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Weekly Safety Tip

July 1, 2018

SCI Safety Tip: At-Home Safety: Preventing Child Heatstroke in Cars

Source: www.ehstoday.com

By: EHS Staff

Date: June 27, 2018

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is reminding parents and others about the dangers of leaving children unattended in a vehicle.

In the United States, one child dies from heatstroke in a vehicle every 10 days, and outside of crashes heatstroke is the number one vehicle-related killer, according to the agency.

“In almost no time temperatures inside a vehicle can reach deadly levels, which creates a dangerous situation for children who are in a car unsupervised,” said Deputy Administrator Heidi King in a statement. “Parents and caregivers are the first line of defense for preventing these tragedies—but everyone in the community has a role to play.”

Since 1998, there have been 760 pediatric vehicular heatstroke deaths, including 18 so far in 2018. The agency stated that eliminating these deaths requires education, vigilance, and personal responsibility.

To help prevent these tragic events, the NHTSA provided the following safety tips:

- Never leave a child in a vehicle unattended.
- Make it a habit to look in the back seat EVERY time you exit the car.
- Always lock the car and put the keys out of reach.
- If you are a bystander and see a child in a hot vehicle:
- Make sure the child is okay and responsive. If not, call 911 immediately.
- If the child appears to be okay, attempt to locate the parents or have the facility’s security or management page the car owner over the PA system.
- If there is someone with you, one person should actively search for the parent while the other waits at the car.



SCI Safety Slogan

James Lehrke- SCI



- If the child is not responsive or appears to be in distress, attempt to get into the car to assist the child—even if that means breaking a window. Many states have “Good Samaritan” laws that protect people from lawsuits for getting involved to help a person in an emergency.

For additional child safety information please visit www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/child-safety.

SCI OSHA News: OSHA Proposes Rule on Crane Operator Certification

By: *David Sparkman*

Source: www.EHStoday

Date: *June 29, 2018*

Eight years after it began the process of finalizing a rule to govern the certification of crane and derrick operators in the construction industry, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has finally issued a notice of proposed rulemaking that could just possibly be adopted as a final-final—they really mean it—final rule in 2019.

In August 2010 OSHA issued the final cranes and derricks in construction standard, that called for crane operators to be either certified or qualified, depending on the option elected by an employer, by November 2014. However, in February 2014, the agency proposed another three-year extension to the operator certification deadline and requested public comment. That deadline eventually was delayed again until November 2017.

Last November, the agency issued its “final” standard, which asserted OSHA’s long-held position that an operator is qualified to operate a particular piece of equipment only if the operator is certified for that type and capacity of equipment, or is certified for higher-capacity equipment of that same type. For example, an operator certified to operate a 100-ton hydraulic crane also would be able to operate a 50-ton hydraulic crane—but not a 200-ton hydraulic crane.

Over the years this interpretation created significant concern for many industry representatives, including employers and unions, and firms that offer crane operator training, notes Tressi L. Cordaro, an attorney with the law firm of Jackson Lewis. OSHA now proposes to eliminate any requirement that operator certification be based on the capacity of the crane.

OSHA also stressed that it is unaware of any direct evidence establishing a safety benefit for requiring certification by capacity, and that employee certification by capacity of crane should merely be an option for those employers who wish to use it.

The new proposed rule also seeks to clarify and permanently extend an employer’s ongoing duty to evaluate potential operators in regard to their ability to safely operate assigned equipment covered and to require that employers document the evaluation.

Not everyone is happy about this portion of the proposed rule. “Some have become concerned in particular at the implications of the employer evaluation portion of the proposed rule, a new section developed by OSHA to address industry concerns that certification, though valuable, is insufficient by itself to ensure an operator is qualified,” observes the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators.

“The standard would make certification akin to a driver’s learner permit requiring employers to still evaluate an operator’s skill and competency to operate equipment safely,” according to Cordaro. “The proposed standard is written in performance-oriented language and does not establish what specific skills must be assessed. As drafted, it is possible this requirement to evaluate an operator could change from job to job.”

