

Construction Efforts at NIOSH



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National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
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TAUC—The Association of Union Constructors

The findings and conclusions in this presentation have not been formally disseminated by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy



Presentation Outline



NIOSH Construction Program
The Construction Falls Prevention
Program

Lead Exposures in Construction
Findings from the FACE Program
Prevention through Design





**The sole federal government organization
charged with conducting occupational safety
and health research**



Organizational Chart of Federal Entities for Occupational Safety and Health

Regulation and Enforcement:

Department of Labor (DOL)

- ↳ Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)
- ↳ Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)

Research and Prevention Recommendations:

Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- ↳ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
 - ↳ National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)



Mission - NIOSH Construction Program

“Provide ... leadership to prevent work-related illness, injury, disability, and death by ... gathering information, conducting ... research, and translating the knowledge gained into products, solutions, and services tailored to meet construction needs.”



Program Structure and focus areas

NIOSH Office of Construction Safety and Health

Intramural Research

Basic Research
Surveillance
Methods Research
Exposure Assessment
Controls Development
Applied Research
Research to Practice

National Construction Center

Industry Characterization
Applied Research
Industry Liaison
Intervention
Research to Practice

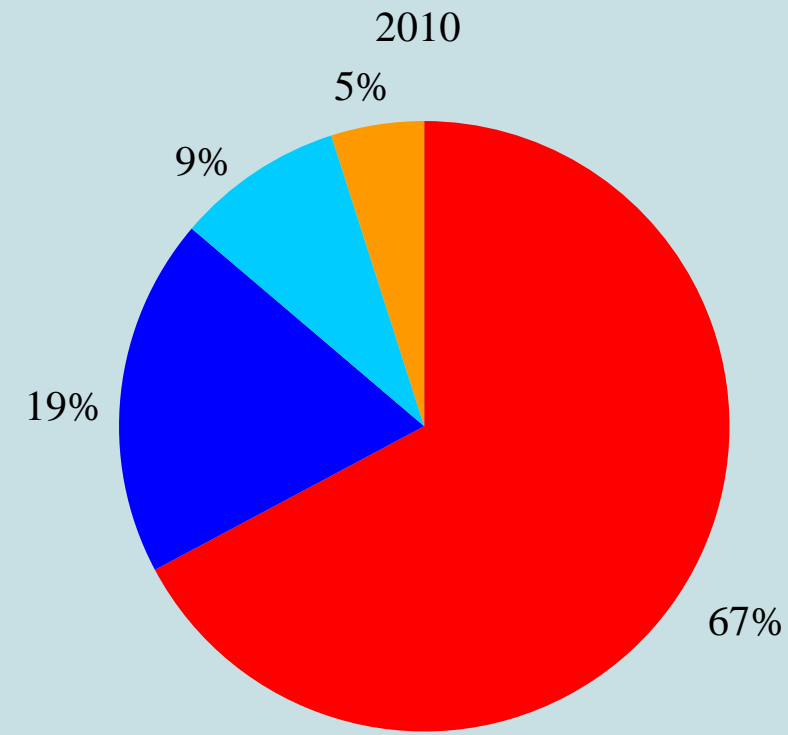
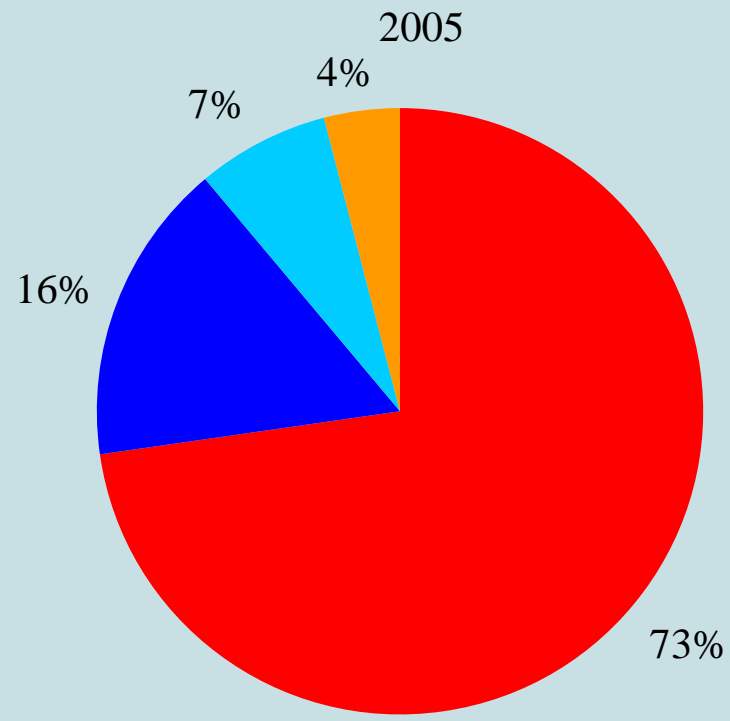
Extramural Investigator- initiated Grants

Innovative Ideas
Opportunities
State Initiatives

CPWR

Center for Construction Research and Training

Percentage of construction workforce, by class of workers, 2005 and 2010

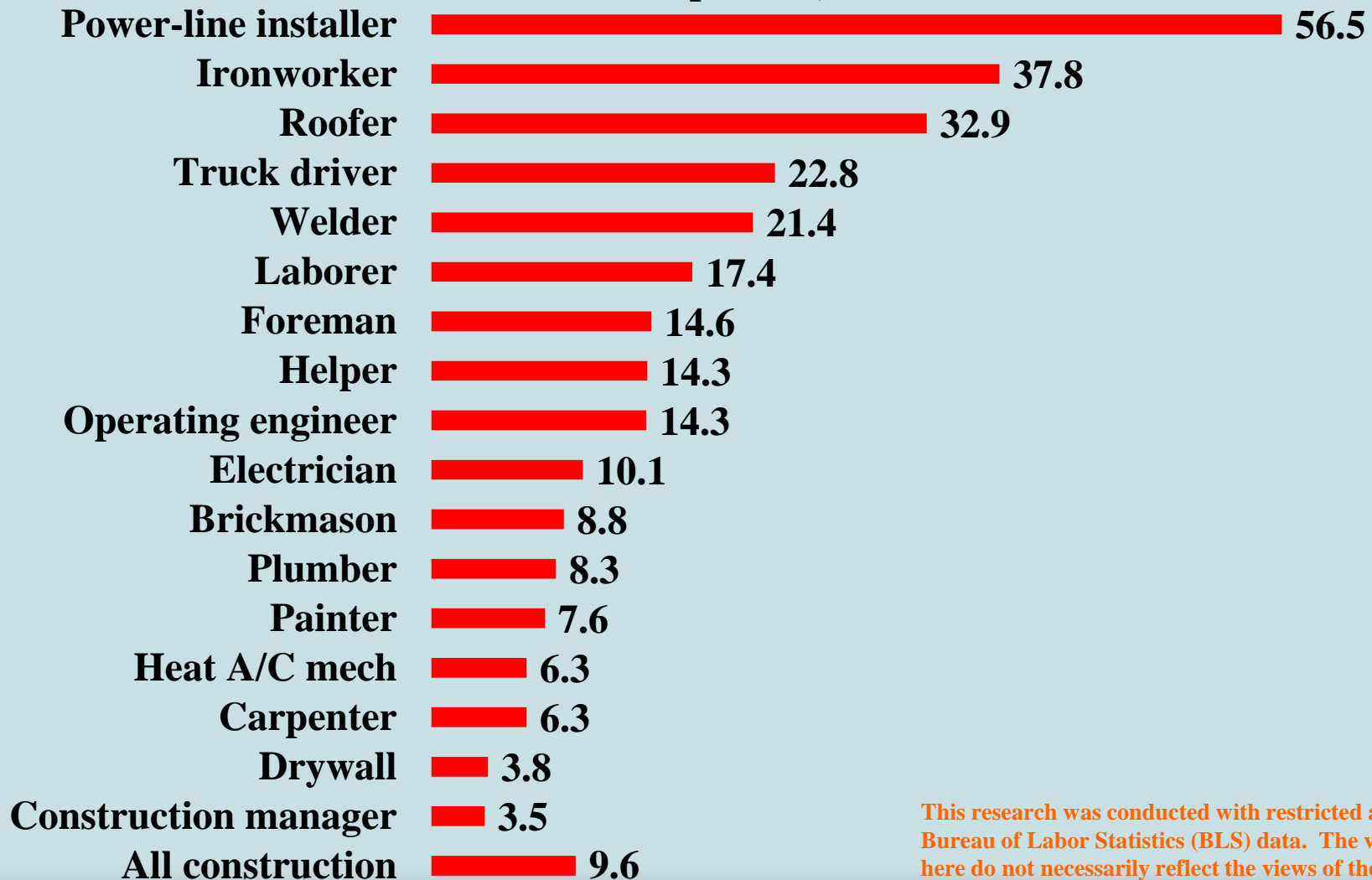


- Private employees
- Self-employed, unincorporated
- Self-employed, incorporated
- Public employees

This research was conducted with restricted access to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the BLS.

Rate of fatalities, selected construction occupations, 2008-2010 average, (all employment)

