney Dekker) is cutting edge. Shane has had opportunities to work with a significant number of companies (Chevron, BP Oil, Honda, Department of Energy, Schwann Foods, Bell Helicopter, and many others) helping them understand the new view as it relates to managing human error and more importantly managing the 'consequences' of human error. Shane specifically focuses on how facts are misleading without the "Context".

Shane has a BS in corporate training and an MS in Industrial Safety. Shane is a Certified Human Performance Technologist and a Registered Radiation Protection Technologist. He is also an adjunct professor at the University of Idaho.

March 2017 — Registration will open soon!

Predictive Analytics

Machine Learning, Artificial Intelligence, Predictive Analytics are terms that have become commonplace in societal vernacular. Yet, just a couple years ago, no one would have dreamed that this technology would be all around us from the ads we see to the cars we drive to the digital security protection we enjoy, but it is. Machine Learning is everywhere, and it can assist in making your organizations safer. In this webinar, Machine Learning will be explained on how it can help safety and how your organizations can get involved.



Kent Szalla - General Manager, Predictive Solutions

Kent Szalla is responsible for all business aspects of Predictive Solutions Corporation which is a fully owned subsidiary of Industrial Scientific Corporation. In this role, he is responsible for leading the company strategically toward achieving its mission to help companies predict and prevent workplace incidents.

Kent worked for Predictive Solutions for 2 years prior to being moved into the General Manager position. In those 2 years, Kent managed the customer care, implementation, software development, and quality assurance teams. Before joining Predictive Solutions in 2014, Kent was General Manager of a startup logistics company called PITT OHIO GROUND. He was also an IT Director at PITT OHIO EXPRESS and held various positions in technology-related consulting companies throughout the 1990s.

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Legal Corner

An Opportunity for Change and Cooperation in Reopening and Amending the OSHA LOTO Standard¹

Submitted by: Lawrence P. Halprin, Partner - Keller and Heckman LLP

The imminent change in administrations is expected to bring an end to what most of the regulated industry viewed as an era of over-reaching regulation and over-zealous enforcement by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) under the Obama Administration. The ideology that aggressive and pervasive government intervention is the best mechanism for enhancing workplace safety is expected to be replaced by an ideology of balanced government intervention. If the decision of the D.C. Circuit in *Agricultural Retailers Association* is sustained, OSHA's highly objectionable practice of amending OSHA standards through administrative re-interpretation rather than notice and comment rulemaking will be greatly reduced. That should provide OSHA with an incentive to conduct a more transparent rulemaking. At a minimum, OSHA must make a diligent effort to identify and resolve all issues during the rulemaking rather than waiting for the enforcement process to figure out what the agency allegedly intended when it adopted the rule.

Lockout/Tagout Rulemaking History

There is probably no better example of the implementation challenges and uncertainty that can arise when OSHA adopts a standard without understanding its potential impact or how it will be implemented than was posed by the adoption of the OSHA Lockout/Tagout (LOTO) Standard in 1989. That standard has been the subject of numerous OSHA guidance documents and extensive litigation. It was based on 1970's technology and was outdated on the day it was issued. OSHA and the regulated community have been struggling with its implementation ever since.

A 1997 Look-Back Review of the LOTO Standard under the Regulatory Flexibility Act came to the unremarkable conclusion that the standard was still needed and somehow rationalized that the continuing problems of implementing an outdated standard could be effectively addressed through additional guidance rather than amending the standard. At the time, OSHA was unwilling to divert any resources from the effort to issue an ergonomics standard, and the regulated community preferred to stay with the status quo rather than taking the risk that the agency might reopen the rule and adopt new requirements that would make it less cost-effective than the existing rule.

¹ This article represents the views of the author and may not represent the views of Keller and Heckman LLP or its clients. This article is not intended to provide legal advice and may not be relied upon for that purpose.

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On October 4, 2016, OSHA issued what is generally viewed by the regulated community industry as a counterproductive proposal to amend the OSHA LOTO Standard. It would effectively overrule the decisions of the Review Commission and the Sixth Circuit in *GMC Delco*² by removing the word “unexpected” from the phrase “unexpected energization or start up or release of stored energy,” which is pervasively used in eight different provisions of the OSHA LOTO Standard. The incoming administration offers and opportunity for stakeholders to work together to develop a more cost-effective approach to the control of hazardous energy that reflects the principles of risk assessment and advances in technology and would avoid the regressive change to the OSHA LOTO Standard contained in the pending rulemaking known as Phase IV of the Standards Improvement Project (SIP).

