



# ASSE NEWS



American Society of Safety Engineers - Colorado Chapter - February 2005

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### **WEBSITE**

[www.coloradoasse.org](http://www.coloradoasse.org)

## *NEXT MEETING:*

**DATE:** TUESDAY – February 8, 2005

**PLACE:** Garcia's Mexican Restaurant  
5050 S. Syracuse St., Denver, CO 80237

**TIME:** 11:00 Registration  
11:30 a.m. Lunch  
12:00 - 1:00 Program

### **DIRECTIONS:**

I-25 to Belleview Rd. Exit  
East on Belleview Rd. to Syracuse  
North on Syracuse to Garcia's.

**COST:** \$15.00 with reservation by 5:00 P.M. Friday,  
Feb. 4th. \$20.00 at the door without a reservation.

**For Reservations call: 303-615-7588  
Or Email: [Bervin\\_Hall@MSN.Com](mailto:Bervin_Hall@MSN.Com)**

**SPEAKER:** Frank Gibbs, Ph.D.

**TOPIC:** What is a “Structured Work Control Program?”  
*A case study implementation from Rocky Flats*

Dr. Frank Gibbs has spent most of his life engaged in the study of Metallurgical and Materials Engineering. His presentation will describe what a “Structured Work Control Program” is and how it has been successfully implemented to achieve the safety results at Rocky Flats. Additionally, Dr. Gibbs will share with the group how this approach to safety can be applied to almost any operation. If you are looking for a new approach to jump start your safety program or to give direction to your safety committee, this is one presentation you will not want to miss.

For nineteen years, Dr. Gibbs has been involved in management at Rocky Flats during Operations/Production and decommissioning. Most recently, Dr. Gibbs has been promoted to deputy project manager for remediation for more than 300 nuclear and non-nuclear facilities. His primary role has been to safely accomplish Site Closure in spite of the overwhelming challenging hazards. The Rocky Flats Site has the best safety record in the entire DOE Co mplex and Closure is on schedule and under budget due largely to the safe work control implementation. Mr. Gibbs is an Adjunct Professor at the University of Denver and part time professor at the University of Colorado.

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## **TIPS: Mold Management Program – Key Elements to Preventing and Mitigating Mold Claims**

Included below is a link to an article that highlights some key elements to consider including in a mold management program. The Texas Mold Rules became effective on 1/1/05, which regulates mold-related activities performed in the State of Texas.

Click <[http://www.jespear.com/05-01-mold\\_management.pdf](http://www.jespear.com/05-01-mold_management.pdf)>

## **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

### **ASSE's annual SeminarFest -Las Vegas, NV - February 13-19, 2005**

SeminarFest is a week-long event that offers 46 seminars for the SH&E professional. Whether you're new to the profession or an experienced professional, SeminarFest has something for you.

For more information or to view the seminars being offered, click on <http://www.asse.org/frsemfest05.htm>.

### **MSHA Spring Thaw Safety Conference – February 24, 2005 – Denver, CO**

As part of the MSHA/ASSE Alliance, MSHA is looking for ASSE members to help sponsor its Spring Thaw 2005. The Spring Thaw sets up coordinated events across the country to bring mining safety and health practitioners together to address various issues that can help make 2005 a safer and healthier year for miners. This year, Spring Thaw programs will be held between January 25 and April 6. MSHA is particularly looking for mining safety and health professionals to host locations for the Spring Thaw events. This coming year's Spring Thaw theme is Make Safety Personnel and the safety and health issues that MSHA is targeting for the events are

### **American Society of Safety Engineers - Safety Management Symposium March 23-24 - San Diego**

Developed specifically for the Safety Professional, "Using Risk Principles for Safety & Health Decisions", March 23-24, 2005 - San Diego, CA at Mission Valley brings you presentations from business strategists and thought leaders on taking safety management to the next level of achievement.

Keynote presentation on safety leadership by renowned business strategist and visionary, Dr. Oren Harari. General session and 20 concurrent sessions, roundtable topics and much more. Earn 1.2 COCs, 2.0 CM and 1.0 CHMM CMP points.