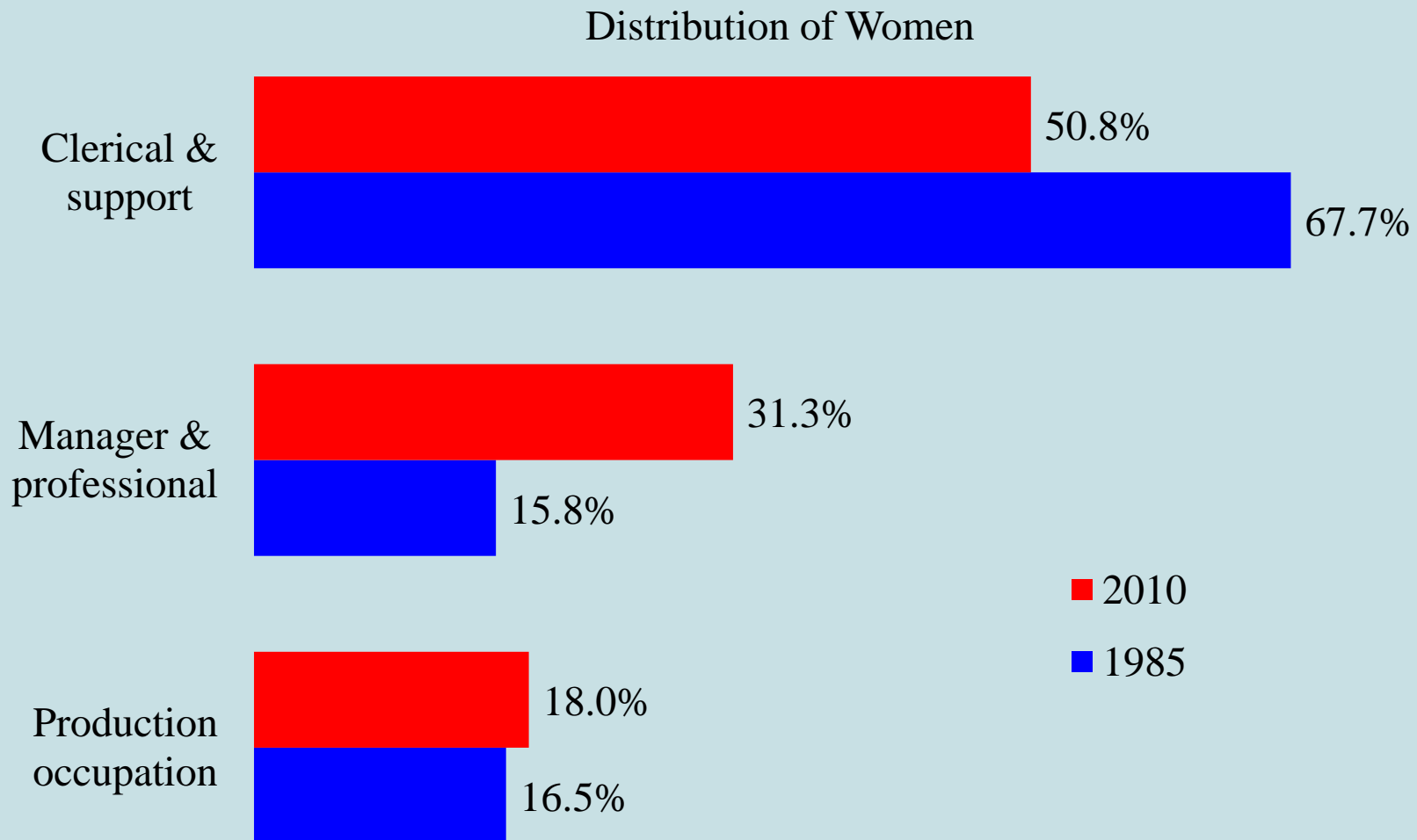
Deaths per 100,000 FTEs



This research was conducted with restricted access to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the BLS.



Distribution of women workers in construction, by occupation type, 1985 and 2010 (all employment)



This research was conducted with restricted access to Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) data. The views expressed here do not necessarily reflect the views of the BLS.



Injury Assessment for Emerging Mast Scaffold Technology

Chris Pan, DSR and team



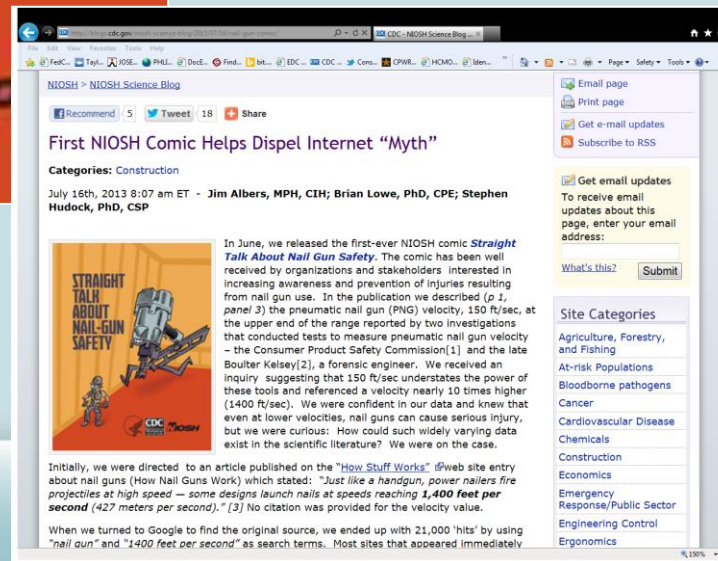
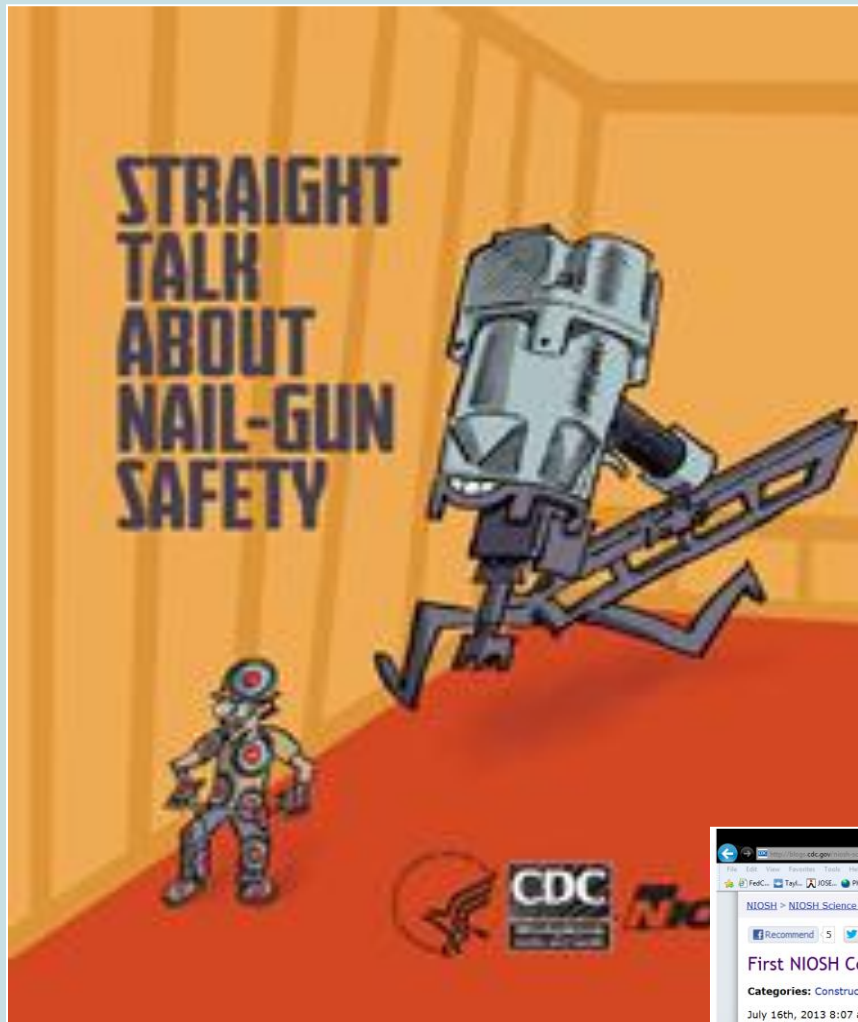
Photo: Chris Pan

Straight Talk About Nail Gun Safety

Jim Albers and DART team

Published in June 2013

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2013-149>

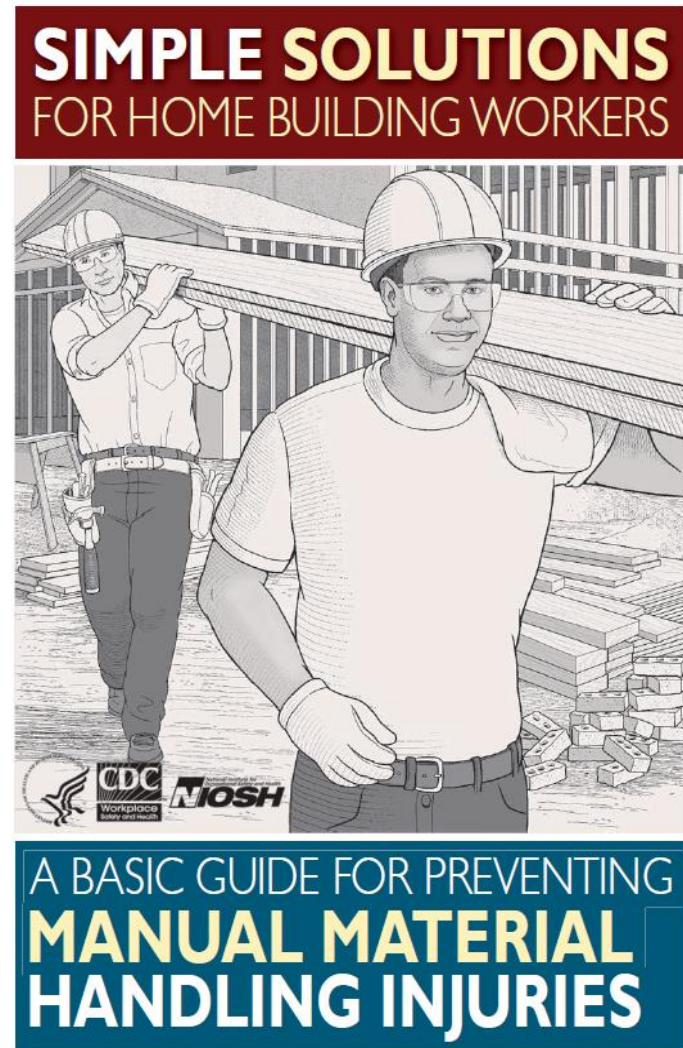


Simple Solutions for Home Building Workers

Jim Albers and DART team

Published in June 2013

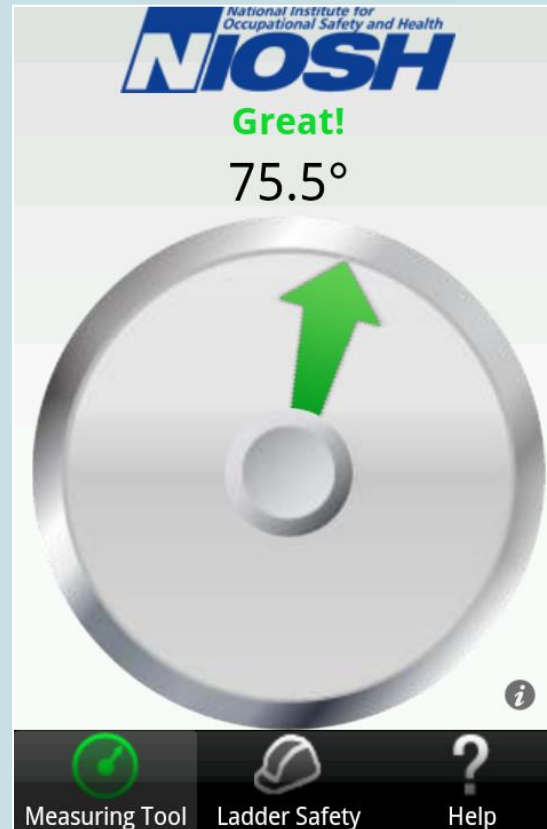
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/docs/2013-111/>