Exceptions from Lockout/Tagout Requirements

There are three exceptions from the required application of the LOTO Standard to Maintenance and Servicing Activities:

1. The exemption for Minor Servicing Activities established by the Note to 29 CFR 1910.147(a)(2);
2. The exemption for testing and positioning activities established by 29 CFR 1910.147(f)(1); and
3. Maintenance and Servicing Activities that are outside the scope of the LOTO Standard – as provided in 29 CFR 1910.147(a)(1)(i) and (c)(1) -- because there is no potential for **unexpected** energization or release of stored energy due, for example, to the protection provided by machine safeguarding measures. See ***OSHA Directive CPL 02-00-147, The Control of Hazardous Energy – Enforcement Policy and Inspection Procedures***, 2/11/08, pp. 2-16 to 2-22.

Set-Up Activities in the Corrugated Container Industry

While intentionally vague as to its rationale, OSHA has historically applied one or more of these three exceptions to the following types of routine and repetitive activities (this list is not meant to be exhaustive) generally performed between runs on machines used in the corrugated container and printing industries: adjusting items such as belts, guide rails and cutting heads; and changing items such as printing plates, pull bands, blankets, and die boards. Power is needed for these tasks. Unnecessary elimination of electric power for every second when it is not absolutely needed, though repeated application and removal of LOTO, results in significant lost productivity, which is greatly magnified if de-energization causes ink to solidify on anilox rolls or glue to solidify in glue pots.

² Secretary of Labor v. General Motors Corporation, Delco Chassis Division, OSHRC Docket No. 91-2973 (April 26, 1995), affirmed Reich v. General Motors Corporation, 89 F.3d 313 (6th Cir. 1996).

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Of particular importance is the longstanding use of key-locked control circuit devices to control hazardous energy sources during the performance of set-up or make-ready activities in the corrugated container industry.

In 1993, in *Westvaco Corporation*³, the Review Commission concluded that certain set-up Activities performed on a die cutter used to manufacture corrugated cardboard boxes did not fall within the exception for Minor Servicing Activities. It upheld a LOTO citation based on the failure to lock out the machine while performing Set-up Activities. However, it is clear that the Review Commission did not address either of the other two exceptions to the LOTO Standard, and that the decision erroneously concluded that the exception for testing and positioning activities had been merged into the exception for Minor Servicing Activities. It also seemed clear from the opinions that Westvaco did not lock its control circuits or have any other type of meaningful formal energy control procedures in place at the time of the inspection.

The Review Commission's opinion in *Westvaco Corporation* noted three critical facts. First, Westvaco installed a key-operated control circuit switch at the separation point of the printer/slotter sections following the OSHA enforcement inspection. Second, at trial, the Secretary's expert witness, then Area Director William Murphy, "opined that, although it [the subsequently installed key-operated control circuit switch] would not technically satisfy the standard, Westvaco could provide the helper with effective alternative protection from the hazard of unexpected energization [while performing Set-up Activities] under these changed conditions by entrusting the key to the exclusive control of the helper, who generally takes more time to make his [Set-up Activities] adjustments than the operator. Third, during the trial, then Area Director William Murphy identified what OSHA considered an acceptable mechanical LOTO procedure for the machine that did not require Westvaco to lock out the main disconnect while performing Set-up Activities. Finally, Westvaco appealed the Review Commission's decision in *Westvaco Corporation* and subsequently entered into a settlement under which OSHA agreed that the hazard of exposure to the main drive motor would be eliminated by the installation and use of a local disconnect on the machine's open/close motor, without locking out the main disconnect.

Relying on the OSHA position on this issue, as reflected in the quoted testimony by former Area Director William Murphy, the box manufacturing sector implemented equipment design and operating procedures that rely on locked control circuitry to control hazardous energy sources during the performance of set-up activities, and require that each worker have his/her own key to the locked device. Since that time, OSHA issued two letters of interpretation (LOIs) to the Printing Industries of America, whose members and machinery substantially overlap with the corrugated cardboard box industry. In those letters, OSHA stated that certain "make ready activities" (another name for set-up activities) were properly treated as Minor Servicing Activities.

³OSHRC Docket No. 90-1341, 16 OSHC (BNA) 1374; 1993 OSHD (CCH) P30,201 (September 14, 1993).