To download the full symposium brochure: [http://www.asse.org/risksymp04\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.asse.org/risksymp04_brochure.pdf)

### **Online Registration Now Available for Safety 2005, New Orleans**

ASSE members can now register online for Safety 2005, the Society's annual Professional Development Conference and Exposition. Safety 2005 will feature more than 200 sessions, 300 exhibitors, special pre- and post-conference seminars, conference proceedings on CD, numerous networking events and more. Learn the latest strategies to expand your knowledge base and network with peers at the premiere SH&E event of the year.

# Principles of Machine Guarding

## Sponsored by the Colorado Chapter of ASSE

**When:** Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>

**Where:** IEC Conference Center at 480 E. 76<sup>th</sup> Ave., Bldg. 5 Unit A/B in Denver, CO.

**Time:** 8:00 to 5:00

**Prerequisite:** None

<b>Cost:</b>	<b>ASSE Member:</b>	<b>Non-Member:</b>
• Early Registration	\$150	\$175
• Late Registration after February 7, 2005	\$175	\$200
• Student or Retiree	\$95	

Learning Aides: Hand held calculator, please remember to bring extra scratch paper

Continuing Maintenance: 1.0 Safety CM point (ABIH Approval #04-2730)/0.625 COC

This course introduces the safety professional to the potential hazards to workers from moving machine parts and methods to prevent worker injury. By the completion of this course, the safety professional will:

- ? Identify types of machine motion.
- ? Understand basic type of safeguarding for point of operation and power transmission hazards.
- ? Select appropriate safeguards based on the hazard with emphasis on ANSI standards
- ? Establish a machine guarding health and safety plan,
- ? Identify problem areas through job safety auditing.
- ? Use the process of job safety analysis to correct machine hazard situations.

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## **NEW - JOB POSTINGS**

### **Regional Safety Coordinators Needed – Denver, Phoenix, Chicago, Nashville**

General Parts Inc. is a family-owned company that is in the business of providing our customers with excellent service in the automobile parts aftermarket. Our most important resource is our committed, creative and determined Associates whose energy is focused on discovery, development and delivery of our innovative products to those who need them. Our Safety Value, SAFETY & STEWARDSHIP, and the following Guiding Principle give the big picture of who we are:

We have a moral obligation to create an environment that assures the safety and well-being of our people and the communities that we serve, while protecting the resources of our company through stewardship.

### **Job Description**

The Regional Safety Representatives are primarily responsible for leading safety and risk management initiative within assigned territory. Reporting to the Corporate Safety Manager, the Regional Safety Representative provides support to the various distributions centers to assist them in achieving their goal to reduce work related injuries. Support includes planning and administering the corporate safety program, training associates to ensure knowledge of OSHA and DOT regulations as well as safe driving and work habits, performing site safety inspections to ensure compliance OSHA, DOT and HAZMAT safety standards, communicating inspection findings, investigate accidents and compile data to prepare reports. Truck and tractor-trailer operation knowledge is a plus.

To apply for this position, you must submit your resume and salary history/expectations to:

Jamie Williams  
Corporate Safety  
[james.williams@gpi.com](mailto:james.williams@gpi.com)

### Senior Loss Prevention Consultant wanted in Las Vegas area

We are currently recruiting for a Sr. Loss Prevention Consultant for our Henderson, NV office. For information on the position, please visit the following link:

<http://www.eicn.com/Content/Careers/Index.asp>

Benjamin Wood, MS, CSA, STS  
Loss Prevention Manager  
Employers Insurance Co. of Nevada, A Mutual Company  
(702) 837-3062

### New EHS Position Available

Title: Environmental, Health and Safety Specialist  
Degree required: BS/MS Safety Engineering or related; with ASP/CSP certification  
Years: 3-5 years of EHS experience within manufacturing; position is heavier Safety than Environmental  
Salary: \$60,000-\$70,000 plus bonus  
Location: Fort Collins/Denver, CO area

Our client, a Fortune 500 organization and industry leader, is looking to hire an EHS professional, to be the sole EHS professional for a medium-sized, non-union manufacturing plant. Reporting to the Manufacturing Manager, will be responsible for all EHS issues for the site, including: EHS compliance and audits, EHS program implementation and improvement, training, accident reduction, machine guarding, waste water, storm water, reporting, IH sampling, etc.