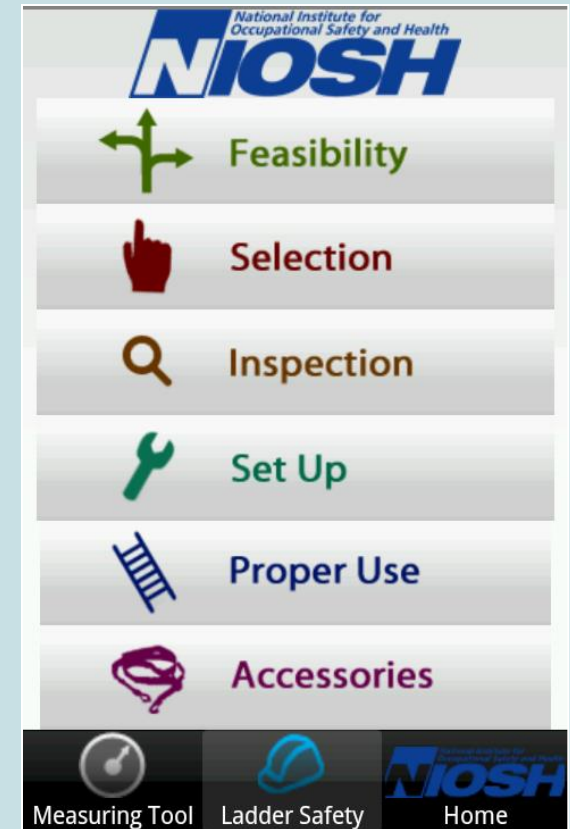
Ladder Safety Application for Smart Phones

Peter Simeonov, DSR
and team

Developed APP to
quickly and easily
position extension
ladder at correct
angle



Inclination indicator



Graphic-oriented aid



stopconstructionfalls.com

**I worked construction for 10 years
before my fall. It shattered my body
and my livelihood.**

Work safely. Use the right equipment.



Safety Pays. Falls Cost.

FALLS FROM LADDERS, SCAFFOLDS AND ROOFS CAN BE PREVENTED!



U.S. Department of Labor

PLAN ahead to get the job done safely.

PROVIDE the right equipment.

TRAIN everyone to use the equipment safely.

www.osha.gov/stopfalls.gov

1 (800) 321-OSHA (6742) • TTY 1-877-889-5627

OSHA[®]

Occupational
Safety and Health
Administration



CDC
Workplace
Safety and Health

NIOSH

NOBA

NIOSH 2012-141 / OSHA 3531-04 2012

Why a Focus on Falls?

Greatest fall fatality hazards:

- Roofs ~ 33%
- Scaffolds ~ 16%
- Ladders ~ 16%

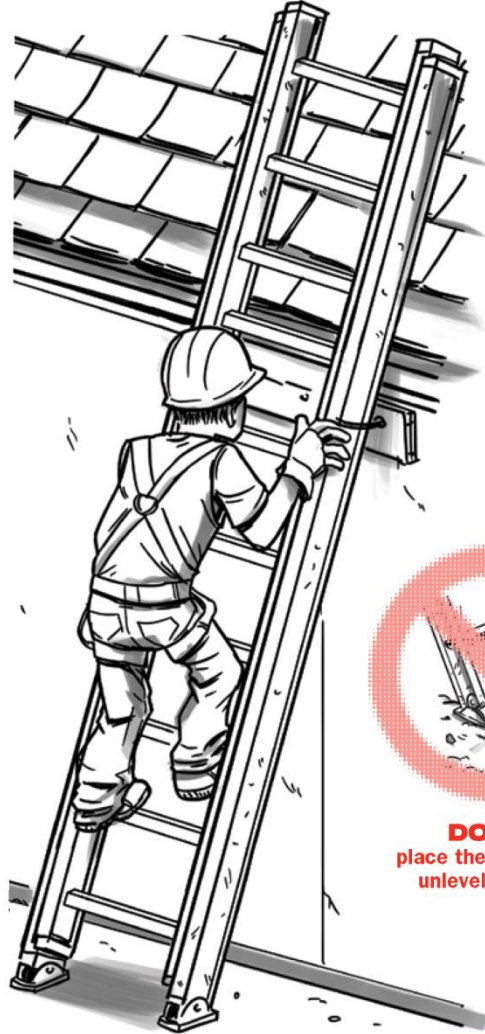
These 3 hazards combined account for roughly two-thirds of all fatal falls in construction

They represent, however, very different problems



FALLS FROM LADDERS CAN BE PREVENTED!

- ✓ Choose the right ladder for the job
- ✓ Maintain three points of contact
- ✓ Secure the ladder
- ✓ Always face the ladder



DON'T
overreach



DON'T
stand on top or on the
top step of a stepladder



DON'T
place the ladder on
uneven footing



PLAN ahead to get the job done safely.
PROVIDE the right ladder and equipment.
TRAIN everyone to use the equipment safely.

FALLS FROM SCAFFOLDS CAN BE PREVENTED!

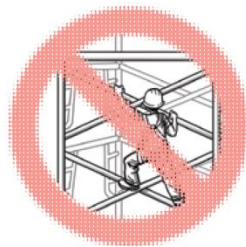
- ✓ Use fully planked scaffolds
- ✓ Ensure proper access to scaffold
- ✓ Plumb and level
- ✓ Complete ALL guardrails
- ✓ Ensure stable footing
- ✓ Inspect before use (by competent person)



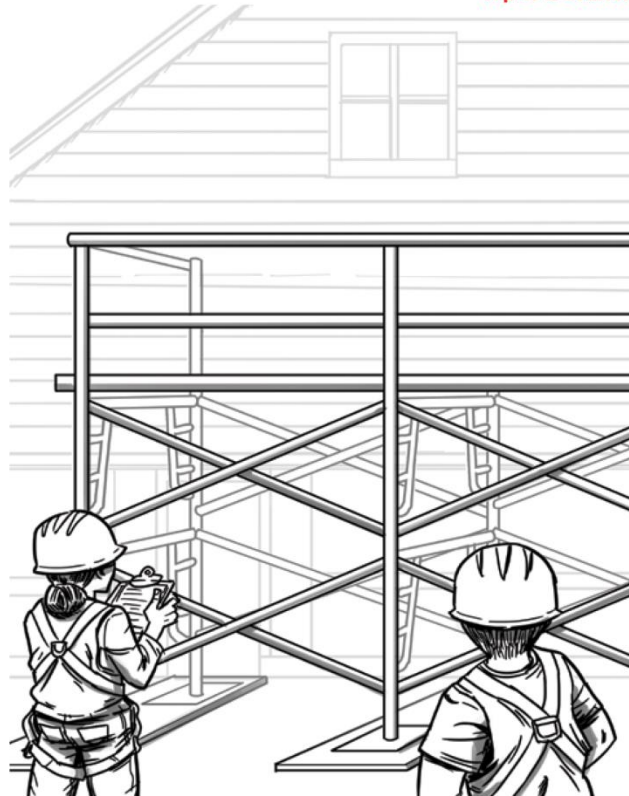
DON'T
use a ladder on
top of a scaffold



DON'T
stand on guardrails



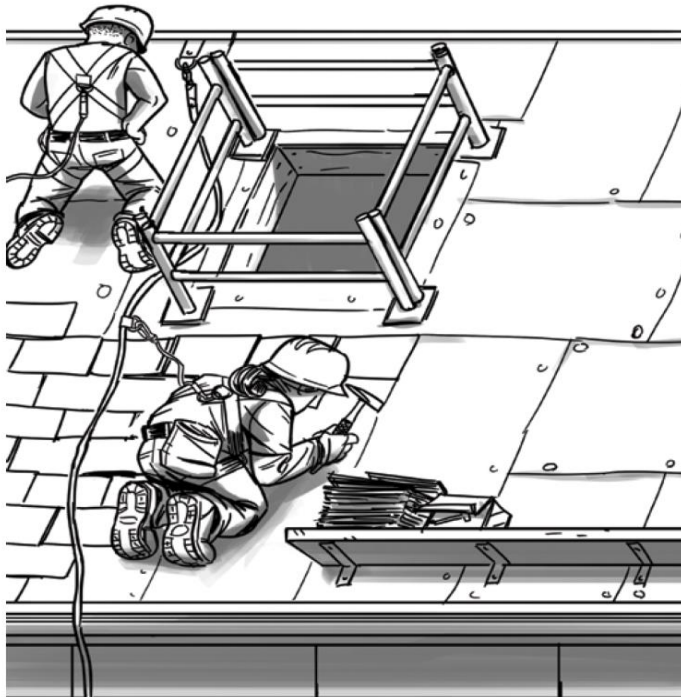
DON'T
climb cross-braces



PLAN ahead to get the job done safely.
PROVIDE the right scaffold and equipment.
TRAIN everyone to use the equipment safely.

FALLS FROM ROOFS CAN BE PREVENTED!

- ✓ Wear a harness and always stay connected
- ✓ Make sure your harness fits
- ✓ Use guardrails or lifelines
- ✓ Inspect all fall protection equipment before use
- ✓ Guard or cover all holes, openings, and skylights



PLAN ahead to get the job done safely.
PROVIDE the right roof equipment.
TRAIN everyone to use the equipment safely.



DON'T
disconnect from
the lifeline



DON'T
work around unprotected
openings or skylights



DON'T
use defective equipment



U.S. Department of Labor



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Administration

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www.osha.gov

NIOSH 2012-142 / OSHA 3533-04 2012



NIOSH

Spot the Hazard: Can You Spot the Hazard?



stopconstructionfalls.com



Web Addresses

Main campaign website (CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training) <http://www.stopconstructionfalls.com>

Campaign posters and fact sheets

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/stopfalls.html>

<http://www.osha.gov/stopfalls/>

NIOSH Science blog <http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/>

Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation Program (FACE) reports <http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/face/>

To become a campaign partner: email falls@cpwr.com



NIOSH Construction Page

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/>

CDC Home



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives. Protecting People.™

NIOSH

All CDC Topics

Choose a topic above

SEARCH

A-Z Index for All CDC Topics

CONSTRUCTION

Construction workers and employers build our roads, houses, and workplaces and repair and maintain our nation's physical infrastructure. Construction includes building new structures, renovations involving additions, alterations, or maintenance, and repair of buildings or engineering projects such as highways or utility systems. The NIOSH Construction Program provides national and world leadership to prevent work-related illness, injury, disability, and death by systematically gathering information, conducting targeted scientific research, and translating the knowledge gained into products, solutions and services tailored to meet construction needs. In collaboration with industry and labor partners and stakeholders, including OSHA, we are dedicated to improving safety and health conditions for all construction workers.

