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UTP HAND SAFETY AND PROTECTION PROGRAM

In looking for ways to address the disproportionate number of hand injuries occurring in our workplaces, I attended a webinar on the subject and would like to share some highlights and preventive actions the company is taking to protect our workers against hand injuries.

1. Simply implementing a Hand Safety Program has been shown to reduce hand injuries across all industries.

Action taken: At the management level, a Hand Safety and Protection Program has been initiated, and we are developing content and supportive solutions now.

2. Unlike back or other workplace injuries, **hand injuries can be all but eliminated to the degree that employees adopt the habit of wearing job-specific PPE/glove protection;** e.g back-of-hand protection to protect against rolling freight collisions, and snug fitting mechanic style gloves for assemblage and handling tools

Action taken: We are working with major glove suppliers to identify the most protective and practical job-specific PPE/glove solutions available now.

3. Almost 75% of survey responders said that employee complacency was the most significant barrier to consistent and universal glove-wearing solutions, and **that employee buy in is critical to a remarkably successful PPE/glove solution program.**

Actions underway: UTP hopes to engage workforce buy-in by inviting selected workers to try test samples, and give us “boots on the ground” feedback on gloves samples that YOU would be willing to wear from a function and comfort point of view. After all, *Even the most effective glove is only protective if the employee is willing to wear it.*”

4. in UTP’s monthly safety forum, one of the attendees acknowledged that he has long since had separate pairs of job-specific gloves in his tool box already! **Developing a glove culture is doable, a culture that we can all work toward and live with.**

Actions underway: The company will prioritize Hand Safety initiative outcomes in future monthly safety forums, and report progress and supportive ideas in future Safety Spot issues.

We Invite everyone to join with us in recognizing that **our hands are our most critically important workplace asset, that any hand injury potential is unacceptable, and that the proven and most effective preventative measure is the right PPE for the job.**

We look forward to the submitting of future safety measures as the company continues to roll the Hand Safety and Protection Program. Watch for Situational Awareness and Safe Practice in Rolling Freight Management in the next issue.

For Safety,

Ladd Anderson, Safety Spot contributor.

SAFETY SP T

UTP Productions Accident Checklist



Provide first aid if a trained person is available.

If the injury is life threatening, then please call 911. **Otherwise, call UTP's office during business hours (801) 328-1298 M-F. Or call our dedicated injury hotline at (801) 209-9193 after hours and on weekends. You will be guided through the process.** If there is no answer, please leave a detailed message of the injury. Please provide contact information including a phone number so we can return your call as soon as possible.

The employee, supervisor and witnesses must fill out the necessary reports. This can be accomplished at utpproductions.com for your easiest solution. The forms may also be printed and either emailed or faxed to us. This includes incidents that may not require immediate medical attention. **All reports must be received within 24 hours of the incident.**

Investigate the accident scene - provide detailed description of accident and equipment involved. Pictures may also be taken with a cell phone and sent via text message to (801)209-9193.

Any accidents/incidents that involve death, amputation, loss of an eye or inpatient hospitalization require that the scene be preserved per OSHA requirements!

Other important contact information:
UTP Productions Phone: 801 328-1298
Fax: 801-328-1307
email: workcomp@utpgroup.com

A Tale of Our Accidents

The following is a list of incidents and accidents that have occurred in the last several months.

California: #1- While packing light fixtures employee fell into a hole on the stage.

Texas: #1- While taking stage apart an employee smashed fingers and a cart also ran over the employee's toes.

#2- A second employee went up to pull a heavy cart without warning the first employee they were going to do so. This caught the first employee off guard knocking them down and then also ran over their foot with the road cart.

#3- While doing a group lift of a piano employee became tangled with other group members causing them to fall off the stage onto their back.

Nevada: #1- While employee was unloading truck the load shifted and smashed their fingers.

#2- While pushing, pulling, and lifting equipment employee strained right elbow.

Arizona: #1- While employee was loading props onto a truck the load shifted and smashed three fingers.

#2- While employee was working with hand tools, they dropped a wrench that struck their face which broke and chipped teeth.

#3- While unloading truck an employee fell over the tailgate and hit their head on the asphalt causing lacerations.

Washington: #1- While unloading truck equipment fell off the top of the load hitting an employee on the head.

#2- While working on pinning truss together employee strained left knee.

#3- While lifting and stacking large lighting cases employee pinched nerve in back.

Florida: #1- While flipping over a flat-cart employee strained left hip.

A Tale of Our Accidents - Continued

The following is a list of incidents and accidents that have occurred in the last several months.

Florida: #2- While moving cases onto an ice show floor an employee slipped on ice causing a right elbow Injury.

#3- Truss cart was pushed into employee's ankle.

Utah: #1- While unloading racks with the assistance of a forklift the forklift lowered its forks smashing employee's hand causing a broken thumb.

#2- While loading trucks with the assistance of a forklift the forklift forks were set too narrowly causing the load to fall striking an employee causing lacerations to head and arms.

We would like to reach as many relevant people as possible with this safety tool. Please send email addresses of any stewards, safety committee members or other stagehands who may be interested in receiving the Safety Spot to julie@utpgroup.com