To be considered for this position, you must meet the following requirements:

- BS degree in Safety, Industrial Engineering or related, with a minimum of three years of EHS experience
- Must have a strong safety background, as well as environmental experience within manufacturing
- Excellent communication skills, team player
- Bi-lingual in Spanish and English languages preferred

Our client offers a competitive salary, excellent benefits and relocation package, and future growth within the organization, for the right candidate. If you are interested in this opportunity and have the necessary requirements, then please forward an updated resume and salary history to:

Bethany Brevard Harned  
Principal EHS / HR Recruiting Specialist  
[bethany@professionaloutlook.com](mailto:bethany@professionaloutlook.com)

Please visit [www.professionaloutlook.com](http://www.professionaloutlook.com) for additional EHS / HR /

### Department of Homeland Security- Federal Emergency Management Agency Disaster Safety Officer - January 2005

**Job Title:** Disaster Safety Officer (interim, on-call position, multiple openings)  
**Company Name:** Federal Emergency Management Agency  
**Contact:** See below

**Job Description:** Located within the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA's mission is to provide resources for disaster preparation, response, recovery and mitigation from natural and

man-made occurrences. To support the mission, personnel are deployed on an 'as needed' basis to federally declared disaster operations. FEMA has nearly 4,000 standby disaster assistance employees (in various occupations) who are available for deployment after disasters. The safety and health of all FEMA employees at a disaster operation is the primary objective of the Disaster Safety Officer. This position will require short notice travel and long deployment (will be required to deploy for a minimum of 30 days). Deployment maybe anywhere in the United States and it's territories. Operating and living conditions may sometimes be harsh and working hours long. You may be deployed frequently, or not called for several months, depending on current operational needs. You will also need to be available to attend one or more weeks of annual training, and may be deployed to participate in exercises, developmental programs and facility support if needed.

**Contact Information:** If interested, you may respond by sending a resume or a request for more information to: (no phone calls or emails until initial interest is verified)

Owen Motter/Richard Rodenbough  
DHS/FEMA  
Safety & Health Section, Suite #304  
500 C. St, SW  
Washington, DC 20472  
FAX: 202-646-7047

### **Robinson Brick Searching for Safety Coordinator – Denver, CO**

Any and all interested parties should contract:

Gregory W. Knell, C.P.G., C.H.M.M.  
Robinson Brick Company  
1845 West Dartmouth Ave.  
Denver, CO 80110-1308  
office: 303-783-3061  
cell: 720-314-7579

## **NEWS**

### **Fatal Work Injuries Increased in 2003**

According to the National Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), fatal work injuries showed a slight increase in 2003 over 2002 – some 5,559 injuries compared to 5,534 injuries.

However, non-fatal occupational injuries and illnesses were down, and Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao chose to focus on the positive. Noting that nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses in private industry declined in 2003, both in terms of the number of cases per 100 full-time workers, as well as the total number of injury and illness cases reported. She pointed out the report shows that there were 300,000 fewer injuries and illnesses in 2003 than in 2002, a 7.1 percent decrease.

"This administration has formed more health and safety partnerships with organized labor and employer groups than any of its predecessors, and has set new records for achieving compliance through workplace inspections," said Chao. "These positive results show that our dual commitment to compliance assistance and enforcement is working."

Despite the increase in worker deaths in 2003, fatal work injuries for both 2003 and 2002 were the lowest ever recorded by the fatality census, which has been conducted each year since 1992. The rate at which fatal work injuries occurred in 2003 was 4.0 fatalities per 100,000 workers, unchanged from the rate reported for 2002.