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GMC Delco Supports the Continued Ability to Use Reliable Control Circuitry

*GMC Delco*⁴ was decided 2 years after *Westvaco* and presented the question of whether the LOTO Standard applied to a servicing and maintenance task performed on a machine inside an interlocked gate after the interlocked gate providing access to the machine was opened and apparently closed or subject to being closed with the servicing employee inside the interlocked gate. Opening the gate shut down, but did not de-energize the machine. If and when the gate was shut, “a time-consuming series of eight to twelve steps were required before any hazardous movement of the machine could occur” and “[t]he evidence indicated that the restart procedures would provide plenty of warning to the employees, in the form of alarms and visible motions, so that they could avoid any hazardous movement of the machinery.” The evidence further demonstrated that there was no potential for an unexpected start up due to an electrical failure. Based on those facts, the Review Commission and the Sixth Circuit concluded that there was no potential for unexpected start up and, therefore, the LOTO Standard did not apply.

The scope provision of the OSHA LOTO Standard, 29 CFR 1910.147(a)(1)(i), provides as follows:

This standard covers the servicing and maintenance of machines and equipment in which the **unexpected** energization or start up of the machines or equipment, or release of stored energy, could harm employees.

In other words, to be subject to the OSHA LOTO standard, an employee must be engaged in a servicing or maintenance task in which there is a credible risk that an employee could be harmed by one or more of the following:

1. Unexpected energization;
2. Unexpected start up; or
3. Unexpected release of stored energy.

To quote the Review Commission in *GMC Delco*: “The Secretary must show that there is some way in which the particular machine could energize, start up, or release stored energy without sufficient advance warning to the employee.” If there is no potential (credible risk) that an employee could be harmed by any one of these three events, then the LOTO Standard does not apply. The standard refers to the separate possibility of unexpected energization and unexpected start up, which means they are to be considered separately, as was done in *GMC Delco*. If a machine remains energized while work is being performed, there is no possibility of unexpected energization.

⁴Secretary of Labor v. General Motors Corporation, Delco Chassis Division, OSHRC Docket No. 91-2973 (April 26, 1995), affirmed *Reich v. General Motors Corporation*, 89 F.3d 313 (6th Cir. 1996).

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The inquiry then shifts to whether there is a potential for unexpected start up or unexpected release of stored energy. If there is no potential (credible risk) that an employee could be harmed by unexpected start up or release of stored energy, the LOTO Standard does not apply.

In *GMC Delco*, the Sixth Circuit explained the critical import of the word “unexpected” as follows:

We conclude that the plain language of the lockout standard unambiguously renders the rule inapplicable where an employee is alerted or warned that the machine being serviced is about to activate. In such a situation, “energization” of the machine cannot be said to be “unexpected” since the employee knows in advance that machine startup is imminent and can safely evacuate the area. The standard is meant to apply **where a service employee is endangered by a machine that can start up without the employee’s foreknowledge**. In the context of the regulation, use of the word “unexpected” connotes an element of surprise, and there can be no surprise when a machine is designed and constructed so that it cannot start up without giving a servicing employee notice of what is about to happen [emphasis added].⁵

This is the basic principle established by the *GMC Delco* decisions. Applying this principle from *GMC Delco*, if the interlocked gate in issue in *GM Delco* had been locked open, and the interlock circuits were reliable, then there would have been no potential for unexpected start up even if the restart did not require an extended (eight-to-twelve-step) startup procedure, including time delays, and audible or visual warnings.

Conclusion

The box manufacturing sector, as well as a number of other major industry segments, rely on the use of reliable control circuits, rather than LOTO, to prevent unexpected energization or start up or release of stored energy. Adoption of the pending OSHA proposal to remove the word “unexpected” from the LOTO Standard could jeopardize the use of this cost-effective method for protecting employees from hazardous energy sources. It could be expected to place U.S. industry at a competitive disadvantage and to create frustration and adversely impact job satisfaction for affected employees who would be forced to take the additional time needed to apply LOTO in situations where it would not provide any additional level of safety. Furthermore, it seems possible the unnecessary application of LOTO could undermine a site safety program and the increased use of electrical disconnects in LOTO could increase the risk of extremely hazardous arc flashes.

Affected employers should file comments with OSHA opposing the proposed amendment to the OSHA LOTO Standard, and requesting that OSHA hold a hearing on this issue. OSHA extended the comment deadline to January 4, 2017.

