BE SAFE ON THE FOURTH OF JULY – FIREWORKS SAFETY FOR DISPLAY OPERATORS

By Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell, Esq.

OSHA and the American Pyrotechnics Association have created an alliance to help promote safety in the design and use of all types of fireworks. As part of this effort, the OSHA website lists the following 10 safety practices for display operators:

1. Make sure all personnel are trained and competent;
2. Obtain required licenses, permits, and inspections;
3. Maintain display site security and communications;
4. Wear protective gear and proper clothing;
5. Prohibit accidental ignition sources;
6. Properly install mortar boxes, racks and drums;
7. Keep fireworks cartons closed;
8. Keep fireworks dry and in good condition;
9. Always handle fireworks carefully;
10. Stay away from loaded mortars.

OSHA has similar fireworks guidelines and practices for others, including for retail fireworks sales at www.osha.gov.

If you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Jacqueline Bollas Caldwell of Krugliak, Wilkins, Griffiths & Dougherty Co., L.P.A. at: 330-244-2864 or jcaldwell@kwgd.com.

NOTE: This general summary of the law should not be used to solve individual problems since slight changes in the fact situation may require a material variance in the applicable legal advice.
ROBIN’S CORNER

By Robin Watson, Ohio BWC Representative

Q: Can I repair a damaged flexible electrical cord with electrical tape?

A: Possibly, according to 2011 NEC 400.9. The repair of hard service cord and junior hard service cord 14 AWG and larger shall be permitted if conductors are spliced in accordance with 110.14 (B) and the completed splice retains the insulation, outer sheath properties, usage characteristics of the cord being spliced.

Furthermore, an OSHA letter of interpretation states that: Nicks and abrasions which do not penetrate completely through the outer jacket of a flexible cord are not considered a safety concern for which corrective action, that is, repair or replacement of the flexible cord, would be required. Repair or replacement of the flexible cord is required when the outer jacket is penetrated or the conductors or their insulation, inside are damaged. Flexible cord not less than No. 12 American Wire Gauge (AWG) may be repaired by splicing the conductors with a suitable vulcanized or molded splice. Please note that removing a damaged section of a flexible cord on an appliance and installing an attachment plug and a cord connection on the two ends would not be allowed. Such a repair would result in an extension cord between the flexible cord of the appliance and the installed building receptacle. Under paragraph 1910.305(a)(2)(6), this extension cord would be considered temporary wiring which is not permitted for workplace use.

Please note that flexible cord and cable should be visually inspected for external defects, such as insulation damage, and for indications of possible internal damage. Also, use of electrical tape to protect nicks or abrasions impedes visual inspection of the flexible cord. Flexible cords found damaged or defective must not be used until repaired.

UPCOMING SCSC EVENTS & DATES

June 30—SCSC Fiscal Year Ends for the BWC Rebate Program

July 15—2013 2nd half semi-annual reports due July 15th. Do not submit before July 1, 2013


Spotlight Company

Coming Next Month
July 11, 2013

1st Safety Council Luncheon of the 2014 Program Year

To Protect & Serve—“Back By Popular Demand: A Visit from Our 4-Legged Heroes from the Canton City Police Department K-9 Unit. The Safety Council will also give an overview of the Ohio BWC Safety Council Program requirements as well as the benefits of being a part of one of the top safety councils in Ohio.

Safety Council Officers & Contributing Members

Chairman: Deb Schlabach
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Vice Chair: (Chris Zabel czabel@USSafetyGear.com)

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School’s Out? 

By: Gust Callas, Attorney at Law
BLACK McCUSKEY SOUERS & ARBAUGH, LPA
and Stark County Safety Council Steering Committee Member

The annual rite of passage for students happens at the end of May/early June when schools go on summer vacation. This means added dangers for students and drivers alike when traveling in an automobile and on streets.

Since school is out, many more automobiles will be traveling faster than 20 mph in school zones. Right turns on red will be more prevalent. More importantly, however, there will be more children outside: children on bicycles, with or without helmets; children riding bicycles at night without lights and reflective equipment; and more and more children playing on playgrounds or on the streets chasing balls, dogs, or just running. And, recently, there has been a phenomenon of basketball hoops being placed in the middle of streets with children playing basketball in areas not protected from traffic.

What does this all mean? More accidents in the summer months, especially in light of the increased distractions within the car itself: drinking a cup of coffee, speaking on a cell phone, texting (which is currently illegal), changing the radio station, etc. With all of the rest of the distractions within an automobile, the added number of children on our streets creates the inevitable that we will be reading about: more accidents.

