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INSIGHTS

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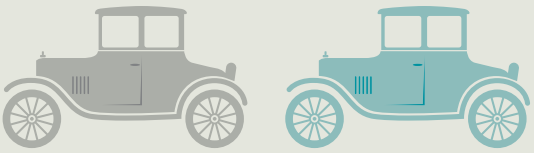


True or False?

Henry Ford's first Model T's were available in any color, as long as it was black, right? Not true. When the car was first made available to the public on October 1, 1908, there were two types – a Touring version (red) and a Roadster (gray). In June 1909, a change was in order. Once the current stock was depleted all future Model T's would be painted Brewster Green, a very deep green that almost looked black at certain angles.

A shade of blue was available for a while, but from 1913 until the end of the car's run in 1926, the adage held true that all Model T's were painted black. The vehicle industry has come a long way from the early days of red, gray, green, and black paint. But the need to keep them clean hasn't. From bugs to road salt, windshields to rear bumpers, whatever your vehicle cleaning needs are, ChemStation can do it. Whether you're cleaning a fleet of cars, semi-trucks, or heavy-duty equipment, ChemStation has the solution for removing all types of vehicle soils.

Unlike Henry Ford's limited paint selection, ChemStation can custom formulate an environmentally safe product based on your specific needs.



Fresh Approaches to Training

Periodically reviewing your training materials helps make sure the information stays timely and accurate. Approaching a familiar topic in a different way can reveal important safety points that may have been overlooked in the past.

If your training materials put YOU to sleep, think how your audience feels. So for the sake of both your audience and your own sanity, maybe it's time to give a makeover to safety training, other topics, and their associated materials.

THINKING GREEN

As spring arrives this year consider starting your own garden. Your efforts will produce wonderful fresh food that your family can enjoy for a fraction of the cost – and environmental impact – of items purchased in the supermarket. If you've never gardened before, start small. Even some indoor window planters full of fresh herbs are a positive start.

There are many little steps you can take to maximize your vehicle's fuel economy, like steering clear of drive-thrus. When your engine is idling (and you're not going anywhere) your vehicle is getting 0 miles per gallon. And at a busy establishment, you won't save any time by waiting in your car versus parking and walking inside to grab lunch or a coffee.

Colder weather means that your furnace is once again hard at work, keeping you comfortable at home. Give it a helping hand by using inexpensive caulk to seal window edges and the space around pipes that enter your home. Caulk can grow brittle and crack as it ages, so be sure to check these areas every year for any missing/damaged caulk.

Suits, sweaters, and other fine garments often call for dry cleaning, but traditional methods that rely on the hazardous chemical tetrachloroethylene are bad for the environment. You can step up the green factor by searching for a dry cleaner that uses newer, more environmentally friendly processes such as cleaning with liquid carbon dioxide.

The Backbone of HazCom

MSDSs are the "backbone" of HazCom. Do employees refer to the material safety data sheets (MSDSs) in your workplace regularly and often? Or do your MSDSs just collect dust on a rack or shelf someplace?

If the latter is true, it probably isn't because employees already know all they need to know about working with hazardous chemicals. Instead, they probably don't understand the importance of the MSDS as a safety tool and that they need to make it a habit to refer to MSDSs regularly and often. OSHA insists on their availability and use in the workplace as part of the Hazard Communication Standard.



PPE: The Real World Perspective

OSHA standards are one thing, but what's really happening in your workplace? That's where the rubber meets the road when it comes to PPE compliance.

The idealized image of properly used, cleaned, and stowed PPE is a fantasy on many work sites, says safety consultant Anna Jolly. "You'll see dust masks thrown everywhere and dirty, grimy gloves used for various exposures that aren't necessarily the right ones."

The main problem with PPE compliance in the real world (according to safety consultants) is a lack of training and supervision. The key to proper PPE use and full compliance with OSHA standards is management interest and commitment.



The Fairest of Wheels

The modern Ferris wheel is named after George W. Ferris, Jr., who designed a 264-ft wheel for the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, IL in 1893. It was designed as a rival to the Eiffel Tower, the centerpiece of the 1889 Paris exhibition. This first wheel weighed 2,200 tons and could carry 2,160 persons at a time. The Ferris wheel was the largest attraction at the Columbian Exposition standing over 26 stories tall and powered by two 1,000-HP steam engines.

There were 36 cars, each the size of a school bus that accommodated 60 people each (20 seated, 40 standing). It took 20 minutes for the wheel to make two revolutions – the first to make six stops to allow passengers to exit and enter; the second a single, non-stop-revolution – and for that, the ticket holder paid 50¢.

The wheel was moved twice after the 1893 Fair and was eventually destroyed (by controlled demolition) in 1904 after it was used at the St. Louis exposition of that year. At 70 tons, its axle was the largest steel forging of the time.



SOAPBOX

Sometimes the mind, for reasons we don't necessarily understand, just decides to go to the store for a quart of milk.

Meekness, n. Uncommon patience in planning a revenge that is worthwhile.

A lot of good arguments are spoiled by some fool who knows what he's talking about.

Food is an important part of a balanced diet.

No man needs a vacation so much as the man who has just had one.

Boxing is like ballet except there's no music, no choreography, and the dancers hit each other.

The cat could very well be man's best friend but would never stoop to admitting to it.

Out-of-doors, n. That part of one's environment upon which no government has been able to collect taxes. Chiefly useful to inspire poets.

ChemStation®

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By the Numbers



Gallons of soap delivered:
161,310,175 since 1984



Empty drums not in landfills:
2,932,912 since 1984