OSHA explained that the proposed standard would “also require employers to evaluate the operator’s judgement,” not just his or her skills. This means that the employer would have to assess not only the operator’s ability to apply knowledge and skills to the everyday requirements of the job, but also the operator’s “ability to recognize risky or unusual conditions.”

Of course, even the request for comments accompanying release of the latest rulemaking proceeding could not pass without experiencing yet another delay. On June 19, OSHA announced that it extended the period for public comments on its rule proposal from the originally announced deadline of June 20 to July 5.



5 Steps To Hydrate and Safely Boost Stamina

Proper hydration. It's an often overlooked but essential component of athletic performance. Even a small reduction in body fluids (as little as 5 percent) can cause a decrease in endurance, reaction time and/or concentration.

How Much Do You Need To Drink?

The American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) recommends you know your weight before an intensive exercise session. During exercise, you'll lose body weight in the form of fluids. After exercise, you'll need to replace those fluids.

The ACSM offers these general guidelines for exercise/sports hydration:

1. About four hours *before you exercise* — Drink 16-20 fluid ounces of *water or sports beverage*.
2. 10-15 minutes *before you exercise* — Drink 8-12 fluid ounces of *water*.
3. If you're exercising *less than 60 minutes* — Drink 3-8 fluid ounces of *water* every 15-20 minutes.
4. If you're exercising *more than 60 minutes* — Drink 3-8 fluid ounces of a *sports beverage* every 15-20 minutes. A sports beverage is formulated to replace nutrients your body needs.
5. Within 2 hours *after exercise* — Drink at least 8 fluid ounces every 15-20 minutes, or drink 20-24 fluid ounces for every one pound of body weight you've lost.

SCI Security Tips: Taking Action Against Acts of Workplace Violence (Part 1)

Source: www.ehstoday.com

Date: June 17, 2018

On April 3, 2018, 38-year-old Nasim Najafi Aghdam entered YouTube's headquarters with a semi-automatic pistol and began shooting company employees. The act of workplace violence at the video sharing company's San Bruno, Calif., office was only one of many incidents that have caused widespread media attention and discussions about what companies can do to protect their workers from active shooting situations.

"Given the current landscape of the workforce, a company's ability to focus on an active shooter or workplace violence incident is absolutely paramount," says Juliette Kayyem, CEO of Zemcar. "Moving forward, leading organizations need to ensure the safety of employees by bringing these policies into the workplace and putting them into practice, much like how fire drills are already a regular event for employees."

While workplace violence statistics often are underreported, the numbers that are available only demonstrate that it is far more prevalent. The most recent data available estimates that more than 2 million people are victims of a workplace violence incident each year. The FBI states that 80 percent of all active shooting incidents happen on the job.

However, many employers still remain unprepared. EHS professionals and employers can create a secure workplace through training workers to recognize the signs of a disgruntled employee as well as having a solid emergency response plan in place should an act of violence occur.

Causes

The most common types of workplace violence vary by industry, but can be broken down into four parts (See "Types of Workplace Violence"). The FBI provides detailed information about the different occurrences on its website and published resources.

The U.S. workforce spends on average about one-third of their life in the workplace, according to numerous studies. So, knowing your coworkers and surroundings is crucial to preventing a workplace violence incident. "Employees typically know when something is 'off,'" says Vic Merjanian, founder and CEO of Titan HST. "Common warning signs in individuals are increased aggression, harassment towards customers or employees, concealment of a weapon and interpersonal conduct that doesn't fit the setting." It is also important to be wary of biases an individual may possess and to ensure that the perceived threat is based on objective criteria, he adds. Workplace safety is ever evolving, and communicating threats as well active situations is key to sending workers home safe every day.

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In Loving Memory... Jessica, Kristin and Nick



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