In 2010, there were 774 fatal on-the-job injuries to workers in the construction industry – more than in any other industry sector and representative of 17% of all work-related deaths in the U.S. that year.¹ Construction is a large, dynamic, and complex industry sector, putting nearly \$800 billion of construction in place in 2011.² Construction worksites are organizationally complex multi-employer sites and present numerous health and safety challenges.

Spotlights

- [Nail Gun Safety: A Guide for Construction Contractors -- \(Spanish\) Seguridad con las pistolas de clavos](#)
- [Safety Pays. Falls Cost. Campaign to Prevent Construction Falls Launched](#)
- [New on NIOSH FACE: Search Residential and Commercial Construction Falls](#)
- Follow us @NIOSHConstruct [on Twitter!](#)



Calendar of Events



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[National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health \(NIOSH\)](#)

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636)



NIOSH Construction Program on Twitter

@NIOSHConstruct

The screenshot shows the Twitter profile of the NIOSH Construction Program (@NIOSHConstruct). The profile banner is dark with the NIOSH logo and text: "Construction @ NIOSH", "@NIOSHConstruct", "Follow us to learn more about Construction Safety and Health (Our RT, lists or following doesn't mean endorsement)", and "http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction". The profile statistics show 2,276 tweets, 79 following, and 8,479 followers. The left sidebar includes navigation links (Tweets, Following, Followers, Favorites, Lists), a "Who to follow" section with suggestions like Phil Bregman, Sustainable Cities, and safetyphoto, and a "Trends" section. The main content area displays three tweets from the account, all featuring the NIOSH logo and discussing construction safety topics like falls, fatalities, and mobile elevated work platforms.

Navigation: Home, Connect, Discover, Me

Tweets: Following, Followers, Favorites, Lists

Who to follow: Refresh, View all

- Phil Bregman @SafetyKitsPlus Follow
- Sustainable Cities @sustaincities Follow
- safetyphoto @safetyphoto Follow

Browse categories · Find friends

Trends: Change

- #Benghazi
- Mother's Day
- Prince Harry
- #thecabfollowspree
- #af4q
- #CantBeInARelationship
- #BenefitsOfBeingAHoe
- Snoop Lion
- The Great Gatsby
- San Diego

© 2013 Twitter About Help Terms Privacy

Construction @ NIOSH @NIOSHConstruct
Follow us to learn more about Construction Safety and Health (Our RT, lists or following doesn't mean endorsement)
<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction>

2,276 TWEETS 79 FOLLOWING 8,479 FOLLOWERS

Tweets All / No replies

Construction @ NIOSH @NIOSHConstruct 3h
10,000 construction workers injured a year in falls, more than 200 of them fatally is.gd/D1GdFk
Expand

Construction @ NIOSH @NIOSHConstruct 3h
Falls are the number one cause of construction-worker fatalities StopConstructionFalls.com Follow @NIOSHConstruct
Expand

Construction @ NIOSH @NIOSHConstruct 8 May
UK HSE report on accident factors when using Mobile Elevated Work Platforms (MEWPs) bit.ly/10qPFzx
Expand

FACE @ NIOSH @NIOSHFACE 7 May
@NIOSHFACE New Construction Toolbox Talk Guides tinyurl.com/cyugeth



Lead Developments



RIVETBUSTING

Photo: Mt Sinai/CHEP

From eLCOSH Images

ABLES Highlights for Construction

Manufacturing had greatest overall number of elevated blood leads (BLL > 25 µg/dl) reported in 2009:

72% Manufacturing

14% for Construction

However, **construction has the greatest proportion of individuals with BLLs ≥ 40 µg/dL (among those with BLL ≥ 25 µg/dL) of all industries**

Painting and Paperhanging	27.1%
Bridge, tunnel, elevated highway construction	25.2%
Special trade contractors	26.3%
Heavy construction	20.4%



AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE 54:356–365 (2011)

Studies of OSHA IMIS data also suggest that lead exposures are on the decline for almost every industry
.....except construction

Characterization of Lead in US Workplaces Using Data From OSHA's Integrated Management Information System

Scott A. Henn, MS,* Aaron L. Sussell, PhD, Jia Li, MS, Jeffrey D. Shire, MS,
Walter A. Alarcon, MD, and Sangwoo Tak, ScD

Background Lead hazards continue to be encountered in the Integrated Management Information System (IMIS) is the largest containing sampling results in US workplaces.

Methods Personal airborne lead sampling results in IMIS were examined in 2008. Descriptive analyses, geographical mapping, and regression were performed.

Results Seventy-nine percent of lead samples were in the manufacturing sector. Sample results were highest in the construction sector (median 0.05 mg/m³), by sector, year, OSHA region, number of employees at the worksite, female unionization, advance notification, and presence of an employee statistically associated with having a lead sample result exceed the PEL.

Conclusions Lead concentrations within construction have been higher than any other industry. Lead hazards have been most prevalent in the north and northeastern US. IMIS

“The construction sector is the only sector that did not show a decrease in the percent of samples greater than the PEL (0.05 mg/m³) over the years ...”
1979 - 2008

Impact of New Information?

Research suggests that the 1993 OSHA construction lead standard, which was based on the available science for the 1978 general industry lead standard, is no longer sufficiently protective

Example:

PEL of 50 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ → designed to keep blood lead below 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$ of blood trigger

....**NIOSH recommends that adult blood lead levels ≥ 10 $\mu\text{g}/\text{dl}$ be considered elevated**



Health Effects at Different BLLs

Blood Lead Level (µg/dL)				
5-9	10-19	20-39	40-79	≥ 80
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Possible adverse population effects suggested by epidemiological studies <p>NTP: BLL<10 µg/dL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Essential tremor › Increased risk of hypertension › Increased blood pressure <p>NTP: BLL<5 µg/dL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Decreased glomerular filtration rate › Maternal BLL associated with reduced fetal growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Possible spontaneous abortion › Reduced newborn birth weight › Possible blood pressure changes › Possible renal dysfunction <p>(› Possible neurocognitive deficits)</p> <p>(› Possible postnatal development delay)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Spontaneous abortion › Reduced newborn birth weight › Possible blood pressure changes › Possible renal dysfunction › Possible non-specific symptoms › Possible CNS effects -Memory and attention deficits <p>(› Possible postnatal development delay)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Spontaneous abortion › Reduced newborn birth weight › Non-specific symptoms › CNS effects › Sperm effects -lowered counts -abnormal sperm › Subclinical peripheral neuropathy › Possible hypertension › Possible anemia › Possible renal damage › Possible gout <p>(› Possible postnatal development delay)</p> <p>(› Neurocognitive deficits)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> › Spontaneous abortion › Reduced newborn birth weight › Non-specific symptoms › CNS effects › Sperm effects › Peripheral Neuropathy › Hypertension › Anemia › Abdominal Colic › Nephropathy › Gout <p>(› Neurocognitive deficits)</p> <p>(› Encephalopathy)</p>
Source: AOEC's Medical Management Guidelines. For effects in () Kosnett <i>et al</i> and Shih <i>et al</i> .				



**Dr. John Howard moderated
“Lead in the Workplace: The New
Science” in California, Nov 2013**

California Department of Public Health Occupational Lead Poisoning Prevention Program recommended a dramatic reduction in the amount of lead in workplace air allowed under the Permissible Exposure Limit.

Health-based PEL → at or below 0.5 – 2.1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ to keep workers’ blood lead levels at or below 5 to 10 micrograms per deciliter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$) over a working lifetime.



What about the Children of Exposed Workers?

“Based on a meta-analysis of 10 reports from 1987-1994, the children (n=139) of lead-exposed workers (n=222) had a geometric mean blood lead level of 9.3 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ compared to a U.S. population geometric mean of 3.6 $\mu\text{g/dL}$ ($P=0.0006$). Also in this group, **52% of the children had blood lead levels (BLLs) $\geq 10 \mu\text{g/dL}$ compared to 8.9% in the U.S. ($P=.0010$), and **21% of the children had BLLs $\geq 20\mu\text{g/dL}$ compared to 1.1% in the U.S. ($P=.0258$).”** [emphasis added]**

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the address bar displaying a URL from Wiley. The page is the abstract of an article in the American Journal of Industrial Medicine, Volume 36, Issue 4, published online on August 30, 1999. The article title is "Blood Lead Levels Among Children of Lead-Exposed Workers: A Meta-Analysis" by Robert J. Roscoe, MS, Janie L. Gittleman, PhD, MRP, James A. Deddens, PhD, Martin R. Petersen, PhD, and William E. Halperin, MD, DrPH. The abstract text states: "Background To further assess the utility of targeted blood lead screening for children from households with members having occupational lead exposures, we conducted a meta-analysis of all available reports of take-home lead exposures. Our objective was to estimate the blood lead levels among U.S. children (ages 1–5) from households with lead-exposed workers. Methods Reports considered for inclusion were cited in Medline, Toxline, Excerpta Medica, and Bio-Med plus all unpublished reports available at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health through 1994. The a priori criteria for inclusion of U.S. reports required their having data on: (1) venous blood lead levels for children, (2) children's ages, (3) data for at least five children, (4) workers' occupations, (5) workers'". The page also features logos for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Public Health Library and Information Center, Wiley, and OSHA.

http://online.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/(SICI)1097-4644(199908)36:4<303::AID-AJIM303>3.0.CO;2-1 Blood lead levels among ch...

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help
FedC... Tayl... JOSE... PHL... DecE... Find... bit... EDC... CDC... Cons... CPWR... HCMO... Jden...

American Journal of Industrial Medicine
Volume 36, Issue 4, Article first published online: 30 AUG 1999
Abstract | References | Cited By

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
**PUBLIC HEALTH LIBRARY
AND INFORMATION CENTER**

Wiley

AMERICAN JOURNAL OF INDUSTRIAL MEDICINE 36:475–481 (1999)

Blood Lead Levels Among Children of Lead-Exposed Workers: A Meta-Analysis

Robert J. Roscoe, MS,^{1,*} Janie L. Gittleman, PhD, MRP,¹ James A. Deddens, PhD,^{1,2} Martin R. Petersen, PhD,¹ and William E. Halperin, MD, DrPH¹

Background To further assess the utility of targeted blood lead screening for children from households with members having occupational lead exposures, we conducted a meta-analysis of all available reports of take-home lead exposures. Our objective was to estimate the blood lead levels among U.S. children (ages 1–5) from households with lead-exposed workers.