- The census found that fatal work injuries resulting from highway incidents, falls and electrocutions were all lower in 2003 than in 2002, while fatal injuries involving homicides, fires and explosions and being struck by objects increased.
- Although fatal highway incidents were down in 2003 for the second consecutive year, they continued to account for the highest number of fatal work injuries. The 1,350 fatal highway incidents recorded in 2003 accounted for about one out of every four fatal work injuries. Incidents involving workers struck by vehicles or mobile equipment also were down in 2003, but the number of fatal work injuries involving non-highway transportation incidents (such as those that might occur on a farm or industrial premises) and aircraft-related incidents were both higher.

- The number of workplace homicides was higher in 2003 – the first increase since 2000. Despite the higher total, the 631 workplace homicides recorded in 2003 represented a 42 percent decline from the high of 1,080 workplace homicides recorded in 1994. Workplace suicides also were higher in 2003.
- Fatal work injuries involving falls declined in 2003. The 691 fatal falls recorded in 2003 was the lowest total since 1996. The number of electrocutions also was lower. The 246 electrocutions in 2003 represented a decline of 15 percent from the 2002 total and reflected a series low.
- The 198 fatal work injuries resulting from fires and explosions in 2003 was 20 percent higher than the total recorded in 2002. Fatalities from being struck by objects also were higher in 2003, led by increases in worker deaths due to being struck by a falling or flying object.

#### Profile of Fatal Work Injuries by Private Industry

The largest number of fatal work injuries in 2003 was in the construction sector (NAICS 23). The 1,126 fatal work injuries in private construction accounted for more than one out of every five fatalities in 2003. Specialty trade contractors (NAICS 238) recorded 626 fatalities or about 56 percent of the construction total. Another 226 construction workers were fatally injured while working in building construction (NAICS 236), including 128 fatalities in residential building construction (NAICS 2361). Heavy and civil engineering construction (NAICS 237) reported 247 fatal work injuries or about 22 percent of the construction total.

The transportation and warehousing sector (NAICS 48-49) accounted for 805 fatal work injuries or about 16 percent of the private industry total in 2003. Truck transportation (NAICS 484) recorded 517 fatal work injuries or nearly two-thirds of the transportation and warehousing total.

Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (NAICS 11) recorded 707 fatal work injuries, the third highest among NAICS sectors. Nearly half (47 percent) of the agriculture fatalities were in crop production (NAICS 111).

While private construction had the highest number of fatalities of any sector, the highest fatality rate was in agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting (31.2 fatalities per 100,000 workers). The second highest rate was in the mining sector (26.9 per 100,000), followed by transportation and warehousing (17.5 per 100,000) and construction (11.7 per 100,000).

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### Workers with Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Find Relief with Nighttime Splinting - 01/06/2005

A new study suggests that workers suffering from the early stages of carpal tunnel syndrome can benefit from giving their hands and wrists a good night's rest.

The findings, made by a team of researchers with the University of Michigan Health System, the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, show that nighttime splinting can effectively improve hand and wrist discomfort for active workers with early symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS).

The results from the study are published in the January issue of the *Archives of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*.

While carpal tunnel syndrome is a common work-related disorder and a major cause of impairment and disability in the workplace, the use of initial medical treatment protocols for the disorder -- wrist splints, modification of hand activity, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medication, diuretics and steroid injections -- have widely varied across the United States and Western Europe, according to lead author Robert A. Werner, M.D., MS, professor at the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Michigan Health System.

"Workers with carpal tunnel syndrome have more lost work time than any other work-related injury," said Werner, who is the chief of physical medicine and rehabilitation at the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System and an associate research scientist with the University of Michigan Center for Ergonomics. "Additionally, CTS is frequently misdiagnosed and there's very little scientific research to show which initial treatments are actually the most effective for use with symptoms of carpal tunnel syndrome."

The first line of conservative treatment for CTS, both from doctors and self-prescribed, is typically nocturnal splinting. Splinting, Werner said, reduces pressure on the peripheral nerve in the wrist, allowing it to heal and avoiding awkward wrist positions as a person sleeps. It is not recommended for nighttime use when workers are active because it may cause additional strain on the wrist.