⁵ *Id.* at 315.

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AF&PA Update

In late 2015, the American Forest & Paper Association kicked off an initiative to reduce occurrences of serious injuries and fatalities (SIFs) in the industry. A work group was assembled in early 2016 to assess the current data and to develop options for areas where AF&PA could engage. In April, AF&PA hosted a workshop and developed five recommended actions, three of which AF&PA has begun to implement. First, AF&PA developed an industry definition of what constituted a serious injury. Second, AF&PA developed a safety alert system to facilitate the sharing of information about SIFs to help prevent them from occurring in the future. Third, AF&PA developed a survey to augment the safety data currently collected to include specific questions around SIF incidents and to use this data to monitor industry progress and identify patterns related to SIFs to aid prevention efforts. The safety alert form soon will be available on the AF&PA members-only website. In addition, the AF&PA will incorporate the data collection on SIFs into its member-benchmarking survey schedule. The reporting of information on SIFs (safety alerts and SIF data survey) is completely voluntary. AF&PA plans to begin the safety alerts and data collection in January 2017.

PPSA and AF&PA are joining forces to support the industry in this vital initiative. The 2017 PPSA Annual Conference in Charleston, SC will be targeted to the education of attendees on the challenge of eliminating all serious injuries and fatalities in our industry. AF&PA and others associated with the initiative will present at the conference, and AF&PA plans to hold a working session for their member companies on Wednesday afternoon at the conclusion of the conference. In addition, PPSA will be targeting upcoming webinars and educational opportunities on SIF prevention efforts.

Definition of Serious Injury

The AF&PA definition of serious injuries follows a two-step process. To be considered a serious injury, an incident must meet both criteria 1 and 2.

Criterion 1: An employee suffers a work-related hospitalization (other than for observation or diagnostic testing). (This is based partially on OSHA's definition for severe injury).

Criterion 2: The injury is a life-threatening or life-altering injury that occurs at a work-related facility and results from a specific event. A life-threatening injury is one that, if not immediately addressed, is likely to lead to death. A life-altering injury is one that results in permanent or long-term impairment or loss of use of an internal organ, body function or body part.

Examples of types of life-threatening or life-altering injuries include, but are not limited to, amputation involving bone, damage to the brain or spinal cord, laceration with significant blood loss, herniated disc of the cervical, lumbar or thoracic spinal region, concussion or cerebral hemorrhage, injury resulting in the loss of consciousness, injury to internal organs, multiple bone fractures/crushing injury, or serious burns greater than 25 percent first or second degree or greater than 10 percent third degree.




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The **Pulp & Paper Safety Association (PPSA)** invites you to its **74th Annual Safety & Health Conference**, *Serious Injuries and Fatality Prevention - Bringing the Industry Home Safe*, June 18-21, 2017 at *The Charleston Marriott*, in historic downtown Charleston, SC.

This two and a half day conference will feature expert speakers and influential leaders from within the safety community, as well as exhibits from vendors showcasing the latest innovations in personal and site safety.

Presentation topics include skills that can improve working relationships and insights that help prevent serious injuries and fatalities. Conference attendees will benefit from industry case studies that provide valuable information to improve workplace safety. The PPSA conference will provide updates on the constantly evolving safety regulatory environment and represents a unique opportunity to learn about leading edge safety technology.

This year's keynote speaker, **Dale Lesinski**, renowned safety expert and Vice President of DiVal Safety, will speak on *Safe for the Right Reasons*. Other notable speakers include: **Eric Hobbs** (*Ogletree Deakins*), **Steve Newell** (*ORCHSE Strategies LLC*), **Steve Sallman** (*USW*), **Jeff Pallini** (*Fosber North America*) and **Kenneth D. Fox** (*Corp. Manager Safety & Health, SAPPI*).

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- Post your jobs, or your company's jobs, where the most qualified industry professionals will find and apply to them.
- Search the resume database and contact qualified candidates proactively.



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PPSA Welcomes New Ad Hoc Board of Director



Randy Adams – EHS Manager for Kruger Products, Memphis, Tennessee

Randy has over 39 years of industrial experience. In addition to his current position, he has held various managerial positions with companies such as Union Carbide (UCAR Carbon), Saturn Manufacturing (SeTech), Phelps Dodge Magnet Wire and Baldor Motor Company. He recently achieved his double CSHO Certification for General Industry and Construction.