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Done

150% Workplace safety and health OSHA

“Failure to screen this population will probably mean that their lead poisoning will be missed because they might not live in neighborhoods or houses which would otherwise make them candidates for targeted screening.”

Roscoe, et al. Conclusions, pg. 480

Trigger levels for childhood blood leads have also been reduced based on new information: From 10 ug/dl to no safe level ... with use of 5 ug/dl as a “reference level” to recommend testing

“Children who come in contact with lead-exposed workers should be targeted for blood lead screening”

(ABLES Description webpage)

The Bottom Line: Lead continues to pose challenges for Construction



The Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program



The screenshot shows the NIOSH FACE Program website. The header includes 'Workplace Safety & Health Topics' and the NIOSH logo. A left sidebar lists navigation options like 'Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program', 'What's New - 2012', and 'Related Topics'. The main content area features the title 'FATALITY ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL EVALUATION (FACE) PROGRAM' and a paragraph explaining the program's purpose. Below this is a section for 'Fatality Investigation Reports Indexed by Program' with links for 'NIOSH FACE Reports' and 'State FACE Reports'. A search bar is also present. The right sidebar contains social media links, a 'Contact FACE' section with Nancy Romano's contact information, and a 'Contact Us' link to the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Workplace Safety & Health Topics

NIOSH
NIOSH Home

Workplace Safety and Health Topics

► **Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program**

- What's New - 2012
- NIOSH FACE Reports
- State FACE Reports
- Program Description
- Mission, History, Objectives
- Publications Related to FACE
- National and State Contacts

Related Topics

- Traumatic Occupational Injuries
- Fire Fighter Fatality Investigation and

NIOSH > Workplace Safety and Health Topics

Recommend 15 Tweet 139 Share

FATALITY ASSESSMENT AND CONTROL EVALUATION (FACE) PROGRAM

Each day, between 12 to 13 U.S. workers die as a result of a traumatic injury on the job. Investigations conducted through the FACE program allow the identification of factors that contribute to these fatal injuries. This information is used to develop comprehensive recommendations for preventing similar deaths. This web page provides access to NIOSH investigation reports and other safety resources.

Fatality Investigation Reports Indexed by Program

NIOSH FACE Reports State FACE Reports

Search FACE Reports

Search

Contact FACE

Nancy Romano, M.S., CSHM
FACE Project Officer
Fatality Investigations Team
Division of Safety Research
NIOSH
ndr4@cdc.gov

Contact Us:
[National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health](#)

Email page link
Print page
Get email updates
RSS Feed
Listen to audio/Podcast
Follow NIOSHFACE on Twitter

FACE Website: www.cdc.gov/niosh/face

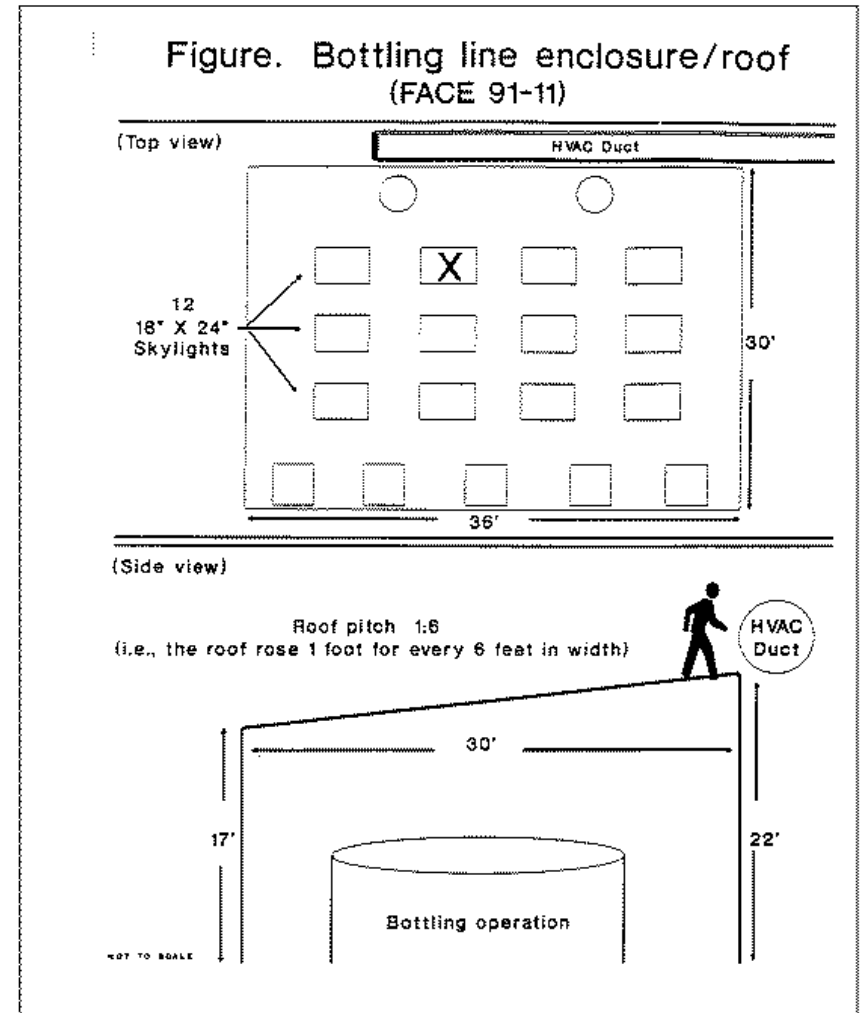
Reports Do Not Use Any Identifiers or Place Blame



Ironworker Dies in Ohio Following a 20' Fall Through a Skylight Opening, Ohio



FACE Report 9111



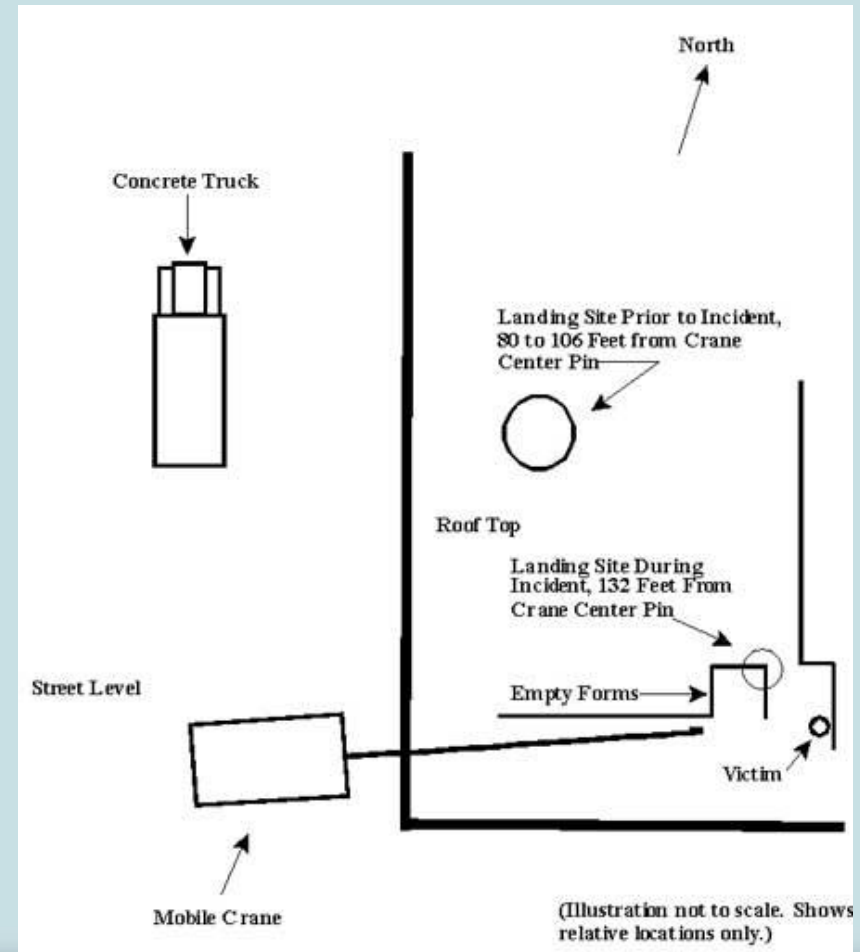
Scaffold Erector Dies After Falling 60' from Scaffold Inside Boiler, South Carolina



FACE Report 9808



Carpenter Dies After Being Struck by Uncontrolled Concrete Bucket When Crane Tips Over, Ohio



FACE Report 2000-12

4 Construction Workers Die after Cantilever Launching Gantry Collapses at Bridge Construction Site, Ohio



FACE Report 2004-05



Welder/Ironworker Dies After Becoming Entangled in a Beltline Driveshaft, South Carolina



FACE Report 9607



Prevention through Design (PtD)

Mission: Design out hazards and minimize risks associated with:



Facilities



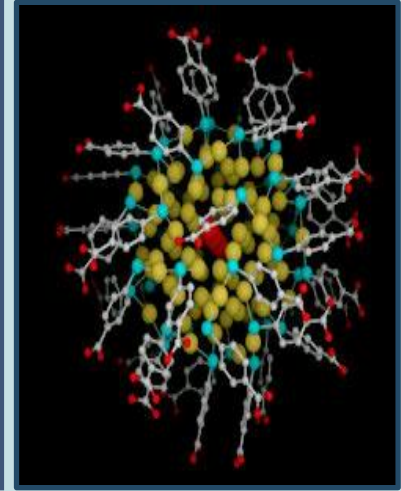
**Work
methods**



Processes



Equipment



**Products & new
technologies**

What is Prevention through Design?

Eliminating or reducing work-related hazards and illnesses and minimizing risks associated with

- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Maintenance
- Use, reuse, and disposal of facilities, materials, and equipment



DESIGN MATTERS!



Design as a Risk Factor: Australian Study, 2000–2002

Main finding: design
contributes significantly to
work-related serious
injury.

37% of workplace
fatalities are due to
design-related issues.