The driveway continues to be the site of many accidents: toys and bicycles are left in the driveway; the blind spots behind vehicles backing up create hazards for children in the driveway; bicycles on the sidewalk or in the street; and pedestrians on the sidewalk. Even with a camera, back up sensors, and mirrors, accidents happen in the driveway.

To take a phrase from the real estate area, instead of location, location, location, we need to look, look, and look again.

Stark County Safety Council 2014 Season Pass

The 2014 Stark County Safety Council Season Pass luncheon booklet is now available! The cost for each pass booklet is $160. Individual luncheon cost is $16. By purchasing a season pass, you will get 12 luncheon tickets for the price of ten, for the luncheons happening in July 2013 through June 2014. The passes are good for the regular monthly luncheons only, which are held at Meyer’s Lake Ballroom. Reserve your season pass now by visiting StarkCountySafetyCouncil.org or contact Connie Cerny at conniec@cantonchamber.org or (330) 458-2061.
Remain an *Active Member* of The Stark County Safety Council to Receive Potential Rebates and Safety Awards from the Ohio BWC!

**Earn a premium rebate through safety education**

**Rebate eligibility requirements**

To qualify for the BWC Safety Council rebate, you must meet the following eligibility requirements:

2. Attend 10 safety council meetings**;**
3. Send a qualified senior-level manager to a safety council sponsored meeting;
4. Submit semiannual workplace accident reports for the 2013 calendar year.

Thousands of Ohio employers find value and workers' compensation premium savings by actively participating in their local safety councils. And you can join them.*

To earn a safety council rebate, employers must meet rebate eligibility requirements in one of 80 BWC-sponsored safety councils.

The following is a breakdown of potential rebates when an employer is an active member of a safety council:

- Employers meeting all safety council rebate eligibility requirements that are not enrolled *in a group-rating program* will earn a 2-percent participation rebate on their premium and the potential of an additional 2-percent performance bonus.

- Employers meeting all safety council rebate eligibility requirements that are also enrolled *in a group-experience-rating program* have the potential to earn a 2-percent performance bonus.

- Employers meeting all safety council rebate eligibility requirements that are also enrolled *in a group-retrospective-rating program* will earn a 2-percent participation rebate.

To earn a performance bonus, employers must reduce either the severity or frequency of injuries in their workplace by 10 percent or remain at zero.

BWC Safety Councils can help you:

- Learn techniques for increasing safety in your workplace;
- Learn how to better manage your workers' compensation program;
- Network with other employers in your community;
- Access useful, money-saving workers' comp and risk management information.

For more information, call 1-800-OHIOBWC. You may also visit ohiobw.com, and click on Safety services, Training services and Safety councils.

* The rebate offer excludes self-insuring employers and state agencies. Limitations apply to a professional employer organization and its clients. BWC encourages all employers to become active safety council members.

** At least eight through the local safety council. You can get credit for up to two meetings through attendance at BWC’s safety training courses or industry-specific training.
Calling All Safety, Health and Human Resource Vendors

2013 “Safety, Health & Human Resources Fair
Sponsored by: The Stark County Safety Council
Thursday, Sept. 12th from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Meyer’s Lake Ballroom, 3218 Parkway St., Canton, Ohio

This is your chance to network with more than 250 safety, human resource and health & environmental professionals
Gain fantastic exposure for your company’s product, service or technology

Cost: $100.00 per space if registered and payment is received by 08/01/2013
– After 08/01/2013- the cost is $150.00

Cost Includes: 1 Round Table w/ Linen Tablecloth & 2 Chairs (note: tables are not skirted)
Two lunches (*additional guests- $16.00 each)
Listing on The Stark County Safety Council Website and
Stark County Safety Council Facebook Page

Electricity is based upon request and availability- we encourage you to register early.
Doors for vendors to open at 9:30 a.m.
Vendors Must Be Set Up By 10:30 a.m. – No Exceptions
Nothing can be brought in the day before and all materials must be removed immediately after the Safety Fair.

Reserve your exhibit space today; contact Stark County Safety Council Program Manager, Connie Cerny at (330) 458-2061
or conniec@cantonchamber.org.

“The Stark County Safety Council was once again named one of the “top” safety councils in Ohio by the Ohio Bureau of Worker’s Compensation!”

Seatbelt Challenge Update
A great time was had by all.
Thank you to everyone that came out to support us!