

Safety & Environmental Newsletter

February 2011 Issue



HAND SAFETY

What was Mankind's First Tool? The Hand

Hands are so important because of their utility. They provide us with the dexterity needed to perform most of our daily activities, and as tools are versatile and can perform many intricate functions. However, hand injuries account for 80% of all occupational injuries, this is because our hands are engaged in almost all activities on the job. There are many dangerous conditions on the job that the hand is exposed to. Sharp edges, pinch points, protruding objects, splinters, exposed blades on unguarded machinery and many more. These conditions may not always be obvious so it is important that precautions be taken to reduce the level of danger and injury. A necessary precaution is to wear approved work gloves, and keep in mind that not all gloves protect the hand from injuries. There are specific types of gloves used for specific tasks. Some precautions to keep in mind are: check the appropriateness of the glove for the task before using; lock out machinery and power before reaching into machines; make sure machines are properly guarded at all times; avoid wearing rings when working with machinery; check and clear doorways and aisles for proper clearance before moving objects through; and avoid picking up broken glass or sharp needles with bare hands. Remember, your hands will obey any commands your brain sends to it so use your brain to protect your hands.

Safety Lately??

Featuring Code 500, Steve Nelson, Assistant Director of AETD/WFF and Prasad Hanagud, Deputy Recertification Manager and Pressure Systems Manger

This Directorate consist of 4 branches within AETD at WFF. There is approximately 80 civil servants and a number of support contractors. Steve personally supports the Executive Safety Council, and the Employee Safety Committee as a management representative. Each branch has a safety representative that supports safety in their specific organization. Safety inspections are conducted in office areas and labs as required, and at least quarterly. Currently, Steve is supporting implementation of a Lab Management process—where each lab will be assigned a lab manager. Part of the lab manager's responsibilities will be to ensure that all safety requirements are being met. Prasad's primary function is to make sure that all lifting devices and equipment are properly certified, and maintained. Operators who operate this equipment are also properly trained and certified. Both certifications are safety measures that ensures safety for the operator, workers, and bystanders. Pressure Systems are inspected and certified to ensure that they work safely, and have necessary safety reliefs. In addition, Prasad attends and supports the Executive Safety Council meetings.

Give Them a Break!

It is that time of year when construction picks up at Wallops Flight Facility, on the Main Base and the Island. While construction on the Island has decreased due to completion of the Horizontal Integration Facility (HIF), there is still more work to be done at Pad OA and beach restoration work involving heavy equipment and large trucks transporting rocks and materials. With this in mind we need to give road workers a break and slow down. safety measures are put in place to warn that a hazard exist. Avoid going around them even if there is no active work; ignoring them could cause serious injury or even death.

The WFF Fire Department will be instituting a monthly fire extinguisher training class. Classes will be held at Building B-129 (fire station) on the Second Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m. Class size will be limited to 10 people. To sign up for the March 9th class contact the fire department at X1508

**CLEAN SWEEP II
Island Clean Up
Scheduled for
February 22- March 4/11**

NSTC TRAINING COURSES

March 7 and 8
Safety in High Pressure Operations
8:00 – 11:30 AM

March 9 and 10
Pressure Vessel/Systems Certification and Inspection
8:00 – 11:30 AM

(Each class above is two Separate Segments comprising 1 class each – you **must** attend both segments to receive credit)

March 11
Flexible Hose Safety class
8:00 – 12:00 Noon.

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The EFR is coming! The EFR is coming!

Environmental Functional Review: March 14-18, 2011



2011 Environmental Management System (EMS) High Priorities at Wallops Flight Facility:



- 1) Protected Areas and Protected Species
- 2) Environmental Planning
- 3) Energy Management/Sustainability



Science on the Shore Event!

Come hear The Nature Conservancy present the first Science on the Shore event of 2011:

“Satellites and Shorebirds: Tracking Eastern Shore Whimbrels from Alaska to Brazil and Back Again”

Winnie the Whimbrel shown with tracking device.



at the NASA WFF Visitor's Center on Thursday, February 24th at 6:00 pm. As always all SoS events are FREE!!

ATTENTION

If you store oil or petroleum products in a 55 gallon or larger container the container needs to be inspected monthly. You can find the inspection form at:

<http://sites.wff.nasa.gov/code250/forms.html>

& click on “Oil Storage Area Inspection Record”