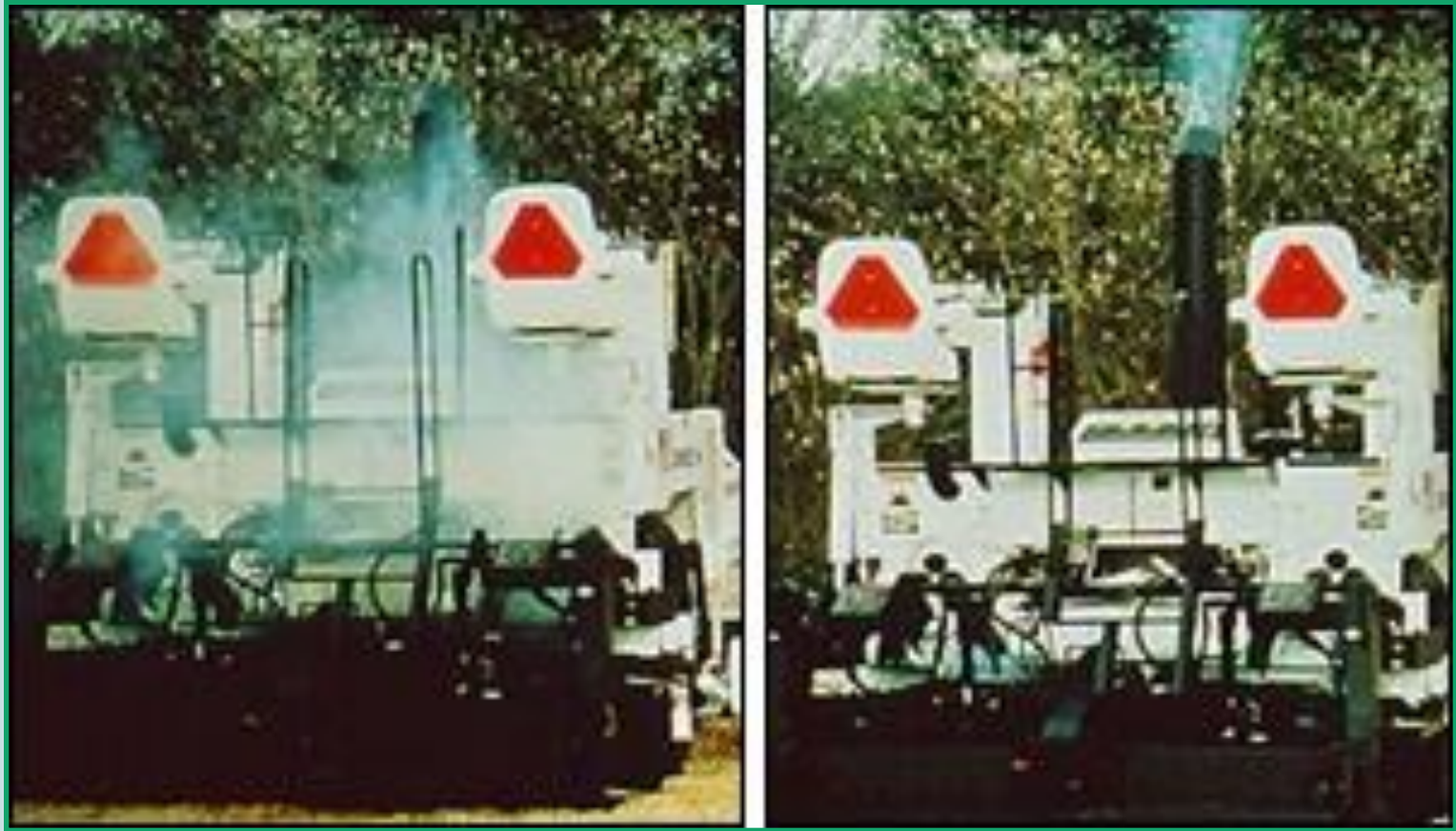
In another 14% of fatalities,
design-related issues
may have played a role.

From Driscoll et al., 2008



Photo courtesy of Thinkstock

Asphalt repaving

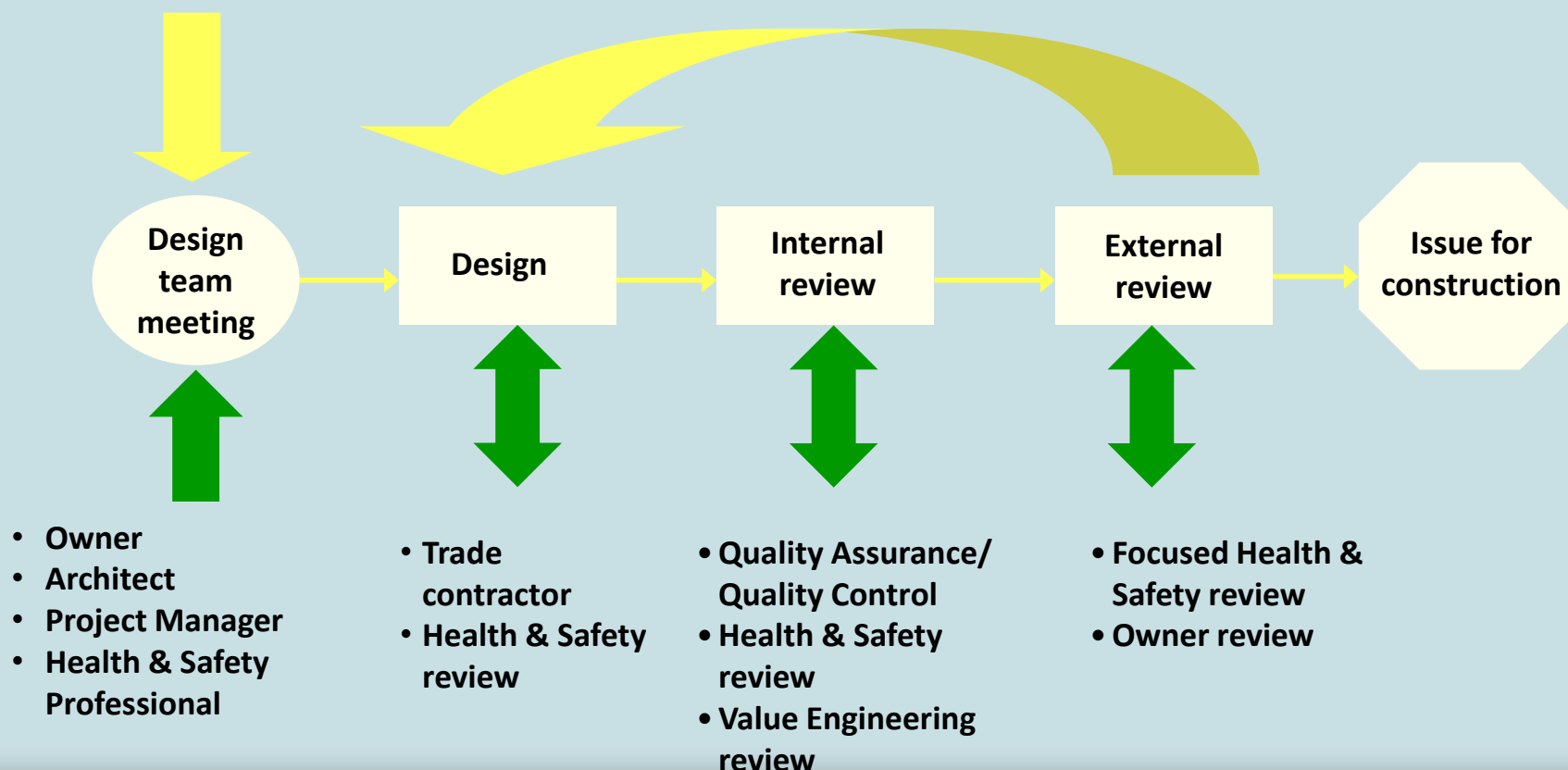


Before and after photos of asphalt fume emissions from highway-class pavers

Cervarich MB. Prevention through Partnerships. PtD in Motion; 2008 (Issue 2).

PtD Process

- Establish PtD expectations
- Include construction and operation perspective
- Identify PtD process and tools



Prevention through Design: Basic Steps

- Identify potential hazards
- Evaluate risks
- Eliminate or reduce risks
- Communicate residual risks to downstream users



Why Prevention through Design?



Photo courtesy of PakIndfun.com

Ethical reasons

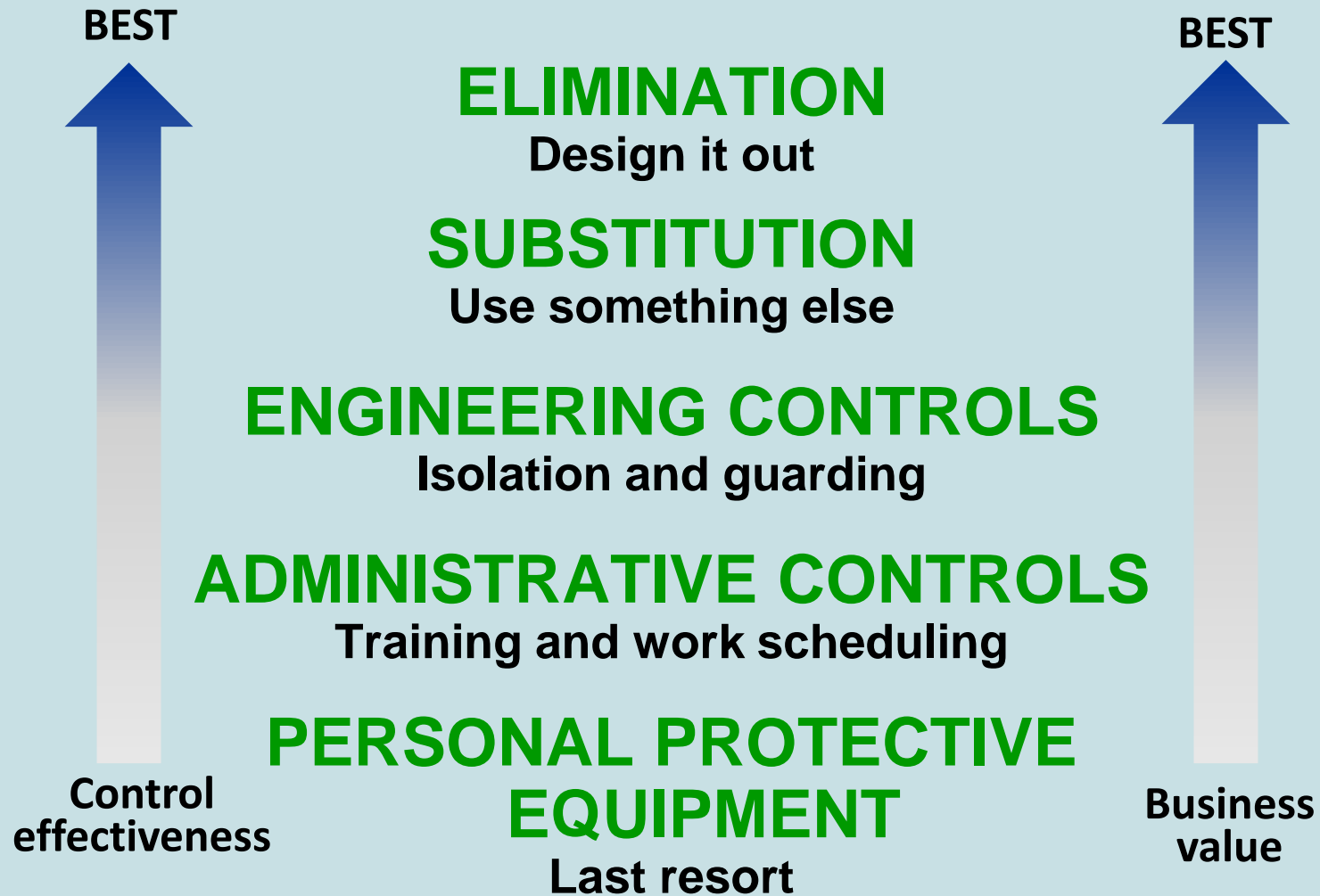
Construction dangers

Design-related safety issues

Financial and non-financial
benefits

Practical benefits

Hierarchy of Controls



Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Last line of defense against injury

Examples:

- Hard hats
- Steel-toed boots
- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Harnesses



OSHA [www.osha.gov/Publications/osh3151.html]

Clients Likely to be Interested in PtD

Industrial clients where shut downs are expensive

Hospitals

Lab facilities

Security and emergency response operations

Emerging areas:

- Smart Grid
- Microgeneration



PtD: Digging Deeper

Design is at the top of the Hierarchy of Controls....but safety and health professionals cannot do design alone.