To determine the effectiveness of nocturnal splinting, Werner and his colleagues studied 112 active workers at a Midwestern automotive assembly plant with symptoms consistent with CTS but who had not sought medical treatment.

Subjects were selected if they experienced numbness, tingling, burning or pain in the median nerve of the hand for more than a week or for more than five times in the past six months. Werner noted that automotive assembly workers are five to 10 times more likely to develop CTS than people in the general population and people who type for a living. On average, automotive assembly workers miss a month of work, especially those who seek surgical intervention for advanced symptoms of CTS.

#### About Half of Splinted Group Sees Positive Results

As part of the randomized controlled study, 63 study participants were fitted with a custom wrist-hand splint that maintained the wrist in a neutral posture overnight and were instructed to wear the splint at night for a period of six weeks. This group, along with the remaining 49 participants, also viewed a

-minute video on CTS and how to reduce ergonomic stressors at work and home.

er the six week trial, about half of the splinted group reported significant improvement in their symptoms, with one participant reporting complete relief symptoms. Compared to the group assigned to just watch the video, the splinted group had significantly decreased hand, wrist, elbow and forearm comfort after three months.

er 12 months, the improvement seen in each group was greatly dependent on the individual's level of hand/wrist nerve damage. Of those in the non-inted group, participants with healthy nerves noted reduced hand/wrist discomfort, while those with injured nerves felt no improvement over time.

ose who used the splint -- both with healthy and injured nerves-- saw significant improvement in hand/wrist discomfort, and participants who initially sorted higher levels of discomfort at the start of the study saw the greatest improvements with splint use. Additionally, 10 percent of the participants in s group continued to wear the splint at night beyond the initial six-week trial.

or to the study, nearly half of the participants used non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and ice/heat treatments to treat their hand and wrist comfort, while less than 25 percent had previously sought physical therapy for their carpal tunnel symptoms.

spite relief from NSAIDs and other home remedies, Werner said using a custom fit or store-bought splint for nighttime use is the best first line of fense when symptoms of carpal tunnel begin. Splinting, however, has minimal effect on those with advanced carpal tunnel, he added.

arly intervention with splinting is key to effective management of carpal tunnel syndrome," Werner said. "It's very cost-effective and the odds are very od that you will feel the benefits."

erner said he hopes to build on the findings from this study by conducting a larger study to determine the cos-effectiveness of splinting and its long-term benefits for patients.

addition to Werner, the study was co-authored by Alfred Franzblau, M.D., associate professor in the University of Michigan Health System department of Emergency Medicine, associate research scientist at the University of Michigan Center for Ergonomics and professor in the Department Environmental Health Sciences at the University of Michigan School of Public Health; and Nancy Gell, MPH, PT, a research associate in the iversity of Michigan Health System Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation and the University of Michigan School of Public Health's partment of Environmental Health Sciences.

e UAW-GM National Joint Committee on Health and Safety funded the study.

## **ASSE NEWS**

### **ASSE ALERTS MEMBERS ABOUT POSSIBLE FAULTY FALL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT**

The American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) is urging its members and the public to stop using fall protection products Dyna Lock Self Retracting Lanyard (SRL)/Dynevac, Dynevac II and Lynx Rescuers manufactured between June 1 and September 30, 2004 and January 1, 2001 through October 8, 2004 due to safety risks. According to a notice issued by the manufacturer, Mine Safety Appliance Company (MSA), and forwarded by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), although the units will lock in the event of a fall, the line extension exceeds the MSA specification of 40 inches.

In its recent stop use and return notice MSA notes that their internal investigation found some of the housing sub-assemblies of the SRLs and Rescuers were improperly manufactured allegedly by their supplier.

Important MSA information on these products can be found at <http://www.msanet.com/msanorthamerica/msaunitedstates/usnoticeindex.html> or by calling MSA customer service at 303-975-2314 (U.S. and Mexico) and 1-888-396-1067 (Canada).

