



Construction News Sense

FACILITIES Management and Operations Center



Hazard Identification and Controls

In concert with Facilities Management and Operations Center (FMOC) objectives to provide feedback and continuously improve, this month's topic is focused on hazard identification and controls.

Task Hazard Analysis is always conducted on FMOC projects; however, like any process, there is room for improvement. High-hazard operations require greater rigor and documentation. It is important to crafts professionals to identify hazards and communicate them but first, each company must understand the experience of their employees and subcontractors. Tools to improve hazard analysis should always be considered and evaluated.

Communication

The control of hazardous energy in general has worked well at Sandia in the past year, due in part to solid communication between Maintenance and Contractors and a continued effort to understand the nuances between OSHA, NFPA 70E, Main-



tenance policies, and Contractor policies. Highly functional organizations communicate requirements and policies throughout each work group.

Critical to hazard identification and controls is the flow down of the 01065 Specification, Contract Specific Safety Plan (CSSP), Job-site Hazard Evaluation (JSHE), and Permits. Increased flow down of requirements to subcontractors has assisted in the safety and health of construction at FMOC.

Many subcontractors utilize individual control as a means of protection, a method that is not allowed but clearly continues to be utilized at work operations conducted outside of Sandia. Subcontractors that generally do not work at Sandia might not understand the benefits of good hazard analysis.

The Superintendent's Role

Superintendence of each job is part of the system of hazard identification and control. The Prime Contractor Superintendent or Delegate directly supervises the work at all times during performance of a contract (excluding periods of work inactivity) until the work is completed and accepted. The Superintendent or Delegate:

- is knowledgeable of the project's hazards and could be classified as the authorized person and, in some cases, the competent person.
- has full authority to act on behalf of the construction prime contractor; and
- performs frequent and regular inspections of the construction worksite to identify and correct any instances of noncompliance with the CSSP.

Workers of all tiers report hazards not previously identified or evaluated to the Superintendent or Delegate. If immediate corrective action is not possible or the hazard falls outside of the project scope, the Superintendent or Delegate shall:

- immediately notify affected workers;
- post appropriate warning signs;
- implement necessary interim control measures; and
- notify the Construction Observer of the action taken.

Greg Kirsch, Org. 04827
ES&H Program Manager



Don't Let Stress Affect Your Safety

Our construction community has enjoyed a great deal of work over the last few years. We have seen many large and important projects, and we all should be proud that our efforts have resulted in buildings and modifications necessary for the Labs to contribute to the security and technological leadership of our nation. Unfortunately, as we are all probably aware of by now, this construction boom is at an end. We will still have some big and important projects, but it won't be like the last few years. For many of us, this is more than just projects and buildings -- this is our livelihood.

This is a time of great stress for everyone, and none feel it more than those of us in the trades. Stress can cause problems both directly and indirectly. Direct effects in-

clude high blood pressure, insomnia, headaches, and heart problems. Keeping a clear focus without distraction is essential for those of us who work at elevation, around electrical circuits, with welders, electric saws, nail guns and a host of other normal construction hazards. There have been an unusual number of accidents since September, and distraction caused by stress may be an influencing factor.

I want to emphasize how important it is to resist the distractions of work slowdown, holiday tasks, or any other issue that can affect your focus on the job at hand. Projects can and will come and go, and there will always be cycles of construction feast and famine. The most important thing is that you are healthy and always ready and able to take on the next project. One way you can help ensure you will always be ready and able is to

keep a high focus on getting your work done safely.

I apologize for this not so cheery holiday message and wish to close by recapping the year. We have done an outstanding job in setting the Sandia Scientists and Engineers up with the infrastructure they need to be successful. We have done so with a good record of being on time and within budget. We continue to accomplish all of this with an exceptional safety record. Hopefully, there was an opportunity for all of us to make a few bucks along the way. We have faced many challenges this year and have addressed and overcome them together.

Speaking for all of the Facilities management team, I would like to wish each and every one of you a joyous and safe holiday season.

John Norwalk, Org. 04827
Manager

The Facilities Management and Operations Center would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!



Quarterly Construction Contractor Safety Seminar

January 22, 2008

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Mountain View Club



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