Randy holds several trainer certifications for the SafeStart behavior based program, Outreach Trainer for General Industry & Construction. He is a certified ISO and Risk Management Auditor and actively participates in the safety training for all Memphis Kruger Products new hire classes. He has served on the board of both the Ozark Safety Council of Northwest Arkansas and Benton County Women's Shelter.

Randy is an energetic leader with the zeal to inspire others to be the best they can be. He brings fun to safety training while educating others. When situations arise, he believes "It's not a Problem, It's an Opportunity". He resides in Eads, Tennessee with his wife Patricia. They have 4 adult children and 6 grandchildren.

A SINGLE SECOND

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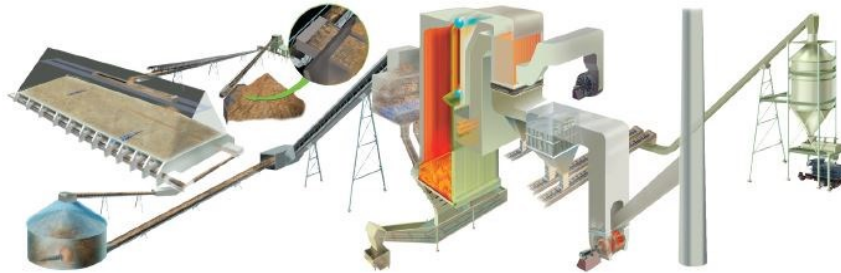
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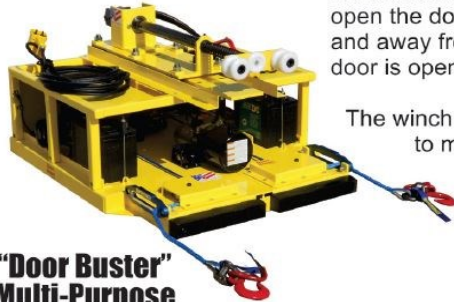


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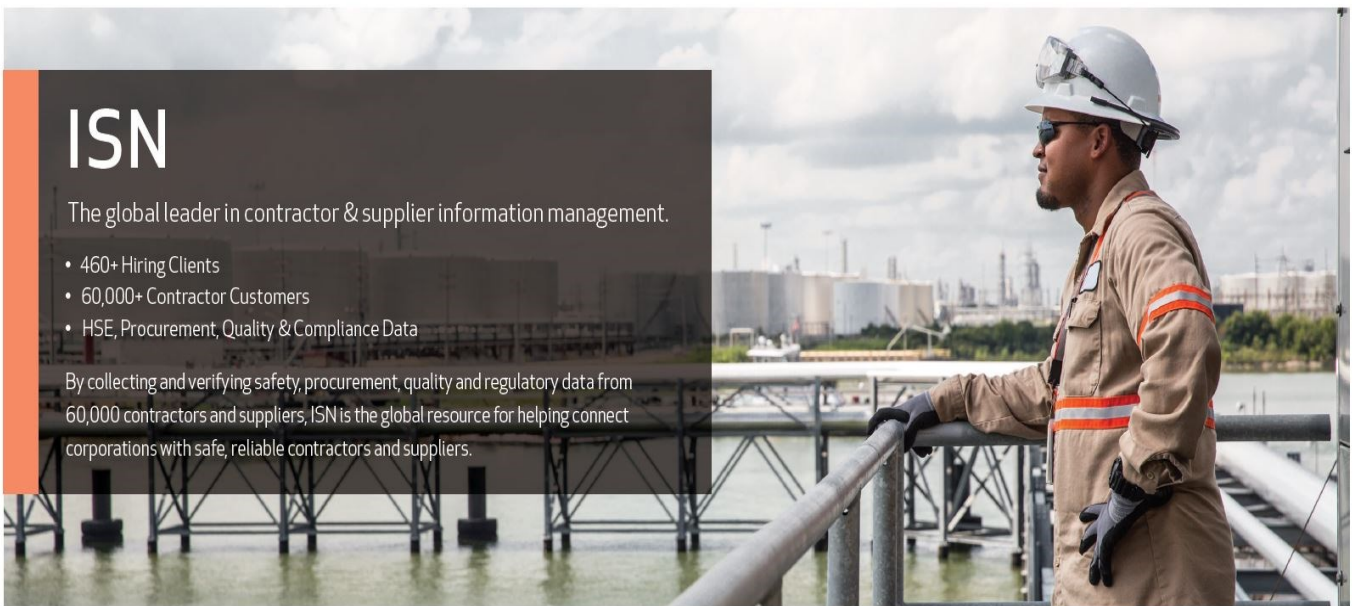


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PPSA Committees

Below is an update of the current members, roles and responsibilities of the PPSA Committees. Everyone on these committees volunteer their time to provide the most beneficial services for all members. The Association appreciates their dedication and support which could not be without the support of each of their companies.