### **WHO'S NOT BUCKLING UP?**

#### ***Young men not safety conscious***

While nearly 90 percent of American adults are regularly using seat belts while driving or riding in a vehicle, young men are not among the safety conscious, according to a study by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

Men ages 19 to 29 are the least likely to wear seat belts while driving or riding in a car, and are three times as likely not to wear seat belts as women in the same category.

While overall seat belt use is continuing to climb, young men are among the groups that appear reluctant to change their habits. Other groups include those with only a high school education and those living in rural areas.

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## **Sedation in the Workplace. Are your employees drugged on the job?**

Drug policies in the workplace are nothing new to today's employers who understand the tremendous liability of substance abusers in terms of both productivity and risk of injury. But even the best drug-testing program doesn't detect a drug researchers say has a greater correlation with occupational accidents than narcotics. It's your everyday, run-of-the-mill, over-the-counter antihistamine, and it's the most popular way to treat allergy symptoms.

Allergic rhinitis (hay fever), the most common form of rhinitis, affects 20-40 million Americans annually, including up to 30 percent of adults. Symptoms often include nasal congestion, sneezing, itching of the nose and postnasal drainage.

In addition to the physical symptoms, there are also recognized psychosocial and behavioral responses. Some of these are chronic fatigue, decreased appetite, poor self-image, absence from work, irritability, and moodiness. All of these point to a reduced quality of life, decreased workplace productivity and lost work days.

As if allergies weren't bad enough in terms of lessening worker productivity, new evidence published in the American Journal of Industrial Medicine suggests that typical over-the-counter treatments for allergies may actually have an even worse effect on worker safety. In fact, there is a two-fold increase in the rate of work-related accidents among people taking certain medications that affect the central nervous system.

Currently, there are two "generations" of antihistamines in use. The first generation antihistamines differ from the second generation in that the latter medications are considered to be non-sedating or less sedating, while the former cause sedation in 10 to 25 percent of users.

"There is very disturbing evidence that first-generation antihistamines can be a factor in fatal automobile accidents and occupational injuries," Dykewicz said. "In fact, data suggest that there is higher risk for occupational accidents from first-generation antihistamines than from use of narcotics and prescription sedatives."

These older, first-generation antihistamines (e.g. brompheniramine, chlorpheniramine, diphenhydramine, hydroxyzine, triprolidine) can cause not only sedation, but also impaired thinking, which may be dangerous. Similar to the effects of alcohol, first-generation antihistamines may cause delayed reaction times, problems focusing on tasks and decreased memory. Studies show that people often have these problems yet don't sense them because they don't feel "sleepy."

### **What's Being Done?**

Over-the-counter, first-generation antihistamines contain a warning that the user shouldn't operate a motor vehicle or heavy machinery while using. However, many workers don't heed or much less read those warnings, and if they did we'd certainly see an increase in absenteeism considering the number of consumers using these products.

New medical guidelines for treatment of allergies warn of an increased risk of auto accidents and workplace injuries associated with many older, but commonly used antihistamines in allergy, sinus and cold remedies. The new practice parameters recommend that second-generation antihistamines, associated with lower risk of these side effects, should usually be the first-line therapy for treatment of allergic rhinitis. Second-generation antihistamines include Allegra, Alavert, Claritin, Clarinex and Zyrtec. The first intranasal antihistamine, Astelin, is also a first-line medication.

But physician education may not be enough because these over-the-counter medications are self-prescribed. Although Claritin (loratadine) and Alavert are now available over the counter, and it stands to reason that other second-generation antihistamines will follow suit as their patents begin to expire, employees still need to be educated about allergy prevention and choosing a non-sedating antihistamine to treat symptoms -- specifically those whose jobs are not sedentary.

Employers should review their company-sponsored health plan to see which second-generation antihistamines are covered at the best benefit levels and share this information with employees. In many cases, there is not a large difference between their out-of-pocket cost for a month's supply of a name brand over-the-counter antihistamine and a prescription second-generation antihistamine

## **Sacramento Worker Sentenced to 90 Days Jail Time in Workers' Comp Fraud Case**

Sacramento, Calif., resident Thomas Jordan was sentenced to 90 days jail time on felony workers' compensation fraud on Dec. 28 in Sacramento County Superior Court.

