

TOOL BOX TALKS

Electric Shock Injuries

Hand and Power Tools

Electricity is a physical force that is invisible and it can do irreversible damage. Just about everyone gets shocked at one point or another, but most are lucky because they don't receive an injury. But what about the employees that aren't lucky? Take all electricity, no matter the voltage seriously. Review the following safety tips with your employees.

Toolbox Tips

1. Shock happens when electricity goes to the ground through your body.
 - About five employees are electrocuted every week.
 - Causes 12 percent of workplace deaths.
 - Takes very little electricity to cause harm.
 - There is also the risk of fire.
2. Low amounts of amperage can cause severe injuries.
 - Burns—tissue is super-heated, resulting in damage.
 - Falls—from ladders, platforms and scaffolds.
 - Tissue damage—skin and muscle damage.
 - Internal injuries to organs and tissue death.
3. An electrical shock is received when electrical currents pass through the body.
 - You will get an electrical shock if a part of your body completes an electrical circuit by:
 - Touching a live wire and an electrical ground, or
 - Touching a live wire and another wire at a different voltage.
4. Burns
 - Most common shock-related injury.
 - Occurs when you touch electrical wiring or equipment that is improperly used or maintained.
 - Typically burns occur to hands.
 - Burns require immediate attention.

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Take all electricity, no matter the voltage seriously.

These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional.

For more information:



www.worksafecenter.com



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Work SAFE

TOOL BOX TALKS

Ring Testing Abrasive Wheels

Hand and Power Tools

Grinders are often used in machine shops, home garages, construction job sites and tool cribs. Grinders present amputation hazards in the form of nip points, kick back and wheel explosion. Users of grinders must be trained and personal protective equipment is required during use. Please review the following safety tips with your employees.

Toolbox Tips

1. Work rests must be adjusted to a 1/8 inch gap. Tongue guards must be adjusted to a 1/4 inch gap.
2. These adjustments must be made fairly often, as the grinder wheel diameter is reduced during grinding operations.
3. Tie up loose clothing and hair. Do not wear jewelry.
4. Wear the correct personal protective equipment recommended by the manufacturer.
5. Do not leave the grinder until it has “coasted” to a stop.
6. Do not grind stock to stop the grinder after it has been switched off.
7. Wheels should be tapped gently with a light nonmetallic implement, such as the handle of a screwdriver for light wheels or a wooden mallet for heavier wheels.
8. If they sound cracked (dead), they should not be used.



Verify that the grinder speed is below the rated RPM on the abrasive.

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