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INSIGHTS

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OSHA Videos Animate Construction Hazards

OSHA released 12 short, educational videos about potential hazards in the construction industry. The videos are based on real-life incidents and include detailed depictions of hazards and the safety measures that would have prevented these injuries and fatalities. The videos cover falls in construction, workers who are struck by vehicles and heavy equipment, sprain and strain injuries, trenching and excavation hazards, and carbon monoxide poisoning.

Each video and video script is available in English and Spanish at osha.gov/dts/vtools/construction.html.



A Better Option

One chemical used for washing vehicles in the trucking industry is the same chemical that, when combined with uranium, fuels nuclear power plants.

We're talking about hydrofluoric acid (HF-A). It takes one teaspoon of HF-A to kill a person. Hydrofluoric acid is one of the most dangerous chemicals known to mankind. Go online, type in "hydrofluoric acid" and you will find unbelievable horror stories about injuries and death caused by this highly regulated toxic chemical.

There are better options and ChemStation can help you find a safer alternative for your vehicle washing and wheel cleaning challenges. While the cost of HF-A cleaning solutions are sometimes less expensive than safer soap options, the costs (personal protective equipment for handling the toxin) add up to outweigh the savings…not to mention the safety factor for your employees.

ChemStation's professional team of chemists has developed a safer alternative to be used in our custom-blended formulations. If you're looking for a safer solution to your industrial cleaning problems, give your local ChemStation representative a call.

THINKING GREEN

Green Ideas

Think local when planning your landscaping and you'll probably save time, not to mention precious water. Flowers, grasses, and other plants native to the area in which you live typically need less watering and care than exotic plants. Plus, native plants attract and benefit birds and other wildlife that inhabit your neck of the woods.

Single-serving bottled water and disposable plastic food bags continue to be a staple in many homes. You can break the plastic cycle by purchasing reusable stainless steel bottles for beverages and airtight food storage containers for food on the go. Companies even sell furniture made from recycled plastic, which gives it a second life that doesn't involve a landfill.

Heavy traffic and hectic schedules have a way of turning roads into racetracks with drivers favoring hard acceleration and braking. This behavior will put a serious dent in any vehicle's fuel mileage and increases wear and tear on the brakes and other components. No matter what you drive, you'll get more miles per gallon by driving conservatively.

Be Safe on Winter Roads

Winter driving can be risky. You can reduce the chance of collision and help improve road safety by following these tips:

- Install matching winter tires on all wheels of your vehicle. Winter tires outperform all-season tires when the temperature falls below freezing.
- Pack a winter driving emergency kit in your vehicle.
- Check tire pressure at least once a month.
- Have your battery, ignition system, lights, and brakes tested.
- Ensure your wipers are in good working condition.
- Give yourself extra distance to stop.
- Dress properly – wear warm clothing.
- Bring a cell phone for emergency purposes, but never use it while driving.

Lessons on Latex Allergies

Latex is a rubber product found in many manufactured goods including personal protective equipment (PPE) such as gloves, goggles, and aprons.

Some people are allergic to proteins in latex and may have a reaction after repeated exposure. Exposure can result from skin contact or inhaling airborne latex protein. Even a small exposure can result in an allergic reaction once a person has become sensitized.

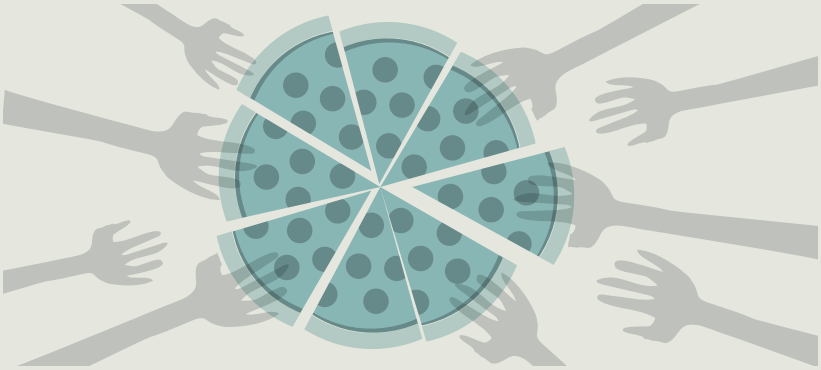
Why it matters: About three million Americans are sensitized to latex, and anyone who has had multiple surgeries is at risk of developing latex allergies.



America's Pizza Obsession: By the Numbers

The quintessential American food may be apple pie, but its popularity pales beside our national love affair with pizza pies. Americans consume a staggering 100 acres of pizza a day, according to data from the National Association of Pizza Operators. Here's a by-the-numbers look at our compulsion:

- $38 billion – Annual pizza sales in America
- 3 billion – Number of pizzas sold in the U.S. each year
- 350 – Slices of pizza sold every second
- 46 – Slices of pizza the average American eats each year
- 93 – Percent of Americans who eat pizza at least once a month
- 70 – Percent of Super Bowl viewers who eat at least one slice during the game
- 251.7 million – Pounds of pepperoni Americans consume each year
- 70,000 – Number of pizzerias in the U.S.
- 5,441 – Number of books about pizza listed on Amazon.com



SOAPBOX

Half our life is spent trying to find something to do with the time we have rushed through life trying to save.
– *Will Rogers*

A door is what a dog is perpetually on the wrong side of.

The trouble with weather forecasting is that it's right too often for us to ignore it and wrong too often for us to rely on it.

Fashion is something that goes in one year and out the other.

You know you're getting older when you no longer drive faster than your age.

Our national flower is the concrete clover-leaf.

Two wrongs don't make a right, but they make a good excuse.
– *Thomas Szasz*

The only thing to do with family skeletons is to take them out of the closet and dance with them.

ChemStation™

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By the Numbers



Gallons of soap delivered:
172,914,428 since 1984



Empty drums not in landfills:
3,143,899 since 1984