

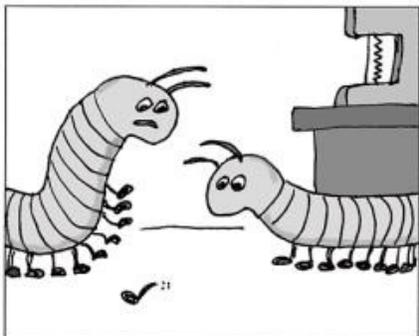
news & notes

EMPHASIS ON AMPUTATIONS

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has updated its National Emphasis Program (NEP) on Amputations. The agency says the NEP uses current enforcement and injury data to assist with site targeting. The NEP targets industries with high numbers and rates of amputations, with manufacturing as a prime target.

According to the most recent data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, manufacturing employers report that 2,000 workers suffered amputations in 2013. The rate of amputations in the manufacturing sector was more than twice as much as that of all private industry.

"Workers injured from unguarded machinery and equipment can suffer permanent disability or lose their lives," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health David Michaels, PhD. "This directive will help ensure that employers identify and eliminate serious workplace hazards and provide safe workplaces for all workers."



"Mine? No, Dave, I'm pretty sure that's one of yours."



April 2016

All about amputation

Know how to protect yourself

You don't want to lose a finger—or a hand, arm, foot, or leg—while operating machinery and equipment. Here's what you need to know to keep yourself safe!

Types of motion that can put you at risk of amputation include:

- **Rotation:** circular or spinning movement
- **Reciprocation:** back-and-forth movement
- **Transverse motion:** Motion in a straight, continuous line that contacts a fixed object
- **Cutting action:** A motion that can be rotating, reciprocating, or transverse
- **Punching action:** Stamping or punching metal or other materials
- **Shearing action:** When a slide or knife is used to trim or shear material
- **Bending action:** When a slide is used to draw or stamp material
- **In-running nip points or pinch points:** When two parts move together and at least one moves in a circular manner

You may be exposed to these hazards while you are:

- Operating a machine
- Setting up, threading, or preparing to operate the machine
- Clearing jams
- Making running adjustments while a machine is operating
- Cleaning a machine
- Oiling or greasing a machine or machine pans
- Performing maintenance activities
- Locking out or tagging out a machine

To protect yourself while the machinery is operating:

- Follow safe operating procedures.
- Wear required personal protective equipment.
- Inspect your equipment thoroughly.
- Adjust guards properly.
- Secure the workpiece.
- Stay clear of unshielded moving parts.
- Keep the work area clean and free of clutter.

To protect yourself while the machine is shut down:

- Stop the machine.
- Neutralize and lock out all potential hazardous energy sources.
- Remove all stray items.
- Observe any machine-specific precautions.

news & notes

TRAFFIC DEATHS RISE

There was a sharp increase in traffic deaths during the first 9 months of 2015, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA).

Transportation Secretary Anthony Foxx noted that for decades, safety improvements have resulted in a steady decline in highway deaths. "But the apparent increase in 2015 is a signal that we need to do more," he said.

The NHTSA estimates that more than 26,000 people died in traffic crashes in the first 9 months of 2015, compared to 23,796 fatalities during the same period of 2014. The estimated increase of more than 9 percent follows years of gradual declines—more than 22 percent from 2000 to 2014.

Although the NHTSA says it's too early to pinpoint the causes of the spike in road fatalities, the agency is responding to this statistical red flag and not waiting for the situation to worsen. That means taking on new initiatives and addressing persistent issues like drunk driving and failure to wear seat belts.



All about amputations quiz

Test what you know

Choose the correct response for the following questions and statements.

1. Which of these describes an in-running nip point?
 - a. Back-and-forth movement
 - b. Power applied to a slide to draw or stamp material
 - c. The point created when two parts move together and at least one moves in a circular manner
2. You can be exposed to amputation hazards during the regular operation of a machine. **True False**
3. You are not exposed to amputation hazards while setting up a machine or performing maintenance during shutdowns. **True False**
4. If you are working on a machine that is shut down:
 - a. Neutralize and lock out all potential hazardous energy sources.
 - b. Keep your hands out of the machine's point of operation.
 - c. Both a and b.
5. Before you return a machine to service, remove all stray items. **True False**

ANSWERS

1. c. The point created when two parts move together and at least one moves in a circular manner. 2. True. 3. False. Even when a machine is shut down, it can pose an amputation hazard because of the potential to unexpectedly release stored energy. 4. c. Both a and b. 5. True.

We are excited to offer FREE Continuing Education featuring Stuart Powell at IIANC Headquarters!

Stuart will be presenting a 3 hour course titled "Workers' Compensation Issues" exclusively for First Benefits Insurance Mutual. Seating is limited so be sure to reserve your seat as soon as possible!

Date: 5/19/16
Time: 9:00AM - 12:00PM
Location: IIANC Headquarters
101 Weston Oaks Ct. Cary, NC 27513

How to register:

Please send your registration request to Richard Suddarth at rsuddarth@firstbenefits.org and include the following:

Name
National Producer Number*
Email address
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Space is filling rapidly. Please send your information to Richard right away! If you have any questions please call Richard at 888-393-2667 or via email.