Executive Committee - matt.kanneberg@westrock.com

The Executive Committee responsibilities include Financial Committee and review PPSA's accounts and annual budgets.

Members: Matthew Kanneberg, WestRock (Chair), Ed Corlew, Mohawk Fine Paper, John Deveau, WestRock, Peter Masias, Green Bay Packaging, Ashley Westbrook, PPSA Staff

Current Activity: Reviewing the financial needs of the association to maintain overall stability. They continue ensuring the association operates within the current bylaws.

Conference Committee - Corlewe@mohawkpaper.com

The Conference and Sponsorship Committee is responsible for planning the annual conference and managing the sponsorship for the conference.

Members: Ed Corlew, Mohawk Fine Paper (Co-Chair), John Deveau, WestRock (Co-Chair), Paul Bierley, Domtar, Tim Elizondo, WestRock, Matthew Kanneberg, WestRock, Shawn Powell, Brady Corporation, Ashley Westbrook, PPSA Staff

Current Activity: Finalizing the conference agenda, securing speakers for selected topics and developing conference events.

Membership and Vendor Committee - paul.bierley@domtar.com

The Membership and Vendor Committee is responsible for both Company and vendor of PPSA membership.

Members: Paul Bierley, Domtar (Chair), Paul Bucek, Green Bay Packaging, John DeVeau, WestRock, Tim Kubly Rite-Hite Corporation, Ashley Westbrook, PPSA Staff

Current Activity: After recently completing a member satisfaction survey, the committee is evaluating responses with the goals of retaining current members as well as growing the PPSA with new members, service providers, and product vendors. This committee looks for ways to enhance member satisfaction and the overall value of a PPSA membership including providing our membership access to safety vendors with state-of-the art technology, products and services.

Educational Development - larry.warren@domtar.com

The Education Development Committee is responsible for developing courses for PPSA members and non-members

Members: Larry Warren, Domtar (Chair), Matthew Kanneberg, WestRock, Larry Kilian, Haws Corporation, Shawn Powell, Brady Corporation, Ashley Westbrook, PPSA Staff

Current Activity: The committee is working on several initiatives:

Continued from page 24

- finalizing the details for upcoming continuing education opportunities such as course offerings and webinars
 - ◊ Emphasizing industry specific products, services, and content for tactical application
 - ◊ Offering general industry better practices for strategic direction
- seeking opportunities to leverage the educational capabilities and efforts of PPSA across the industry:
 - ◊ Creating joint marketing of educational opportunities with other industry associations
 - ◊ Supporting the educational needs in the efforts on the industry wide effort on Serious Injury and Fatality prevention (SIF)

Awards and Nominations - steve.gearheart@new-indycb.com

The Awards and Nominating Committee is responsible for executing the awards throughout the entire year. It includes but not limited to, the Executive Eagle, Distinguished Service, and Safety Committee/Team awards. This committee will also be responsible for seeking out and recommending new Board Members

Members: Steve Gearheart, New-Indy Containerboard (Chair), Randy Adams, Kruger, Ed Corlew, Mohawk Fine Paper, Terry Hughes, Domtar Pete Masias, Green Bay Packaging, Ashley Westbrook, PPSA Staff

Current Activity: The committee is reviewing the criteria of the current awards recognized at the annual conference and potential addition of additional awards and recognition of our members and sites.

Communications Committee - john.deveau@westrock.com

This committee is responsible for providing content for the various publications and non-event content outlets.

Members: John Deveau, WestRock (Chair), Ed Corlew, Mohawk Fine Paper, Lesley Galloway, SafeStart, Steve Gearheart, New-Indy Containerboard, Steve Ledford, Georgia-Pacific, Ashley Westbrook, PPSA Staff

Current Activity: Reviewing the current Quarterly Report newsletter. They're also have the responsibility for updating the website and soliciting articles for the next (QR) from members and vendors. We are looking at different means of social media to provide information and updates to our membership.

