



PO Box 14663
Grand Forks, ND 58208-4663
www.nosha.net ♦ info@nosha.net

NOSHA News

March 2015

General Membership Meeting

Wednesday, March 18th at the VFW, 312 DeMers Ave, East Grand Forks MN 56721

Our topic will be "Electrical Safety" presented by Jason Uhlir, Minnkota Power Cooperative

The Supervisor's Responsibility for Tool Safety

Supervisors are responsible for the safety and health of their employees. This holds true when ensuring employees are using tools safely.

The National Safety Council recommends that supervisors have a centralized tool room and tool room attendant, if possible. An attendant can help make recommendations for employees on using the right kind of tool as well as when to replace an old or damaged tool.

If an attendant is not an option, supervisors should check over tools weekly, NSC states. If your company allows workers to use their own personal tools, ensure the tools meet any necessary standards. Do not allow employees to use unsafe tools.

Using hand tools in unsafe ways is a major cause of injuries for workers. According to the 2014 edition of the council's "Injury Facts," hand tool injuries accounted for 43,250 cases involving days away from work in 2011. NSC recommends the following tips to help keep employees safe when working with hand tools:

- Use a bucket or bag to hoist tools from the ground to the worker. Do not carry tools up a ladder by hand.
- Never leave tools unattended and untethered in areas where they could present a fall hazard to workers below.
- Carry pointed tools in a toolbox or cart; never carry in a pocket.
- Regularly inspect tools and ensure workers know the signs of a damaged tool. Encourage reporting of unsafe tools.
- Have plenty of extra tools available in the event a worker needs a new, safe tool.
- Buy quality products. Many tools, including cutters, hammers and rock drills, should be made of steel and be heat-treated.
- Maintain tools. Tools require regular maintenance, whether by grinding or sharpening. Follow the manufacturers' directions.
- Do not ignore handles. Handles should be properly attached and, if made from wood, free of splinters.

It is the supervisor's job to ensure the tools his or her workers use are safe. This can be accomplished by following four basic work practices:

1. Ensure workers use the right tool for their specific job.
2. Ensure workers are using tools properly.
3. Regularly inspect and properly maintain tools in good working order.
4. Keep tools in a safe place.

Courtesy of National Safety Council's Safety & Health Magazine, March 2015



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NOSHA Evening Social

**Thursday April 2nd
5:30 to 8:00 pm
Al's Grill**

Please join us for an evening of socializing and networking with fellow NOSHA members. Food will be provided.

Bring a potential new member to have your name entered into a drawing for \$25 cash! If your guest signs up for an annual NOSHA membership, your name will be entered into a drawing for \$50 cash!

Please RSVP to info@nosha.net

Silent Auction from 5:30 to 7:00 pm.
Proceeds will go to fund future NOSHA events.

Thank you to the following companies and individuals who donated silent auction items!

**Border States Electric
McFarlane Sheet Metal
R & R Contracting
Hugo's
Minnkota Power
Opp Construction
Sanny & Jerry Ryan Center for Prevention & Genetics
Development Homes
Jason Uhlir
Sioux Shop at Ralph Engelstad Arena
Valley Dairy**

*If you still want to donate, it's not too late!
Contact Callie Wagner @ 218-779-4975
Or cwagner@minnkota.com*

Changes to General Membership Meeting Format

**11:30–12:00: Socializing, ordering food
12:00–12:30: Guest Speaker Presentation
12:30–1:00: Questions, discussion, announcements**

BOARD MEETING

Board members meet the first Monday of the month – 6:00-8:00 pm

NEXT MEETING March 30

2014 BOARD MEMBERS

Dan Mankie (President)
Cirrus Aircraft

Eric Pearson (Vice President)
CHS (Cenex Transportation)

Tony Vigness (Vice President)
Black Gold Farms

Callie Wagner (Treasurer)
Minnkota Power Cooperative

Cindy Holweger (Secretary)
Development Homes

Joe Strang
Valley Dairy Car Wash

Lyle Ross
Vigen Construction

Dave Opp
Opp Construction

Sally Miskavige
Opp Construction

COMMITTEES

Communication Committee/Newsletter
(Tony Vigness)

Visit us at www.nosha.net for the latest updates and announcements!

Education Committee
(Lyle Ross, Tony Vigness)

Upcoming GM Meeting Presentations
March: Jason Uhlir, Minnkota Power Cooperative— "Electrical Safety"
April: TBD

Membership Committee
(Dave Opp, Eric Pearson)

NOSHA is a non-profit organization formed to provide area safety professionals a direct way of sharing safety concerns, goals, and ideas to promote workplace safety.