

Don't Run With Scissors!

September 2008 Safety Communiqué from the Technical Division Head



By: Giorgio Apollinari, Technical Division Head

The summer is winding down. We are entering the final month of Fiscal Year 2008. We would very much like to end on a high note with no additional first aid or safety incidents. In order to accomplish this goal, we need the help and attention of every employee. Please continue your focus on safety.

Early this month I requested a “Stand Down” of activities in IB3, following a mild electrical shock to an employee while disconnecting power leads. I was pleased by the response of all people involved and by the commitment to bring all production operations in IB3 under procedural control for a formal Operation Readiness Clearance. This is being achieved in a collaborative way between the Division Safety group and the research group. I cannot emphasize enough that our highest priority is ultimately the safety of each and every employee and a reduction of safety incidents to zero.

While the numbers are indeed one indicator on how well we are performing to achieve this goal, they are by no means the only indicator. It is far more important to us that every employee goes home safely. If that means reporting an incident or near miss and improving our operations, then that is what we need to do. Every employee has the right and responsibility to intercede if they witness an unsafe situation.

Two of our safety policies have recently been updated: **TD-1001 Control of Environmental, Safety & Health Documents within Technical Division** and **TD-4010, Technical Division Environment, Safety and Health Policy**. The latest copies of these and all Technical Division policies are available on the TD Web Site (<http://tdserver1.fnal.gov/tdweb/hq/policies/TDPoliciesProcContents.htm>). Please remember that the online versions of our policies are the masters and that if you are maintaining printed copies, you should regularly check to ensure your copies are the most up to date versions.

We have recently updated the Quick Links section of the TD web site home page by adding a link to archives of the Safety Communiqués as well as a direct link to the TD Policy Manual.

INCIDENT BACKGROUND	HOW IT MIGHT HAVE BEEN PREVENTED
An employee was using a large laminator, and they needed to slide out the feed tray. The tray jammed as they were pulling it out so the employee pulled hard, causing the tray to come out of its guides. The tray slipped out of the employee's hands and struck right foot. There are no stops or restraints to prevent the tray from coming completely out of the guides. The tray is approximately four feet by eighteen inches and weighs approximately twenty pounds.	The tray has been retro fitted with restraints to prevent it from accidentally coming completely out of the guides.
An employee was carrying a 6-foot fiberglass stepladder through a ramped doorway when the foot of the ladder caught on the curb of the ramp. The employee was holding the door open as he was carrying the ladder through the doorway, and the ladder became unbalanced. In an attempt to right the ladder, the employee sprained their right shoulder.	This injury could have been prevented if the employee had opened the door first, put the door stop down, and then carried the ladder through the door or simply ask a coworker to hold the door.
An employee was preparing to break epoxy off of magnet coils. He was checking the stability of the material with a pry bar when a piece of the epoxy popped off and caused an abrasion on his chin. The employee reported to Medical where he received first aid treatment.	The individual had not yet put on his face shield, which is the normal procedure for removing the epoxy from the magnet coils. A face shield should be worn anytime a prying action could result in flying objects.

Most safety experts believe that all accidents can be prevented. As you can see by the prevention column, a little extra care and attention on the part of the individuals might have avoided these accidents from occurring.