As a member of this association, you are encouraged to provide feedback to the committees either by contacting the chairs directly or contacting staff. Please contact PPSA if you would like to join a committee as well.

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

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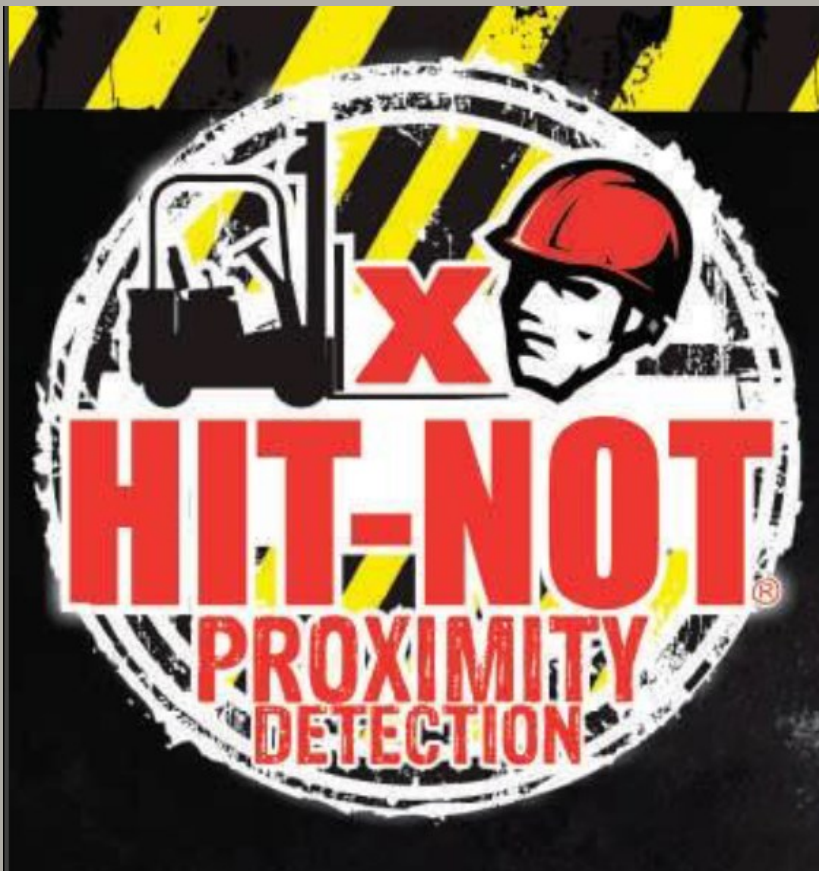


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WestRock Wins 2016 AF&PA Safety Sustainability Award

“**Safety First – Safety Always!**” is the theme of WestRock’s latest safety video, which just last week, won the American Forest & Paper Association’s (AF&PA) 2016 Safety Sustainability Award. The video is centered on creating a workplace where employees are actively engaged and accountable, care, plan and are willing to take action in safety – in short, engaged employees. The video helps align our safety efforts with WestRock’s overall culture.

This video contains an introduction plus three separate modules that are designed to be shown over the course of the year:

- **Speak Up for Safety**
- **Plan for Safety**
- **Engaged for Safety**

Each module carries a different theme.

The first, **Speak Up for Safety**, is about people speaking up to make things better when they see an unsafe condition or behavior.

The second, **Plan for Safety**, is about how we identify potential hazards associated with our work before we undertake a job, and how we ensure those hazards have been properly controlled. The video discusses how quickly situations can change. It explores how we must be prepared to stop and think about the risks before jumping in and doing a task. The module also discusses the S.T.E.P. personal hazard recognition tool. S.T.E.P. stands for Stop, Think, Evaluate and Plan, and is a tool that, when committed to memory, will help to evaluate unplanned hazards.

The third and final module is called **Engaged for Safety**. WestRock is a company that highly values diversity and input from everyone. Across the company, we need everyone to be fully engaged in safety. This engagement not only benefits our employees, but also the families who depend on each of us coming home in the same condition as we left. In this module, we will hear from teammates across the company on what engagement in safety means to them.

Videos like **Safety First – Safety Always!** are an easy way for any company to get a key safety message out to all employees. It creates a “burning platform” whereby employees can rally behind key concepts that we know, if implemented properly, will lead to improved safety performance. It’s also a fun way to get all employees engaged and working toward improving the safety culture of a site.

