Eye Protection

Just the Facts:

Wearing the right eye protection can prevent most workplace eye injuries. Safety glasses with sideshields are the most common form of eye protection on the jobsite. These glasses can be prescription or non-prescription. They should also include some from of UV protection.

For welding, eye protection must also be marked with the shade number.

Causes of Eye Injuries:

There are many potential eye hazards on a construction worksite. These include:

- flying dust and grit;
- welding arcs;
- sparks and slag from welding and cutting;
- abrasives from sandblasting;
- chemical splash; and
- sun and wind

While dust and dirt occasionally flying into the eye is common, larger pieces of wood, stone and concrete coming at quick speeds can leave you temporarily or permanently blinded.

Identify Controls:

Most eye injuries can be prevented by wearing the correct protection.

- Never wear contact lenses on site. Dust and other particles can get under the lens. If you must wear contact lenses for medical reasons, wear appropriate eye protection as well.
- Keep your safety glasses on when you wear other protection such as a welding helmet or faceshield. When you lift up the visor or shield you may still be exposed to flying chips, dust or other hazards.
- Match eye protection to the hazard. Goggles that protect you from dust may not protect you from splash or radiation.
- Make sure your eyewear fits properly.

Demonstrate

Take a look at eye protection used by your crew. Point out any cracked or broken frames and scratched or pitted lenses that should be replaced.

Review the company policy on providing and replacing eyewear.

Review any special requirements for welding helmets, sandblasting hoods, faceshields, etc.
Bullying and harassment affects people differently. Reactions may include one or any combination of the following:

- impaired concentration or capacity to make decisions, which could lead to safety hazards (such as lack of attention when working with dangerous equipment)
- distress, anxiety, sleep loss or the potential for substance abuse
- physical illness
- reduced work performance

Workplace bullying and harassment is a safety and health issue that can compromise the mental and physical health and safety of workers. Harassment is defined as objectionable conduct that creates a risk to the health of a worker or severe conduct that adversely affects a worker’s psychological or physical well-being.

Bullying and harassing behavior can include:

- verbal or written abuse or threats
- personal ridicule
- malicious or uncalled for interference with another’s work
- spreading malicious rumours

Reasonable day-to-day actions by a manager or supervisor that help manage, guide or direct workers or the workplace is not harassment. Appropriate employee performance reviews or discipline by a supervisor or manager is not harassment.

Employer duties include the following:

- not engage in bullying and harassment
- develop a written policy and action plan to prevent harassment in the workplace
- develop and implement procedures for reporting incidents and complaints
- ensure all workers and supervisors know and follow the harassment prevention policy at all times

Worker duties include the following:

- act in a reasonable manner in the workplace
- report if harassment is observed or experienced
- comply and apply with the employer’s policies and procedures on bullying and harassment

Does your workplace currently have a harassment prevention policy?

SAFETY TALK

Print and review this talk with your staff, sign off and file for COR™ / SECOR audit purposes.

Supervisor: ____________________________

Location: ____________________________

Name & Number of Safety Talk

Employee Name: ____________________________

Employee Signature: ____________________________

Concerns: ____________________________

Corrective Actions: ____________________________