Jordan was employed by K.C. Family Care Inc., a children's residential care facility in Sacramento. K.C. Family Care has been insured by the State Compensation Insurance Fund since 1999.

In 2002, Jordan claimed he suffered a work-related injury. An anonymous tip to State Fund's Fraud Hotline (1-888-STOP FRAUD) prompted an investigation of Jordan's claim. A deposition and investigation revealed that Jordan was working as a mover for D & S Movers of Rocklin at the same time he was receiving workers' compensation benefits.

The State Fund referred the case to the Department of Insurance (DOI) and the Sacramento County District Attorney's Office for review. The District Attorney's Office arrested Jordan on May 2004. On Nov. 29, Jordan entered a guilty plea to one count of Insurance Code Section 1871.4 (a) (1).

He has the option of serving on a work project in lieu of jail time. He was fined \$200 and given 5 years' formal probation. The court ordered Jordan to pay \$11,442.00 to the State Fund for workers' compensation benefits issued to him as well as for investigation costs.

## **REGULATORY NEWS**

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### **OSHA Reminds Employers to Post Injury/Illness Summaries**

OSHA recently announced that beginning Feb. 1, employers must post the total number of job-related injuries and illnesses logged on the OSHA 300 form in 2004. To assist in calculating incidence rates, annual average number of employees and total hours worked in 2004 must also be included. The summary must be displayed in an employee common area, with copies available to those who do not report to a fixed establishment on a regular basis, such as construction workers going to job sites.

For more information, visit

[http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show\\_document?p\\_table=NEWS\\_RELEASES&p\\_id=11189](http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=11189).

### **Father and Son Sentenced to Longest U.S. Jail Terms for Environmental Crimes**

On Dec. 23, 2004, Raul and Alexander Salvagno, owners of AAR Contractors Inc., were sentenced to serve the two longest federal jail sentences for environmental crimes in U.S. history. Raul Salvagno was convicted on four counts and was sentenced to 19 and a half years in prison, along with \$24.5 million in forfeitures and victim restitution. Alexander Salvagno, convicted on 14 counts, received 25 years imprisonment and more than \$25 million in forfeitures and restitution. In addition, the company was ordered to pay almost \$25 million.

For more information, visit

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/b1ab9f485b098972852562e7004dc686/324c5937dc68015a85256f7e0076a213!OpenDocument>.

### **Department of Labor Clarifies Work Rules for Teenagers**

New rules focusing on young workers were published Dec. 16 by the Department of Labor that are, according to U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao, "part of the department's ongoing effort to promote positive and safe work experiences for young workers." The rules become effective next month and expand protections for youths working in restaurants and in roofing operations, and also focus on driving requirements and the operation of compactors and bailers. Chao said the new rules follow on the department's successful <>YouthRules! public awareness campaign launched in May 2002.

<http://www.youthrules.dol.gov/>

### **OSHA Cites Alabama Construction Firm for Exposing Workers to Trenching Hazards**

OSHA has levied \$112,000 in fines against A.R. Butler Construction Co. Inc. for exposing workers to trenching hazards at a Brewster Road worksite in Center Point, Ala., according to a news release from the agency.

OSHA began an inspection July 16, after being notified that a 13-foot-deep trench had collapsed, trapping a worker who was rescued by co-workers.

Investigators found that the Birmingham-based company had allowed employees to work in a 10-foot-deep vertical trench, which had an 8-inch, fully charged water main running through it, according to the agency. Additionally, employees were allowed to re-enter the trench after the collapse, again exposing them to cave-in and drowning hazards.

A.R. Butler received two willful citations, with proposed penalties totaling \$112,000, for failing to provide a protective system for the trench, such as a trench box or proper shoring or sloping, and failing to properly support the water main.

