

WEEKLY SAFETY MEETING

COMPANY NAME : _____ DATE : _____

"HAND INJURY PROTECTION"

Try to imagine your life without the use of your hands. Being unable to perform the simplest task, such as turning on a light switch. No machine or tool can compare with the versatility of the human hand. Hands are used to operate machinery, perform delicate surgery, create new inventions, and build today's homes and businesses. Hands are an essential part of your business production. It's up to you to protect them.

Hand injuries account for approximately 1/3 of all disabling job-related injuries each year. Over 80% of these injuries are caused by pinch points. These injuries are of all kinds, such as cuts, bruises, fractures, and amputations. Approximately 20% of these injuries become infected. Hand injuries are most common in the construction, manufacturing, and processing industries. There are certain precautions that must be taken to prevent hand injury.

Pinch points must be identified and properly guarded. Workers must be aware of their existence and potential danger and instructed in the proper safety precautions needed to prevent injury. Any machinery being serviced should be properly locked out and tagged. Employees should never be allowed to clean, adjust, or repair machines while in motion or energized.

Hand protection is another precaution to use in preventing hand injuries. Hand protection is nothing new to industry. Its importance, however, cannot be overstated.

Approved work gloves can be useful in preventing cuts, bruises, and abrasions resulting from handling rough materials or sharp objects. Be mindful of wearing gloves at the wrong time and in the wrong place. This would involve jobs where gloves may be caught by moving parts or machinery. Gloves can also be effective in minimizing hand infections, such as dermatitis which occurs in nearly every type of industry. Avoid wearing rings or jewelry while working with hand/power tools and around machinery. A little foresight will go a long way in keeping the skin on your hands and your hand as part of your body.

Follow these basic safety rules to keep hand and fingers strong, healthy and free of injury:

1. Wear work gloves when handling items that are heavy, abrasive, or have sharp points and edges.
2. Don't use substitutes like bolts or wrenches for hammering. Use a regular hammer when needed.
3. Don't operate tools and machines with missing guards.
4. Don't try to repair, adjust, or clear moving machinery parts. Shut the machinery down first.

5. Use tag lines to control heavy loads when they are hoisted into place.
6. Be aware of pinch points on gears, chain and belt drives, rigging, concrete chutes and keep hands and fingers clear of them.
7. Wear work gloves when working with wet concrete, very hot or cold objects, or caustic chemicals.

Employee Safety Recommendations: _____

Meeting Attended By:

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Supervisor's Signature: _____

This form is not intended to supersede local,
state or federal regulations