ChemStation®

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INSIGHTS

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ChemStation at the Super Bowl



ChemStation has a presence in football, including the Super Bowl XXXVIII. We have a key role in the production of sports training equipment and are supplying chemical to World Sporting Goods of Loxley, AL, the major producer of football blocking sleds and other training equipment. This one-step phosphatizing system is used to prepare the metal frames for painting. The process has not only been simplified (from existing multi-step processes) saving time and money, but the results are superior.

Why phosphatize? To help prevent rust, enhance paint adhesion and inhibit corrosion. Besides football blocking sleds, there are many other markets where ChemStation's one-step phosphatizing system is being used…indoor furniture, industrial cabinets and desks, hospital equipment, shelf components, snow plow blades, pressure tanks and ornamental wrought iron…just to name a few. ■

Eye Protection

OSHA estimates that at least 1,000 eye injuries occur in the American workplace every day, resulting in more than $467 million per year spent on medical treatment. How is this possible? A survey conducted by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics showed some surprising results. In three out of every five cases, workers were not wearing any form of eye protection. Others were wearing eye protection that wasn't adequate.



Almost 70% of the accidents studied resulted from flying or falling objects or sparks striking the eye. Other accidents were caused by objects swinging from a fixed or attached position. Contact with chemicals resulted in one-fifth of the injuries.

What can you do? Protective eyewear should be worn if there is any chance that machines or operations present the hazard of flying objects, chemicals or a combination of these or other hazards. Anyone working in such hazardous areas, even if they're just passing through, should wear appropriate protective eyewear at all times.

The key to eye-injury prevention is implementing an effective training program, the proper safety equipment and stringent guidelines. By knowing what safety measures should be taken and following through with them, employees can be assured of a safe, accident-free working environment. ■

February… Then and Now

February is American Heart Month, Black History Month, National Wild Bird-Feeding Month and National Potato Lovers Month. On February 2 we recognize Groundhog Day, the day he emerges from his hole after a long winter sleep to look for his shadow. If he sees it, he regards it as an omen of six more weeks of bad weather and returns to his hole. If he doesn't – it's a sign of spring and the groundhog stays above ground. February 3 is Dump Your Significant Jerk Day. Why not? It still gives you 11 days to find someone new before Valentine's Day. On February 8, 1910, the Boy Scouts of America was founded by William Boyce in Washington, DC. Valentine's Day happens on the 14th. Legend has it that St. Valentine was a priest in the 3rd century in Rome. It is one of the most widely observed unofficial holidays on the calendar. This year President's Day falls on the 16th…a day of commemoration of George Washington's (22nd) and Lincoln's (12th) birthdays. February 24 marks the end of the Carnival celebration with Mardi Gras. February 25 is Ash Wednesday, marking the onset of Lent, the 40-day period of fasting and abstinence.



New OSHA Injury Log

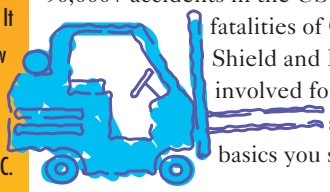
Did you remember? Employers that are required to complete an OSHA Form 300 (Log of Work-related Injuries and Illnesses) must start using a newly revised form effective January 1, 2004. It includes various changes including a new hearing loss column and a more clear-cut formula for calculating injury-incidence rates.



You are not required to complete Form 300 if you employ fewer than 10 workers or if you are in a specific low-hazard retail, service, finance or insurance industry. You can print copies of the 2003 or 2004 forms at www.osha.gov/recordkeeping/RKforms.html or call OSHA at (202) 693-1888 to request the new form. ■

Workplace Safety

Forklift operations are a greatly under-recognized hazard. Forklift accidents cause 90+ deaths and 90,000+ accidents in the US each year. The first fatalities of Operations Desert Shield and Enduring Freedom involved forklifts. Following are some forklift safety basics you should heed:

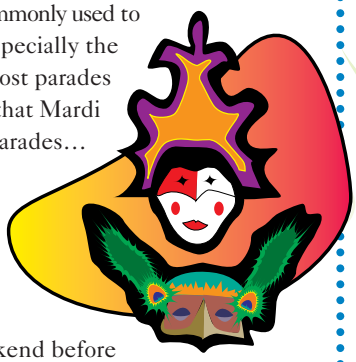


- Verify all forklift operators are well trained and tested
- Wear the seat belts
- Chock block the vehicle being loaded/unloaded by the forklift
- Use loading dock protective rails, ground guides or lane markers for loading dock operations
- Drive slowly into/out of warehouses
- Don't use forklifts for lifting personnel
- Ensure loads are balanced and keep ground guides away from cargo fall zones
- PMCS forklifts daily before operations

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Mardi Gras... What you may not Know

Carnival (Latin for "kiss your flesh goodbye") is a long season between Christmas and Lent. It officially begins in New Orleans on Twelfth Night (January 6) and continues until the midnight of Fat Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday. Mardi Gras (French for Fat Tuesday) technically applies only to the day before Ash Wednesday. But, "Mardi Gras" is also commonly used to refer to the whole Carnival season, especially the final frenzied two weeks when the most parades occur. It's a common misconception that Mardi Gras is the start of the partying and parades… in fact, it is the end.



The height of the party (including the most famous parades and other activities) is the last long five-day weekend, from Friday through Fat Tuesday (February 20-24). The weekend before that also offers a packed selection of parades and plenty of partying in the French Quarter. Some find the final frenzy overwhelming…others thrive on it. And, some locals schedule vacation and head to Dubuque. ■

Adapted from mardigras.com



Send your comments to:

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Soapbox

In a democracy it's your vote that counts; in feudalism it's your Count that votes.

Never do anything that you wouldn't want to explain to the paramedics.

Attrinyl (a try' nil), n. A black, bulletproof, totally inflexible type of plastic, used primarily in covers of pay phone directories.

Movie-related foods such as Milk Duds, buttered popcorn, Junior Mints, Red Hots and Tootsie Rolls do not have additional calories because they are part of the entire entertainment package and not part of one's personal fuel.

Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

A group of geese on the ground is a gaggle; a group of geese in the air is a skein.

Organized crime in America takes in over $40 billion a year and spends very little on office supplies. – *Woody Allen*

You know you're getting old when it takes longer to rest than to get tired.

Minds are like parachutes…they work best when open.

You can find your way across the country using burger joints the way a navigator uses the stars. – *Charles Kuralt*

Pascal, n. A programming language named after a man who would turn over in his grave if he knew about it.

His absence is good company. – *Old Scottish Saying*

Every calendar's days are numbered.

Priorities: We put a man on the moon before we figured out it would be a good idea to put wheels on luggage.

Wouldn't it be nice if whenever we messed up our life we could simply press Ctrl-Alt-Delete and start all over?