"For worker injuries and fatalities to decline in this industry, we must make sure that employers protect employees from trenching hazards," said Cindy Coe Laseter, OSHA's regional administrator in Atlanta. "The significant penalty of \$112,000 in this case demonstrates our commitment to protecting the health and safety of America's workers."

## Hispanic Outreach Module of the Compliance Assistance Quick Start

On January 10, OSHA launched its new webpage dedicated to training Hispanic workers.

[http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance\\_assistance/quickstarts/hispanic/index\\_hispanic.html](http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance_assistance/quickstarts/hispanic/index_hispanic.html)

This is aimed at helping employers with a Spanish-speaking workforce to learn more about workplace rights and responsibilities, identify Spanish-language outreach and training resources available from OSHA and other federal agencies and non-profit organizations. The Hispanic Outreach Module also provides a listing of OSHA's Hispanic/ English-as-a-second-language coordinators and other info on how to work cooperatively with OSHA. The module is available on OSHA's Compliance Assistance web page at [http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance\\_assistance/index.html](http://www.osha.gov/dcsp/compliance_assistance/index.html)

## OSHA Enforcement Focuses on the Triple Bottom Line

As OSHA leads in advancing the cause of safety and health, the Agency is channeling its efforts toward the goal of improving the triple bottom line: reducing injuries, illnesses and deaths on the job. Strong, fair, and effective enforcement, using mechanisms such as Site Specific Targeting (SST) and the Enhanced Enforcement Program (EEP), is a key component in achieving this goal. There are many components to OSHA's effort, and multiple intermediate measures of its effectiveness. However, the ultimate outcome measure of OSHA's effectiveness is the reduction in workplace injuries, illnesses and loss of life - the fact that more workers go home safe, healthy and whole to their families at the end of every workday.

## OSHA Implements Enhanced Enforcement Program for FY2004

The Agency's new Enhanced Enforcement Program (EEP) focuses on employers who, despite OSHA's enforcement and outreach efforts, repeatedly ignore their OSHA Act obligations, thereby placing their employees at risk. This program targets cases with extremely serious violations related to a fatality, or multiple willful or repeated violations. During the first year of implementation, EEP cases totaled more than 300, approximately 55% of which were in the construction industry, and 83% involved a fatality. The objective of EEP is to assure sustained compliance at these facilities.

## OSHA Focuses on Seven Target Industries under the Strategic Management Plan

Faced with both new challenges and persistent safety and health issues, OSHA developed a 5-year Strategic Management Plan that directs the Agency's resources towards three over-arching goals, one of which focuses on the reduction of occupational injuries, illnesses, and loss of life. To accomplish the goals of fatality, injury, and illness reduction set forth in the Strategic Management Plan, OSHA identified seven industries with high injury/illness rates and a high proportion of severe injuries/illnesses for focused targeting of outreach, education and enforcement activity. These industries include:

- Landscaping and Horticultural Services
- Fruit and Vegetable Processing
- Ship and Boat Building and Repair
- Concrete and Concrete Products
- Oil and Gas Field Services
- Blast Furnace and Basic Steel Products
- Public Warehousing and Storage

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### **EH&S LINKS**

Ergoweb Inc.  
[www.ergoweb.com](http://www.ergoweb.com)

Injury Control Resource Information Network,  
University of Pittsburgh  
[www.injurycontrol.com](http://www.injurycontrol.com)

International Safety Equipment Assn.  
[www.safetyequipment.org](http://www.safetyequipment.org)

National Fire Protection Assn.  
[www.nfpa.org](http://www.nfpa.org)

National Highway Transportation Safety Administration  
[www.nhtsa.dot.gov](http://www.nhtsa.dot.gov)

National Safety Council  
[www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org)

Professional Development Unit  
[www.ukafety.net](http://www.ukafety.net)

Public Entity Risk Institute  
[www.riskinstitute.org](http://www.riskinstitute.org)

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents  
[www.rosipa.com](http://www.rosipa.com)

U.K. Health and Safety Executive  
[www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk)

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