

# THE CONNECTION

OCTOBER 2001



## HORSEPLAY

On construction sites there is no such thing as a practical joke. Playing tricks on your fellow workers is no joke at all. In fact it can cause a person to be seriously injured or killed.

Construction is dangerous enough without jokers. Horseplay is for children, or for adults in their own living room. But not on a construction site!

DON'T distract a worker while performing their job.

DON'T startle your fellow worker. DON'T play tricks on the young or new worker. They may become confused to the point where they injure themselves or someone else.

DON'T wrestle - Indian style or tag team! Wrestling matches can be held after working hours, not on the job site.

DON'T show off with feats of strength. You may drop something on yourself - or someone else.

REMEMBER be a smart worker, not a SMART ALECK.

Keep horseplay away from the

job.

CNA

## WHY ALL THE FUSS ABOUT ACCIDENT PREVENTION?

You've heard lots of talk, read lots of words, about working safely on our projects. Sure it's "old stuff" - and important stuff.

There's lots at stake for YOU in working without injury or damage. You have much to gain by keeping fit and unhurt. One reason has a big dollar-sign in front of it. But there are other important reasons: other people who count on you for happiness, and perhaps for financial support; they also have a big stake in your safety as a construction worker.

And there are other things - like what you want most out of life. Maybe it's a top-favorite hobby like fishing, hunting, a boat, a new set of wheels, a trip to far-off places, entering or finishing up school, early retirement, or a healthy bank account to fall back on. Keeping uninjured and steadily on the payroll has a lot to do with winning your important goals in life.

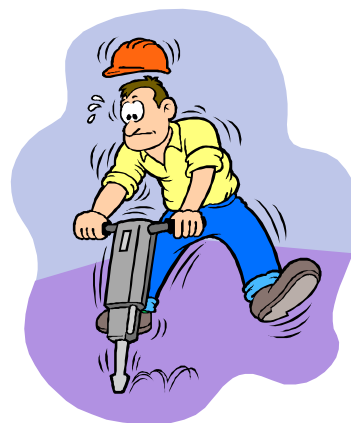
Think of all the things you're able to do now that give you earning power; then think of trying to do these same things if you were minus a hand...or arm...or leg...or your eyesight. It's much harder - if not impossible - for a disabled worker to reach all his major personal goals.

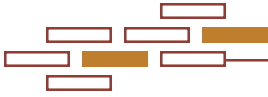
So don't think about safe work practices and rules as "hemming you in" or "cutting down on your individual freedom"; think about them as positive things, designed to help you keep your freedom and your abilities, so that you have a better chance of getting what you want most out of life.

A risky habit or dangerous condition on the job is a threat to your freedom and your future. Working efficiently and without injury is the safest avenue leading from where you are to where you want to be in life.

That's why accident prevention is worth fussing about!

CNA





### WORK ZONE SAFETY BEGINS WITH ME!

Every job has its hazards - that's a given. But with a little forethought, I can minimize those hazards and end each day as safe and sound as I started it.

- ✓ Is my work area free of slip, trip, and fall hazards?
- ✓ Do I have the right tools?
- ✓ Is my equipment in good working order?
- ✓ Are all required guards and barriers in place?
- ✓ Am I aware of the job's chemical hazards - and how to deal with them?
- ✓ Do I have the right PPE for the task - and does it fit properly?
- ✓ Are there hazards that I should remove or repair myself - or that I should report to my supervisor or to Maintenance?
- ✓ Am I committed to putting safety first so that I can end each day as safe and sound as I started it?

Safety Now

### PREVENT THE THREAT OF TETANUS




Minor cuts and abrasions are commonplace in the workplace. However, minor injuries can turn into major problems if you don't take care of them right away. Did you know that even small cuts can lead to tetanus, a serious - sometimes fatal - disease of the nervous system?

Tetanus is caused by bacteria that thrive in dust and dirt. When dust or dirt gets into an open wound - regardless of its size - the tetanus germs may enter and multiply. Therefore, even minor cuts and abrasions should be treated seriously.

To prevent infection, clean all cuts and abrasions with an antiseptic, and cover the wound with a sterile bandage.



However, if any of the following conditions apply, you should seek immediate, professional medical attention:

-  You have not received a tetanus shot in three to five years.
-  The wound is very dirty or has foreign matter in it.
-  You develop signs of infection, such as swelling or redness.

Tetanus germs can also result in acute symptoms that include fever, profuse sweating, and lockjaw - painful muscle spasms in the jaw that make it difficult for the infected person to open his or her mouth. Under these circumstances, immediate medical care is critical. Tetanus can be successfully treated with an antitoxin injection.

Safety Now



### HOW TO TAKE THE REAL SCARE OUT OF HALLOWEEN

Keep your family safe this Halloween by employing a few safety rules while trick-or-treating. Listed below are some helpful hints for having a safe and fun excursion.

1. Stay in your own neighborhood. Go only to the houses of people you know.
2. Use a flashlight and decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape to be more visible to traffic.
3. Do not allow young children to go out alone. Set a time limit for older children to stick to.
4. Insist that your child not indulge in any candy until returning home for you to inspect it. Some hospitals will X-ray candy for you.
5. Keep general street safety in mind: Look before crossing the street; don't run; stay away from parked cars, etc.
6. Be sure children's costumes are safe. Avoid masks when possible. If they are worn, be certain that children are able to see through the eye holes and that they are able to breathe easily.

Safety And The Supervisor