

LOSS CONTROL

Newsletter

Value Your Vision

If you are reading this newsletter, first be thankful that you have your sense of vision. Some are not so fortunate. And if your job includes any type of activity that exposes your eyes to injury, take heed, and keep reading.

Eyesight is often taken for granted when performing tasks. It's why many workers don't wear eye protection.

We often use the example of the 25 year old technician who lost an eye when he was hit by a snap ring. Protective eyewear would have saved that eye (and the \$240,000 claim cost). Don't wait until it's too late. Your eyesight is a precious gift and is not replaceable.

Put your eyes in the same perspective as seat belts. You choose to wear a seat belt because you value your life; so choose to wear eye protection because you value your eyesight.



Almost all eye injuries are preventable, if you take the proper steps.

STEP #1

Get in the habit of always wearing protective eyewear. Modify your behavior so that you put on protective eyewear in the same manner that you fasten your seat belt when you get into any car – do it automatically and without having to think about it.

STEP #2

If it is scuffed, scratched, dirty or defective, replace it. In comparison to claims costs and the potential for loss of vision, protective eyewear is dirt cheap.

STEP #3

Use the right kind for the job. 94% of eye injuries that occurred while wearing eye protection resulted from using the wrong kind of protective eyewear.

Why is this important to you?

- 78% of eye injuries results from failing to wear any eye protection.
- Over 40% of those injured were wearing eye protection, but were wearing the wrong kind. Think top and/or side shields.
- 70% of injuries result from flying or falling objects and sparks. Those objects are normally smaller than a pin head.

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions regarding this newsletter or for additional loss control information, please contact Mark Valentine at 816-698-4611 or mark.valentine@aon.com.

Value Your Vision Cont.

What types of operations and activities present eye hazards?

- Activities that cause fragments or particles to fly through the air: grinding, hammering, working underneath, and assembly.
- Processes that emit sparks or cause dust, fumes or tiny particulates to become airborne: painting, spraying, sanding, and spot welding.
- Activities involving radiant energy or intense heat: electric welding and cutting with a torch.
- Activities that can cause gases, vapors or splashing: handling acids or caustics, chemicals, and pressurized liquids.



How do you know which kind of protection to use?

- When you are exposed to flying particles, dust or falling debris, use fully protective eyewear that covers the top and the sides of the eyes.
- When you are exposed to acids, liquids and chemicals, wear full facial guards.

What is not considered protective eyewear?

- Prescription eyeglasses – do not fully encase the eye area and will not properly protect the eyes against the hazards discussed above. In addition, the frames do not have the strength necessary to protect from being hit by heavier items.
- Sunglasses – are never considered protective eyewear, especially when welding, brazing or cutting. Dark glasses not specifically made for industrial applications can actually be more dangerous as they can fool the eyes and let in damaging radiation.

VALUE YOUR VISION! Your eyes are not replaceable, so don't take chances with them. The cost of eye protection (usually less than \$5) should never be an excuse for not protecting your eyes.

This newsletter is distributed by the Kansas Automobile Dealers Workers' Compensation Fund (KADWCF) to increase awareness and stress the importance of safe work practices.

Reporting a claim to Gallagher Bassett (GB)

Fund Account Number: 004352

Internet: www.risxfacs.com

Telephone: 1-800-779-6142

Fax: 1-800-748-6159

Email: tnwclaims@tnwinc.com

Dedicated Adjuster:

Josie Landes – Senior Adjuster

Phone: 816-216-5516

Josephine_Landes@gbtpa.com

(Per above, please report claims to tnwclaims@tnwinc.com.)

Claim related medical bills should be mailed to:

Gallagher Bassett Central Bill
Processing Center
P.O. Box 23812
Tucson, AZ 85734

Any other claim related information should be mailed to your adjuster at:

Gallagher Bassett
1300 E. 104th Street, Suite 200
Kansas City, MO 64131
or Fax to: 816-942-0695

You can also email the information directly to the adjuster. The preferred method to report claims is via the internet.

