

Information compiled by your Safety Committee from recent safety publications

EXTENSION CORD SAFETY

Don't Trip Up

In our modern-day lives we are surrounded by electrical devices. Everything from lamps and computers to window fans and televisions play a prominent role. **Each year, 3,300 fires and about 4000 injuries are estimated to originate from extension cords.** Power cords need to be kept in good working condition. With Christmas decorating just around the corner we have some tips to keep in mind.

- Keep cords out of the way of foot traffic; cords stretched across walkways are a tripping hazard.
- Don't allow cords to dangle from counters or tables where someone could pull them down or trip over them.
- Don't rest furniture on a cord.
- Don't run cords under furniture or carpeting, behind baseboards, or across doorways.

If a cord becomes frayed or cracked, stop using the device, **as it could present a shock or fire hazard.**

For any cord damage you find, it's safest to just **replace the cord.**

Do not use cords **outdoors** that are rated for indoor use.

After every use of an extension cord, **unplug it and safely store it.**

NSC's Family Safety and Health

OSHA's Final Rule on:

CRANES and DERRICKS

On November 8th, after a decade of efforts to amend the standard the new rules will be in effect.

According to OSHA

- **Approx 89 people are killed each year in crane-related construction incidents**
- **Estimates the new rule will prevent 22 deaths annually**

Overview of Changes

Employers must use **qualified riggers** whenever workers are within the fall zone and hooking, unhooking, or guiding a load, or doing the initial connection of a load to a component or structure

When is a signal person required?

- The point of operation is not in full view of the operator
- The operator's view is obstructed in the direction the equipment is traveling
- Site specific safety concerns

Employers must make the documentation of the **signal person's qualifications** available at the worksite, in either paper form or electronically

NFPA 70E

is the
standard for

Electrical Safety in the Workplace

Qualified Rigger

Possesses a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or has extensive knowledge, training, experience, and can successfully demonstrate the ability to solve problems related to rigging loads

Qualified Signal Person

- Knows and understands the signals used at the worksite
- Is competent in using these signals
- Understands crane dynamics involved with swinging, lowering, raising, and stopping loads and in boom deflection from hoisting loads
- **Passes an oral or written test and a practical test**

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Tony Arnone	Tom Boivin
Steve Crutchfield	Steve Lange
Chad Lothar	Phil Olsen
Dave Roy	Jim White