CSI Country Wide Case Study Safety Strategy Discussion

Construction Safety Investigator

Instructions

CHUBB

The objective of this tool is to provide field supervisors with information to proactively engage workers and discuss safety related concerns that they may encounter. Safety discussions should not be limited to the subject above and should pertain to the activities that workers will be involved in that may have the potential for safety related exposures.

Case Day: November 2008

Accident Type: Personal Protective Equipment Accident - Eye Injury

Relevant laws, rules and codes may include: 29CFR 1926.20(a)(1), 1926.21(b)(2), 1926.102

Case:

An iron worker suffered a serious eye injury when a metal fragment flew up and became lodged in his eye.

Accident Detail:

The iron worker was employed by a steel erection contractor hired to erect the steel for a new warehouse facility.

At the time of the incident, the worker was bolting up steel members. During the bolt up process, the worker was hammering a steel pin into a hole when a piece of galvanized coating broke off and flew up into his right eye.

The worker was taken to a local area hospital where he underwent surgery to have the embedded fragment removed.

Reconstructive Safety Evaluation:

- What are some of the possible causes of the accident being discussed?
- What actions could have been taken that might have prevented this accident from occurring?

Accident Scene Conclusion:

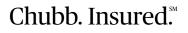
The investigation revealed that the iron worker was not wearing appropriate safety glasses at the time this occurred. He was wearing a pair of sun glasses he brought from home that did not have side protection or meet other required safety standards. Eye protection was not enforced on this project.

Preventive Safety Measures Include:

- All operations are preplanned using a Job Safety Task Analysis (JSTA) to ensure potential safety hazards associated with an operation are identified and appropriate steps are taken to eliminate or control them.
- Workers should be trained in the hazards of the work they are to perform, the personal protective equipment (PPE) and safe work procedures necessary to perform their assigned tasks.
- Employers should ensure workers involved in operations or who are working with machines or operations where there is the potential for eye injury are provided with approved eye and face protection (ANSI Z-89.1-1968).
- To prevent eye and face injuries, a policy should be adopted that requires 100 percent use of eye protection by all employees.

Attendance Roster

Reference: This case is fictitious, and any resemblance to any persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental. However, the type of accident described in this case summary happens all too often on construction sites.



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