



# STARK COUNTY

## SAFETY COUNCIL

2017 SAFETY COUNCIL OF THE YEAR

# member news

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## Forklift Safety: Operating Equipment Properly

*Provided by Curt Speck, President  
Safety Resources Company of Ohio*

**D**o you have powered industrial trucks (PIT's) in your facility? Are your employees trained on the correct procedures on how to safely operate forklifts?

Every year, thousands of workers are hurt and approximately 100 people are killed in Powered Industrial Truck related accidents. This is something that is almost always preventable yet it still continues to be a problem. There are many ways to eliminate these accidents in the workplace and it all starts with having a good training program. OSHA regulates how to correctly train, operate and maintain your powered industrial trucks. Some key points of the standard to remember include:

- Safety Guards
- Changing and Charging Batteries
- Fuel Handling and Storage
- Operator Training

**Safety Guards:** Should be in place unless operating conditions do not permit, if conditions do not permit the use of guards a vertical load backrest extension should be used. Forklift

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April 11, 2019

## “The ABC’s of Fall Protection”

Presenter: Matt R. Jensen, 3M Fall Protection and Conned Space Specialist, DBI-SALA & Protecta Brands

*April Luncheon will have a Food Drive for the Stark County Hunger Task Force—see page 3 for details*

### Spotlight Company

Concentra, a division of Select Medical, is a national health care company focused on improving the health of America’s workforce, one patient at a time. Through its affiliated clinicians, the company provides occupational medicine, urgent care, physical therapy, and wellness services from more than 520 medical centers in 44 states. In addition to these medical center locations, Concentra serves employers by providing a broad range of health services and operating more than 140 onsite medical facilities.



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**Stark County Safety Council Mission Statement:** *To provide a forum for safety and health information, education and networking in Stark County, through leadership, innovation, facilitation, program, and support, in partnership with other public and private organizations.*

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Load Backrests are designed to prevent the load from falling toward the equipment driver. This allows product to rest against a square, flat surface that makes loading/unloading safe.

**Changing and Charging Batteries:** With battery-powered industrial trucks becoming more prevalent only trained personnel should change and charge batteries in electric industrial trucks. Employees should be trained on emergency procedures in the event of an acid splash, including how to use eyewash and shower facilities in addition to training in battery changing and charging procedures. Facilities should be equipped for safe flushing and neutralizing of spilled electrolyte, for fire protection for protecting charging apparatus from damage by trucks, and for adequate ventilation for dispersal of fumes from gassing batteries. Smoking or other activities that can create a flame or spark are prohibited in battery charging areas.

**Fuel Handling and Storage:** Handling and storing fuels used for the powered industrial trucks should follow the NFPA Flammable and Combustible Liquids Code.

- Refuel only at designated safe locations. A designated safe location outdoors is preferable to a refueling area indoors. Do not refuel trucks in hazardous areas or around heat sources.
- Stop the engine during refueling.
- Do not smoke while refueling.
- Do not allow the forklift to become low on fuel or run out of fuel. Sediment or other impurities in the tank could be drawn into the fuel system causing difficulties in starting and actual damage to the internal components.
- Fill the fuel tank at the end of each day
- Do not fill the tank to the top; it may overflow because fuel expands as it is heated

**Train for Safety - Safety Awareness** training covers operating instructions, warnings and precautions for the type of truck the operator is authorized to operate. This includes the controls, steering and maneuvering, visibility and inspection procedures. Training should occur in a location that ensures the safety of all employees not just the employees participating in the training.

To properly train employees on forklift operations the following points are important:

- Employees must be trained by a competent person
- Each operator must be found competent in driving a powered industrial truck safely
- Training should be a combination of formal training and hands-on training.

Refresher training and evaluation should be completed at least every three years to ensure the continued safety of employees and should occur during the following conditions:

- Operating a PIT in an unsafe manner or a near miss.
- An accident/incident.
- Assignment of a new type of truck.
- A condition of the workplace has changed

OSHA puts an emphasis nationwide on forklift safety and training, don't be caught breaking the rules. Always follow your facility's specific safety procedures.

# ROBIN'S CORNER

By Robin Watson, Ohio BWC Representative

## Q: What is required for ladder inspections and why are they important?

A: With the change in weather comes construction season and outdoor work. This also means an increased use of ladders in the workplace and at home. According to ANSI “there are more than 300 ladder-related deaths and 130,000 emergency room visits related to ladders each year”. OSHA has identified ladder inspections as an important part of your job and highlighted this requirement in the following standards:

- 1910.23(b)(9) Ladders are inspected before initial use in each work shift, and more frequently as necessary, to identify any visible defects that could cause employee injury;
- &1926.1053(b)(15) Ladders shall be inspected by a competent person for visible defects on a periodic basis and after any occurrence that could affect their safe use.

Here are a few quick items to check before using a ladder:

- Visually inspect ladder feet to ensure that foot pads and feet assembly are present and in safe condition
- Inspect the rungs, rails, lock, rope, and pulley assembly of an extension ladder and be sure that all parts work properly
- Inspect the top cap, all steps, side rails, and locking braces on a step ladder before using.
- Loose locking braces or spreaders can cause the ladder to wobble and become unstable.
- Ladder inspections should include making sure that labels are readable and haven't been painted over or damaged.
- Check the rungs and steps for mud, grease, or dirt to avoid potential slip/fall hazards.
- Follow the manufacturer's recommendations for proper inspection and use of the specific ladder.

<https://blog.weeklysafety.com/blog/ladder-inspections>

<https://blog.ansi.org/2018/03/ladder-safety-priority-statistics-ali-ansi/>



Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

## Food Drive at April Stark County Safety Council Luncheon

The Safety Council will host a food drive to benefit the Stark County Hunger Task Force "Backpack Program for Kids" at the April 11th luncheon.

