



# Weekly Safety Tip

"Your Connection for Workplace Safety"

Phone: 920-208-7520

*We're about service, commitment, results, and accountability!*

*Our Weekly Safety Tip provides valuable and current safety information relevant for Work, Home & Play.*

*And, you will be kept current on the latest Safety Compliance issues.*



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**We want to hear from you! Send us your feedback and give us ideas for future safety topics.**

**Let us know how you feel about our new look!**

**Safety Slogan**

**Zero compromise  
towards safety  
James Lehrke-SCI**

**of the week**

## SCI Safety Tip: Poison Pen?

Sources: <http://www.blr.com>

Date: March 9, 2012

March 18 to 24 is the 50th anniversary of Poison Prevention Week, which makes it a good time to realize that today's modern offices have more poison dangers than you may be aware of. In fact, it's just that lack of knowledge about office chemicals that could put your workers at risk.

Remind your workers that office chemical hazards may seem minor until they consider that if a gallon jug of ammonia cleaning solution were spilled in their office it would probably make everyone run from the office coughing. And if their office is part of a manufacturing facility, there may be chemicals in the manufacturing environment that could spill and impact their office. So train your workers not to take these materials for granted:

- Copy machine toner
- Printer ink
- Glue
- Whiteout
- Cleaning supplies

In addition, give your workers these general guidelines to prevent poisonings in any workplace environment:

- Read chemical labels and follow the manufacturers' instructions to use and store these items safely.
- Use chemicals in well-ventilated areas.
- Use personal protective equipment, such as gloves, to protect yourself.
- Post the national Poison Help line—1-800-222-1222—near the workplace First Aid Kit so that if you or a co-worker has been exposed to poisonous substances, you can call that number immediately. Of course, you can call 9-1-1 for any emergency, but if the problem is poison, the best number to call is the Poison Help line. Healthcare experts will answer the phone and be able to answer your immediate questions and connect you to local poison help right away.

Encourage employees to read through the FAQs at the Poison Help website so that they are prepared to handle poisonings wherever they may occur: <http://www.poisonhelp.hrsa.gov/faqs/index.html>.

## Why It Matters

- More than 2 million poisonings are reported each year in the United States.
- Poisonings are one of the leading causes of death among adults.
- Poisonings are almost 100% preventable.

## SCI OSHA Compliance: Don't Have Any Doubts About PPE Requirements

Source: <http://www.blr.com>

Date: March 6, 2012

*Here are some questions about PPE requirements, with answers provided by the safety experts at Safety.BLR.com.*

### Does OSHA specify the frequency of replacement of PPE, especially hard hats?

OSHA does not specify the frequency of replacement of PPE. It is up to the employer to determine when PPE needs to be replaced. OSHA recommends that each employer establish a policy concerning what will constitute normal wear and tear (expected service life).

It is recommended that hard hats be replaced after 2 years when they are worn in work environments that include sunlight, chemicals, or temperature extremes. Most manufacturers mold date codes or symbols into the underside of the brim of a hard hat to indicate when it was made. Learn how to interpret the code or symbol or check with your supplier for recommended expiration dates.

### Does a PPE hazard assessment need to be documented per 1910.132?

Yes, you the employer must certify in writing that the PPE hazard assessment has been performed. The written certification must identify:

- The workplace evaluated
- The date of the assessment
- The person certifying that the evaluation has been performed
- The hazards found
- The PPE selected

See Subpart I, Appendix B for more information about hazard assessments.

### If employees lose their PPE and need it to be replaced, does that come at our expense or theirs?

The employee must pay to replace lost PPE: 1910.132(h)(5). *Employers must pay for replacement PPE, except when the employee has lost or intentionally damaged the PPE.*

### Are there any exceptions to OSHA's requirement that employers pay for PPE?

Yes. You do not have to pay for:

- **Modifications** that simply personalize PPE do not require employer payment (for example, shoe inserts for fatigue). If modifications are needed for proper fit or appropriate protection, the employer must pay. (For example, prescription inserts that employees need for protection.)
- If metatarsal protection is needed per the hazard assessment, **integrated metatarsal shoes** are not required to be paid for. An employer can pay for external guard attachments. They do not work as well as integrated ones, but OSHA standards allow them.

**"Everyday" clothing** that might also serve as PPE, such as long-sleeve shirts and pants, rain gear, and winter clothing, is not something employers have to pay for. An employer may require everyday clothing to be worn that may have some protective value, but may not have to pay for it if it must be worn regardless of the hazards. However, if everyday clothing is not sufficient to protect employees, then the employer must pay for PPE (for example, PPE for working in freezers).

**Quick Tips for Healthy Living****HEALTHY BITES**

Fruits and Veggies

**You need AT LEAST 5 fruits and/ or veggies every day.**

Fruits and vegetables contain essential vitamins, minerals, and fiber that may help protect you from chronic diseases. Compared with people who consume a diet with only small amounts of fruits and vegetables, those who eat more generous amounts as part of a healthful diet are likely to have reduced risk of chronic diseases, including stroke and perhaps other cardiovascular diseases, and certain cancers.

Ideas:

Always eat fruit as part of your breakfast.

V8 counts towards your veggie total.

Make pasta, and see how many vegetables you can add to the marinara sauce.

Frozen stir- fry vegetables will complement most meals. They cook up quickly and easily.

Vegetable soup is a great way to get in your daily veggies.

For some other vegetable recipe ideas, visit [www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov](http://www.fruitsandveggiesmatter.gov).

## **SCI Environmental Tip: Hazardous Substance Storage: What are the Rules? (Part 2)**

**Source:** <http://www.blr.com>

**Date:** February 20, 2012

—**Oil Pollution Act of 1990 (OPA)** amended the **Clean Water Act (CWA)** to require facilities to prepare and implement spill prevention plans to prevent oil spills that could reach **navigable waters**. In addition, **OPA** requires that certain facilities that store and use oil are required to prepare facility response plans to respond to a worst-case discharge of oil.



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In Loving  
Memory of Jessica  
Lehrke

—**Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)** hazardous waste storage rules require hazardous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs) to be permitted. In addition, **RCRA** strictly regulates several types of hazardous waste storage units, including containers, tanks, containment buildings, surface impoundments, and waste piles.

—**Clean Air Act Amendments (CAAA) Risk Management Plan (RMP)** requires facilities that produce, handle, process, distribute, or store certain chemicals to develop, and report to EPA, an accident prevention plan that includes a hazard assessment, a prevention history, and an emergency response program.