A strong safety culture provides the foundation for healthy employees and stable communities. WestRock’s **Safety First – Safety Always!** video helps to promote both social and economic responsibility. Employees that remain safe and uninjured benefit their families through less time away from work with reduced income, fewer medical bills and improved family relationships. Healthy, productive employees positively impact their communities as well. Profitable companies with low workers’ compensation costs provide a stable tax base for the local community and economy. Customers also benefit by aligning themselves with strong, socially responsible and sustainable suppliers like WestRock that provide consistent, high-quality products manufactured by healthy workers.

Attached above and below are images from the video that were filmed in Wuxi, China. Other parts of the video were filmed at various locations around the world, including as Brazil and the U.S.



* Originally published on [LinkedIn](#) by Mike Hagenbarth on November 17, 2016

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10 Steps to Prevent Slips, Trips and Falls in the Workplace

Submitted by: Courtney Bohman, Global Product Manager for Brady SPC

When considering safety and compliance issues in the workplace, slips, trips and falls often rise to the top of the list. The reason for this is clear – slips, trips and falls can lead to serious injuries, citations and financial implications that greatly impact the efficiency and productivity of your facility. Slips, trips and falls are one of the leading causes of unintentional injuries in the U.S., result in one in six lost time injuries and cost an average of \$20,000* per incident. These 10 steps can guide you on the ways to preventing slips, trips and falls in your facility:

1. Assess Your Workplace

Effective workplace safety starts with knowing your workplace, uncovering problem areas, and understanding what steps to take to improve working conditions. Take time to assess your facility. As part of this assessment, make sure to look into past slip, trip and fall incidents. Consider both the type and location of each incident as you complete your assessment and hone in on critical problem areas.

2. Mark Aisles and Passageways

Floor marking tape or paint can be used to identify passageways, equipment and storage areas, hazardous flooring and forklift traffic areas. Marking off obstacles in aisles and pathways helps to ensure that employees can more easily and safely navigate a clear path.

3. Provide Traction on Slippery Surfaces

To help prevent injuries, be sure that floors are clean and dry whenever possible. On stairs, landing areas and hazardous slip areas, use anti-slip tape or a material that withstands grease and oil. In production areas, aisles and walkways, absorbent mats, pads and rolls are a great option to keep floors clean and dry while providing extra traction where needed.

4. Improve Stair Safety

You can do this by keeping stairways clean and dry, applying reasonably slip-resistant treads and stair nosing with a non-slip finish, and using anti-skid cleats to mark stairs.

5. Mark Emergency Evacuation Routes

To allow employees to quickly and safely exit the building in an emergency, exit signs, emergency egress signs and a path towards the exit should be clearly marked. Glow-in-the-dark floor and stair markings and directional signs can help lead the way for safer evacuation.

6. Post Safety Signs and Labels

With warning signs at the point of need, you can warn workers at-a-glance of any nearby hazards, including equipment leaks, uneven surfaces or other potential obstacles. Effective signage includes a clear header, bright colors, bold text, languages aligning with workforce needs and intuitive infographics.

7. Warn of Temporary Hazards

When there's a short-term hazard due to maintenance, housekeeping or a spill, mark the area with cautionary floor stands, barricade tape, and warning posts and chains.

8. Inspect Scaffolding and Ladders

Establish a standard for frequently inspecting scaffolds and ladders for damage, faults and wear. This should include the use of scaffolding tags and inspection tags. Make sure that those inspection tags include the inspection date, the name of the authorized employee who performed the inspection and the required date of the next inspection.

9. Control and Clean Oil and Spills

When faced with spills, it's critical to have a process to detect, assess and correct that spill as effectively as possible. Keeping both absorbents and spill kits on hand can help you tackle spills quickly and effectively.

10. Train Your Employees

To achieve the greatest level of effectiveness, employees need to understand why slips, trips and falls occur. They also need to understand how to minimize their likelihood and how to respond when one occurs. By providing employees with the tools, training and support they need to effectively prevent and respond to slips, trips and falls, you're taking the right steps to avoid employee injuries, declines in productivity and the costs associated with an incident.

With these steps in mind, you're ready to implement the processes, products and training needed to help prevent slips, trips and falls. Learn more at BradyID.com/slips

*Smith, S. (2013, July 15). The High Costs of Slips, Trips and Falls. Retrieved from EHS Today



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PPSA is 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. 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 a great face-to-face networking opportunity.
- The Quarterly Report provides a way of bench-marking 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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