Please consider donating the following non-perishable items: single serve cereals, cereal bars, oatmeal packs, fruit snacks, microwavable meals and juice boxes. Monetary donations will also be accepted in the form of cash or check. Make checks payable to the Stark County Hunger Task Force. More information about this program can be found online at

[starkhunger.org/fighting-hunger/backpack-for-kids](http://starkhunger.org/fighting-hunger/backpack-for-kids)



# Drive Safe Through Work Zones

Provided by By: Stephen Gronow, Stark County Engineer's Safety Superintendent

**E**ven though I work for a road department, just like most of you I get a little frustrated when I see orange barrels, flaggers, advanced warning signs, merging traffic lanes, and long lines of traffic while driving thru Stark County. It means delays.

So, why do we get so frustrated when we come to a work zone? Impatience probably. Or maybe it's that person who sped by everyone and at the last minute and wants to merge in front of me, I'm sure you know the one. But, I do understand the importance of driving safe and being aware while I am in the work zone. Not only are work zones good, because that means that our roads are being improved upon and made safer, but it also provides jobs to our economy. Fines and tickets are very expensive, and an even more important reason is that people are actually working in this area. Not just any people; moms, dads, neighbors, family and friends. You may not be able to imagine what it would be like to go to work everyday on the road, where people are impatiently speeding by you. That's why I would like to educate you on work zone safety awareness. The road is our "place of business."



According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, work zone crashes and fatalities are on the rise:

- In 2016, nationally there were 158,000 crashes that involved 61,000 injuries and 781 fatalities in work zones. It was an increase of 63% more crashes, 60% more injuries and fatalities increased 9% from 2015.
- In the state of Ohio, from 2015 to 2017, the number of vehicle crash deaths in Ohio work zones increased 33% from 54 to 81 from our previous three year period.

The top three causes of work zone crashes are: 1) Excessive speed, 2) Following too closely, and 3) Failure to control (All these causes are preventable.).

With so much construction this time of year, motorists frequently encounter work zones. Please keep the following tips in mind when driving through work zones:

- **Pay Attention to the Signs:** They are located in advance of the work area.
- **Respect the Flagger:** Flaggers will get you through the work zone safely.
- **Avoid Distractions:** Such as changing radio stations, using an iPod, texting or talking on a cell phone while driving.
- **Stay Alert:** Keep an eye out for workers and equipment. Watch for stopped traffic.
- **Drive Courteously:** Merge with caution, and don't tailgate.
- **Drive Slowly:** Follow posted speed limits in and around work zones.
- **Buckle Up:**
- **Keep an Eye Out for Construction Workers:**
- **Be Patient.** Today's work zones lead to improved safety and mobility on your roads tomorrow.



What is the difference between a safe work zone and unsafe work zone? The difference is you! ***Drive safely, stay alert, and stay alive.***

# Safety Tip of the Month

Provided by Troy Mannion,  
Safety Director, Hilscher-Clarke

## Rescue plan & first aid in case of a fall while using safety harness

- Never work alone, always have a buddy with U in case U need help
- If a worker falls while wearing a safety harness with shock absorbing lanyard, & is unconscious, he **MUST** be rescued within an average of 18 minutes
- If not rescued within such short time, he might sustain fatal health effects due to the *suspension trauma*
- Make sure the unconscious suspended victim has no other injuries in the head or back due the pendulum effect
- If the victim is conscious & alert ask him to keep moving his legs and body as if they were biking, this prevents blood building up & becoming stagnant in lower limbs



*Dr. Wessam Atif © 2010*

## Upcoming Events

**April 10**—CEO Breakfast at Skyland Pines Event Center—8 a.m. Fee.

**April 18**—Work Zone Traffic Control & Safety Class at Local 33 Sheet Metal Workers Union Hall, Massillon—Free.

**April 25<sup>th</sup>** – Canton Regional Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner featuring Governor Mike DeWine – Canton Memorial Civic Center – fee. Register at <https://www.cantonchamber.org/2019-chamber-annual-dinner>

**April 30**—2019 SCSC Safety Awards Banquet—Skyland Pines Event Center —6 pm dinner—Fee.

For info on Stark County Safety Council events go to <http://starkcountysc.com/>

# FREE BWC SAFETY CLASSES

Free BWC safety classes available at North Canton Service office.  
See the [BWC catalog](#) for class descriptions.



**Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response Refresher**—April 2—8:30-4:30

**OSHA 10: Industry Safety Basics**—April 8-9—8:30-4:30 each day

**Flammable Liquid & Gas Safety Basics**—April 15—8:30-4:30

**Ergonomics: Basic Principles**—April 17—8:30-4:30

**First Aid in the Workplace**—April 22—8:30-4:30

**Electrical Safety in the Workplace through Insight and Implementation of NFPA 70E**—  
May 1—8:30—4:30

Go to [www.bwclearningcenter.com](http://www.bwclearningcenter.com) to enroll.

## Resources

- The BWC Library creates a monthly 'Safety Update' available at [www.bwc.ohio.gov](http://www.bwc.ohio.gov)
- Occupational Health & Safety Administration—[www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)

**May 9, 2019**

## “Mental Illness - Safety & The Workplace

Presenter: Ruth Scheufler  
LPCC-S, LICDC, Clinical  
Director, Aultman Behavioral Health

Spotlight  
Company:



## Safety Council Officers & Contributing Members

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# Stark County Safety Council March 2019 Photos



## March Spotlight Company Safety Resources

March Speaker Dan Sowry,  
Ohio EPAs Division of Environmental and  
Financial Assistance