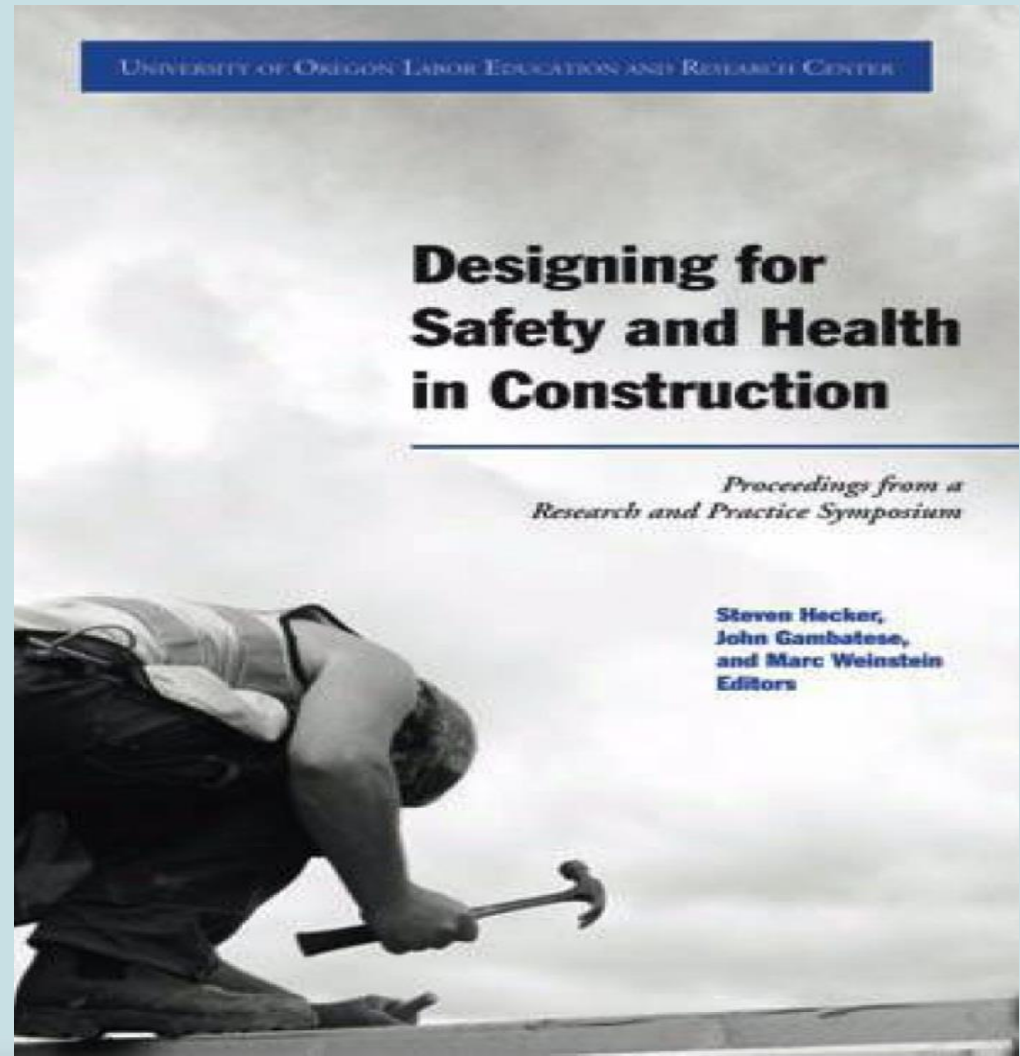
Design is done by architects and engineers – yet they do not currently recognize or appreciate the need, and do not have safety and health expertise, or may be concerned about liability.

→ Need collaborative effort to do PtD



NIOSH Construction Program and PtD

Supported the 2003
*“Designing for
Safety and Health in
Construction”*
Symposium in
Portland, Oregon



Accidents in Construction Linked to Design

22% of 226 injuries linked partly to design, 2000-2002 study in Oregon, Washington, California

42% of 224 fatalities in U.S. during 1990-2003 linked to design

60% of fatal accidents resulted in part from decisions made before site work began, 1991 study in Europe

63% of all fatalities and injuries could be attributed to design decisions or lack of planning



Education

PtD in engineering textbooks

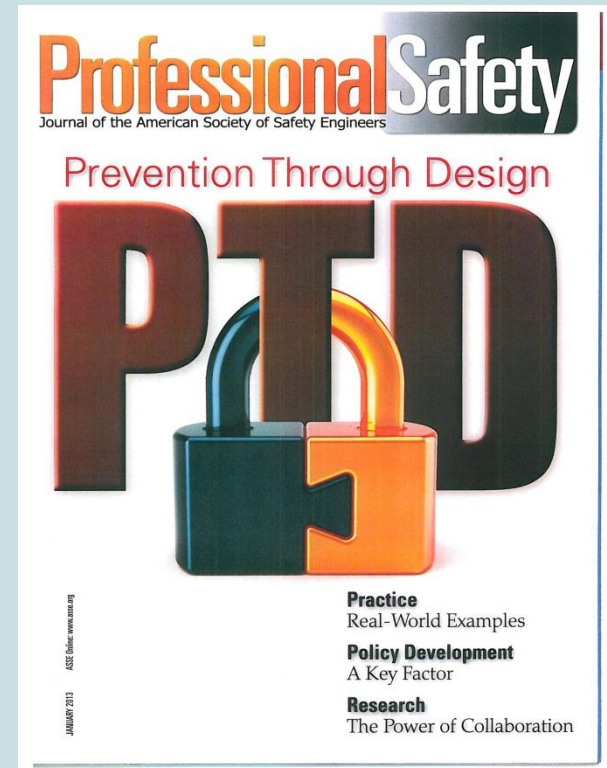
PtD in engineering and H&S curricula

- 2 dozen university partners
- ABET
- NCEES

Develop and disseminate engineering education modules

Develop and disseminate educational programs to health and safety professionals

- ASSE, AIHA



Websites

Prevention through Design web page

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/PtDesign/>

Research to Practice (r2p) case studies

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/PtDesign/r2p.html>

PtD and Sustainability

<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/ptd/greenjobs.html>

PtD 2011 Conference Proceedings

http://www.asse.org/professionalaaffairs_new/ptd.php

PtD wiki

<http://www.orcehs.org/wiki/display/orcehs/PtD+Case+Studies>



Business Value of PtD

Anticipate worker exposures—be proactive

Align health and safety goals with business goals

Modify designs to reduce/eliminate workplace hazards in

Facilities

Equipment

Tools

Processes

Products

Work flows

Improve business profitability!

Benefits of PtD

- Reduced site hazards and thus fewer injuries
- Reduced workers' compensation insurance costs
- Increased productivity
- Fewer delays due to accidents
- Increased designer-constructor collaboration
- Reduced absenteeism
- Improved morale
- Reduced employee turnover



Industries Use PtD Successfully

Construction companies

Computer and communications corporations

Design-build contractors

Electrical power providers

Engineering consulting firms

Oil and gas industries

Water utilities

And many others



Green Building on the Rise

- 76% of Architects
- 66% of Contractors
- 51% of Subcontractors

... believe that green construction will be the norm for their trade or profession by 2016

McGraw Hill (2012). Expectation of Green as a Norm for Firm/Industry by 2016. p 15



Is Green Construction Better?



Not Always



IDEA: Integrate Safety & Health into Green Construction

- **GREEN** building is on the increase
- Rating systems (e.g. LEED) are driving best practices
- How do SAFETY and SUSTAINABILITY relate?

Target: **Safety and Health community**
 US Green Building Council (USGBC)
 Architects and Designers
 Owners

LEED = Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design



ISSUES

- How safe is green construction?
- How do rating systems address safety & health?



OPPORTUNITIES



Can we promote worker safety and health as a fundamental dimension of true sustainability?

Can we encourage Prevention through Design (PtD)?

It is common to assume that green building projects are inherently safer for workers...

