

Maintenance Shop Hazards

Many of the items listed below could occur daily in maintenance facilities. Whether it's a large Dealership Group or a smaller operation, the hazards are quite similar. Take a few minutes to look around your work area and make the necessary corrections now, to eliminate any chance of injury to you or your co-workers.

Do you or your co-workers ever:

1. Fail to clean up a spill immediately after it occurs?
2. Remove equipment guards or tamper with safety devices or adjustments?
3. Use lifts improperly such as exceeding load capacities, not chucking tires, lift something other than a vehicle?
4. Fail to wear mechanic's gloves to prevent hand injuries?
5. Fail to wear safety glasses and/or face shield to prevent eye injuries?
6. Work in high noise areas without using appropriate hearing protection?
7. Wear rings, long sleeves, or loose clothing around moving machinery?
8. Use a grinder without proper wheel guards or failure to maintain proper adjustment of the work rest?
9. Lift or attempt to lift an object that its size or weight should dictate handling by two people?
10. Use ungrounded portable electric hand tools?
11. Allow frayed, missing ground prong or damaged extension cords?
12. Smoke inside or near flammable or combustibles storage areas or while working with such materials?
13. Improperly store compressed gas cylinders? Are they secure? Are they mixed?
14. Use compressed air to clean yourself off or compressed air that is over 30-psi to clean your work area?
15. Allow unprotected welding and grinding areas? Welding shields need to be placed around welding and grinding areas to protect other workers in the shop.
16. Paint in unapproved spray painting areas and improper storage of flammable materials?

If you've answered yes to any of these questions, it is likely that you or a co-worker will be injured today, tomorrow or next week. Consider the consequences. Is the time you save to take the risk really worth the time you will spend rehabilitating?

IMPORTANT NOTICE - *The information and suggestions presented by PMA Companies in this risk control document are for your consideration in your loss prevention efforts. They are not intended to be complete or definitive in identifying all hazards associated with your business, preventing workplace accidents, or complying with any safety related or other laws or regulations. You are encouraged to alter the information and suggestions to fit the specific hazards of your business and to have your legal counsel review all of your plans and company policies.*