

“Our Work Shows Pride, With Safety As Our Guide”

Concrete Manufacturing, Continued

In the March issue, I used information that was developed by OSHA regarding safe operations in the concrete manufacturing industry. **J. Todd Brown** from Central City, KY put me on to the information. Thanks Todd!! The info in this first article finishes that OSHA resource.

Think Safety Checklists

Checklists may help to organize steps to avoid hazards that cause injuries, illnesses and fatalities. But, always be cautious and seek help if you are concerned about a potential hazard.

General Safety Checklist

- Follow the safety and health management system to find and fix all hazards at the work-site.
- Train workers in safe work practices and methods for all work activities, procedures and equipment as well as how to recognize and respond to potential workplace hazards, including rendering first aid.
- Use safe work practices and appropriate personal protective equipment for all welding, cutting and burning; handling of chemicals; and during grinding, chipping, wire brushing, scraping and cleaning.
- Ensure that all tools and equipment—including forklifts, cranes, hoists and rigging—are maintained in good working condition, are inspected regularly and are operated by thoroughly trained, tested and competent workers.

Physical Hazards Checklist

- Follow the procedures of the noise control program to prevent hearing loss.
- Implement machine guarding and lockout/tagout procedures for all equipment and machinery servicing and/or maintenance work

to prevent workers from being injured

- Follow the procedures of the confined space entry program.

Health Hazards Checklist

- Avoid excess exposure to cement dust to prevent bronchitis and silicosis.
- Prevent burns and skin and eye irritation by avoiding skin contact and eye contact with cement dust or wet cement.
- Wear appropriate personal protective equipment.
- Avoid dusty areas and wet down work areas, as appropriate, to reduce dust.
- Use vacuums with HEPA filters to clean up dust instead of dry sweeping.
- Reduce silica exposures during chipping, drilling and sawing of concrete materials with engineering controls, such as wet methods and local exhaust ventilation.

Fall Hazards Checklist

- Identify and fix fall hazards: like slippery surfaces, damaged ladders and walkways, loose or unsteady hand and footholds.
- Use portable ladders appropriate for the job and that are in well maintained condition.
- Ensure that walking and working surfaces have adequate guardrails, are unobstructed, and have safe access with no holes.

Ergonomics Checklist

- Follow safe lifting practices (see the next article).
- Use mechanical devices when possible.
- Get assistance when maneuvering heavy or awkward objects.

For What It Is Worth! *The Great Hunters*

Three idiots decide to go hunting. The first one says he's going to get a buck. He goes out, and indeed comes back with a buck. The other two hunters ask how he did it. He says, "I see tracks. I follow tracks. I get buck."

So the second hunter says that he's going to get a doe. And he does. They ask him how he did it, and he says, "I see tracks. I follow tracks. I get doe."

So the third hunter says, "I'm just gonna shoot at anything I see."

So he goes out and comes back half a day later all beaten, bruised, bloody, and totally trashed. The other two hunters ask him what happened and he says, "I see tracks. I follow tracks. I get hit by train!"