EXAMPLE: “Attention to environmental issues during construction leads to a safer and healthier work site”

Los Alamos National Lab Sustainable Design Guide, p64

...and common to overlook safety and health

EXAMPLE: “There currently is a **blind spot in sustainable design practice when it comes to worker safety and health... Tremendous focus is placed on materials, energy and the environment, but designers typically give little, if any, consideration to the safety and health of the people who install the green features or build the projects”**

John Gambatese, “Don’t Leave Safety Out of Sustainability” ENR Editorial, 11/18/2009



Las Vegas CityCenter—The Wake Up Call



Development wins 6 coveted design certifications (Las Vegas, NV)
- More than three months before it opens, the \$8.5 billion CityCenter development has received six Leadership in Energy and Environment Design (LEED) gold certifications from the U.S. Green Building Council....(*Las Vegas Review Journal*, September 14, 2009)

Six deaths during 2007-2008 construction phase
(Las Vegas, NV) - MGM Mirage's CityCenter



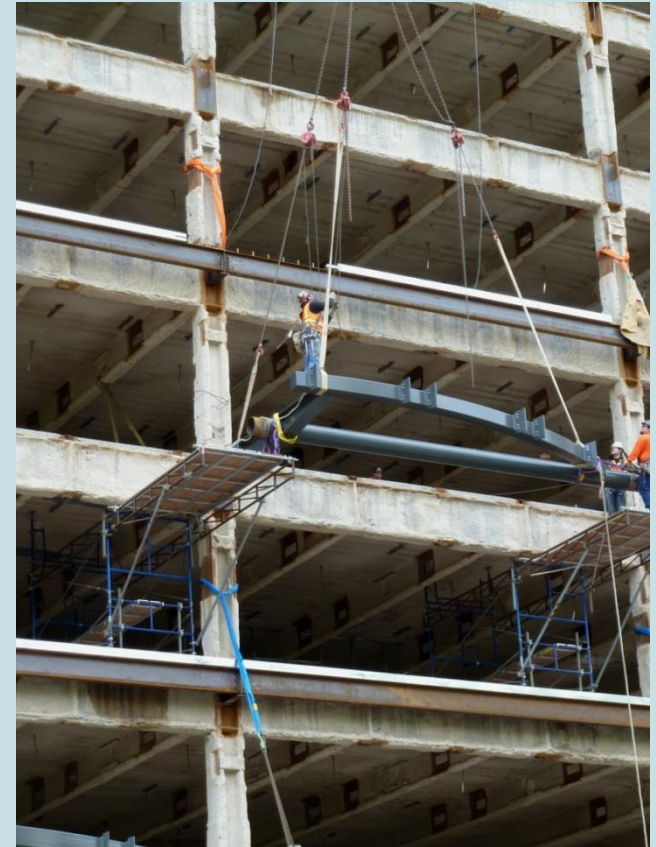
Construction and Maintenance Workers

Key role in building lifecycle

- Build
- Maintain
- Renovate/Refurbish/Replace
- Decommission/Demolish

Face many types of hazards

- Injuries: Falls, struck by, electrocution
- Illness: Silica, welding, noise, solvents
- Musculoskeletal Disorders:
Awkward postures, high exertion, heavy lifting

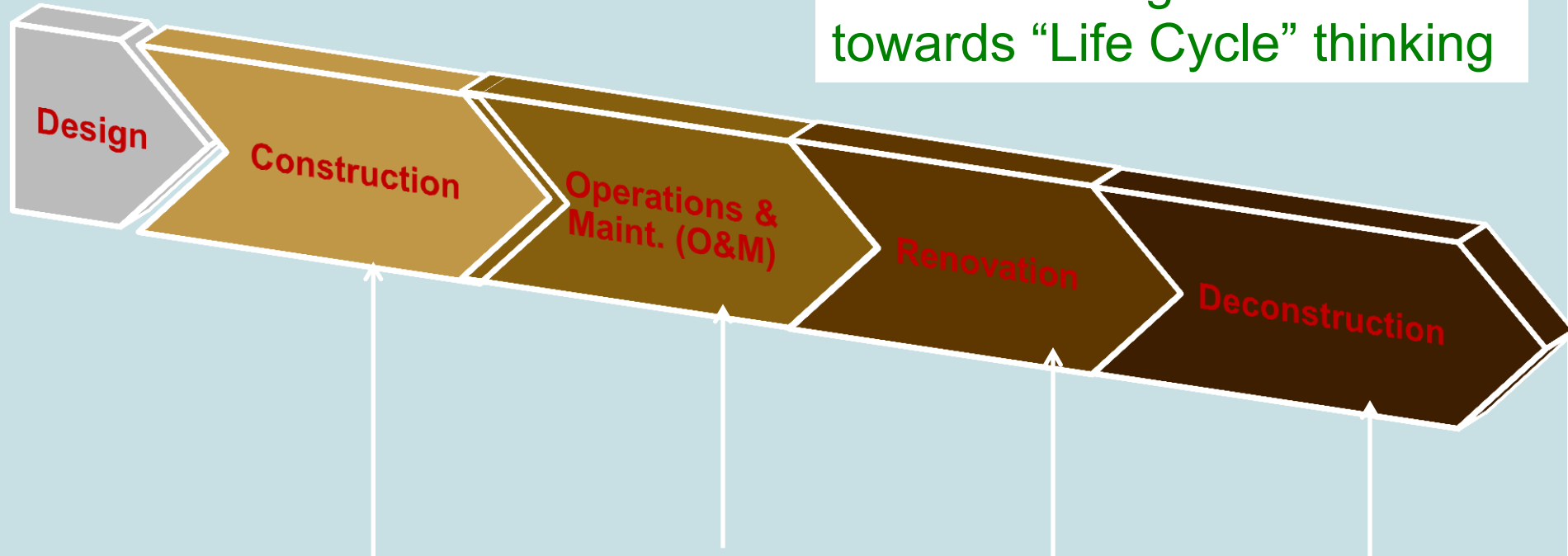


Renovation of Portland Federal Building
Photo: Matt Gillen

Strategies for Integrating Safety and Health into Green Building

“Life Cycle Safety”

Green building is oriented towards “Life Cycle” thinking



Construction and Maintenance workers play key roles in the built environment “Life Cycle”

Operations & Maintenance

Servicing rooftop HVAC equipment

Fall exposures

“Error trap” for workers

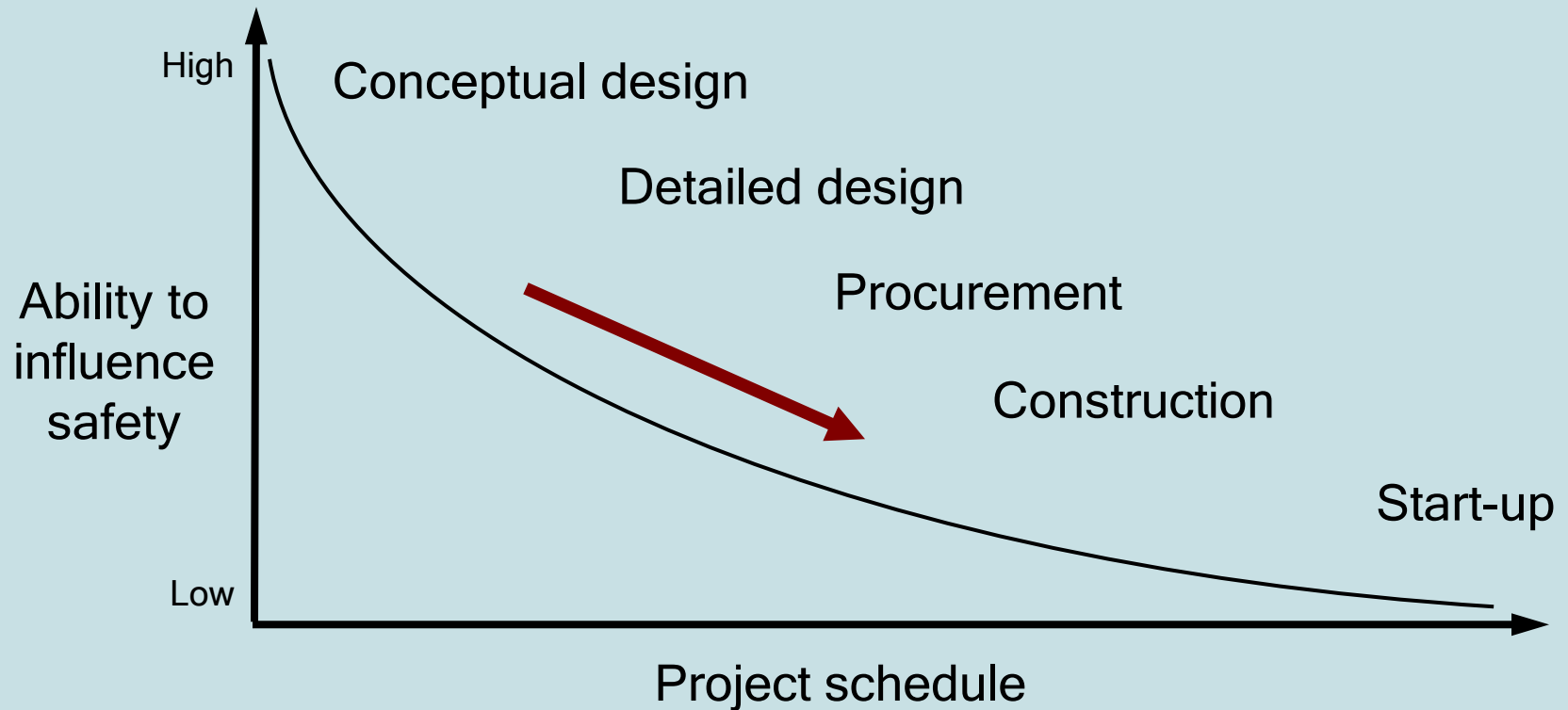
Design issues?

No access
No power
No equipment setback from edge
No fall protection

Photo: Matt Gillen

HVAC= Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning

Safety Payoff During Design



Adapted from Szymberski 1997



LEED includes some elements related to worker health and well-being

Building Occupants

Major LEED focus

Largest worker group – lowest risk

Custodial Workers

Minor LEED focus

Smaller worker group – medium risk

Construction, Maintenance Workers

Minor LEED focus

Smaller worker group → highest risk potential



But What is Missing?

Type of OUTCOME →	HEALTH & WELL-BEING	SAFETY	ERGONOMICS
↓ Type of WORKER	Illness	Injury	MSD Musculoskeletal Disorder
Building Occupant	Major focus via IEQ credits	Not addressed	Pilot Credits
Custodial Worker	Minor focus	Not addressed	Minor focus
Operations, Maintenance (O&M), and Construction Worker	Minor focus	Not addressed	Not addressed

NIOSH Perspectives on Sustainability

“As green and sustainable practices become more common in the U.S, there is an opportunity to promote worker safety and health as a fundamental dimension of true sustainability. ...

A sustainable product, process or technology should not only protect the environment and the consumer but also the worker. Green jobs must be safe jobs.”

NIOSH Science Blog: *Going Green: Safe and Healthy Jobs*, January 4, 2010

<http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2010/01/green-2/>



Help make the workplace safer...

Include *Prevention through Design* concepts in your projects.

For more information, please contact the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) at

Telephone: (513) 533–8304

E-mail: preventionthroughdesign@cdc.gov

Visit these NIOSH Prevention through Design websites:

www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/PtD/

www.cdc.gov/niosh/programs/PtDesign/



Summary

PtD is the preferred approach

- Working at the top of the hierarchy of controls is most reliable**

PtD provides potential solutions for tackling a major cause of fatalities

PtD provides opportunities for working with owners and clients to improve safety and productivity



“In many respects, PtD is a transformative concept for the 21st century. It views investments in worker safety and health as an integral part of business efficiency and quality, rather than as a cost. It is also a practical concept that has already been used successfully in several model applications.”

John Howard, MD
Director, NIOSH, CDC
November 22, 2010



NIOSH Directory of Construction Resources

www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/

Twitter

<http://twitter.com/NIOSHConstruct>

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With thanks to

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