

Eye and Face Protection

Preparation

- 1. Read Applicable Background information and related Company Policy Chapter.
2. Make _____ Copies of this Lesson Plan for Personnel
3. Make Transparency, procure transparency pens, etc.
4. Coffee, tea, snacks

Other:

Material

- 1. Glasses, face shields, goggles, welding shields

Objective

By the end of this session, personnel shall be able to discuss:

- 1. What contributes to eye injuries at work.
2. What the most common unsafe employee behavior that results in eye injury
3. What causes eye injuries
4. Where do accidents occur most often.
5. How can eye injuries be prevented.
6. Types of Eye/Face Protectors
7. How to use a Selection Chart

Background

Every day an estimated 1,000 eye injuries occur in American workplaces. The financial cost of these injuries is enormous -- more than \$300 million per year in lost production time, medical expenses, and workers compensation. No dollar figure can adequately reflect the personal toll these accidents take on the injured workers.

Lesson

What contributes to eye injuries at work?

Take a moment to think about possible eye hazards at your workplace. A survey by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of about 1,000 minor eye injuries reveals how and why many on-the-job accidents occur.

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What is the most common unsafe behavior?

- **Not wearing eye protection.** BLS reports that nearly three out of every five workers injured were not wearing eye protection at the time of the accident.
- **Wearing the wrong kind of eye protection for the job.** About 40% of the injured workers were wearing some form of eye protection when the accident occurred.

What causes eye injuries?

- **Flying particles.** BLS found that almost 70% of the accidents studied resulted from flying or falling objects or sparks striking the eye. Injured workers estimated that nearly three-fifths of the objects were smaller than a pin head. Most of the particles were said to be traveling faster than a hand-thrown object when the accident occurred.
- **Contact with chemicals** caused one-fifth of the injuries. Other accidents were caused by objects swinging from a fixed or attached position, like tree limbs, ropes, chains, or tools which were pulled into the eye while the worker was using them.

Where do accidents occur most often?

- Craft work; industrial equipment operation. Potential eye hazards can be found in nearly every industry, but BLS reported that more than 40% of injuries occurred among craft workers, like mechanics, repairers, carpenters, and plumbers.
- Over a third of the injured workers were operatives, such as assemblers, sanders, and grinding machine operators. Laborers suffered about one-fifth of the eye injuries. Almost half the injured workers were employed in manufacturing; slightly more than 20% were in construction.

How can eye injuries be prevented?

- **Always wear effective eye protection.** To be effective, eyewear must appropriate for the hazard encountered and properly fitted.
- **Better training and education.** BLS reported that most workers were hurt while doing their regular jobs.

Notes

LIGHT and/or RADIATION		
Welding - electric arc	Optical radiation	Welding helmets or welding shields. Typical shades: 10-14
Welding - gas	Optical radiation	Welding goggles or welding face shield. Typical shades: gas welding 4-8, cutting 3-6, brazing 3-4
Cutting, torch brazing, torch soldering	Optical radiation	
	Poor vision	Spectacles or welding face shield. Typical shades: 1.5-3
Glare		Spectacles with shaded or special-purpose lenses, as suitable.

Closure

What questions do you have?