Slips, Trips & Fall

Last months “The Bottom Line” reminded us that as the weather changes we need to remember how slippery life can get - frost, wet leaves, snow and ice all pose risks and hazards. While slips, trips and falls may occur just about anywhere, as safety professionals, we focus on the workplace; the statistics, risk identification, training and the injuries.

It is important to note that Falls are the No. 1 cause of injury in the home and they can happen to anyone at any age. We are hyper aware of situations and hazards that can cause falls for the very young and the very old, because even a minor fall can cause serious injury. Most of us, however, fall in between these groups and unless in a workplace setting, we tend to not pay enough attention to our potential exposures.

When you review the tips to decrease the potential risk you may think, well of course, or don’t be silly it’s the same at work, but the truth is we should remind ourselves and family members anyway:

- Clear the Clutter
- Hold the Rails
- Consider grab bars

- Light it up
- Use non-skid “things”
- Toss the throw rugs
- Move/Keep things reachable  - Wear sturdy shoes
- Mobile devices distract our attention at home too
- Be prepared to address walkways and colder weather

Address the “Human Factor” to decrease the possibility of injury at home by a slip, trip or fall.

**Learning Objectives - Part I**

Most people that develop and or deliver training to adults understand how adults learn differently than children. Rote learning - just remember facts - is a type of training that does not engage an adult audience. Rote learning is that workplace training that everyone warned you about.

Most experienced trainers or instructors have developed knowledge about the 4 styles of learning: visual, auditory, reading/writing and kinesthetic; and that the BEST training opportunities take a multimodal approach. An approach that provides engaging methods for all four learning styles. We have seen training classes morph into events that our employees desire to attend.

But before we address the style and approach of the delivery of training, we need to create the content. ANSI/ASSP Z490.1-2016 spells out the criteria for accepted practices for EHS training and one of the key points is the development of training objectives. Whether the class is a 30 minute lunch and learn or a multiple session “course” you should design with the end in mind.

The end is what should the student be able to do at the end of the session. We refer to this as the learning objective(s). Think of the learning objectives as a set of skills, knowledge or abilities that your students will be able to demonstrate mastery of at the end of the session or course.

To maximize learning and retention trainers and instructors use the multimodal learning approach, but when developing the learning objectives, we must pay close attention to the Three Domains (or taxonomies) of Learning. Benjamin Bloom’s research group, in 1956 identified the domains as cognitive, psychomotor and affective. *(Join us in November for Part II of Learning Objectives)*

---

**Numerous Incidents Occur in Educational, Lab Demonstrations**

According to the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB), from January 2001 to July 2018, over 260 incidents occurred during educational demos and experiments in a laboratory, experimentation, or presentation setting, leading to numerous injuries and in some cases fatalities.

Researchers, educators and students are encouraged to adopt CSB’s key lessons:

- Do not use bulk containers of flammable chemicals when small quantities are sufficient.
- Implement strict safety controls including written procedures, effective training & appropriate PPE
- Conduct a comprehensive hazard review prior to any demonstration.
- Provide a safety barrier between the demonstration and the audience, students or other laboratory personnel.

For videos & information visit: [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov)
Your Chapter President hopes you have plans to attend “Discover, Share and Excel”, the New England Area 2018 Professional Development Conference. The conference will include topics such as regulatory and OSHA updates and overviews, electrical safety, emergency response, fall protection, fire protection, fleet safety, risk management, industrial hygiene, safety leadership, training, workplace violence, safety management systems, life safety, and many more. Our area PDC is a great way to learn, network and add those necessary continuing education credits. I hope to see you there!

As always, please send me any ideas you may have on places to hold a meeting (i.e. southern CT) or sites you may want to visit.

Bottom line: Make Plans to attend and learn!