

March 2019

Dear RETRO Members;

This month is [Save Your Vision](#) and [Workplace Eye Health and Safety Month](#). This is an opportunity to check your personal protective eye gear and make sure that your employees are properly using them. Remember eyes are priceless and eye protection is cheap!

First topic is: **Eye Safety**. Eye injuries are one of the most common injuries that occur in the workplace and one of the easiest hazards to prevent. What contributes to eye injuries at work?

Not wearing eye protection - The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that nearly three out of every five workers injured were not wearing eye protection at the time of their accident.

Wearing the wrong kind of protection for the job - About 40 percent of the injured workers were wearing eyeglasses without side shields, although some injuries still can occur when full-cup and flat-fold side shields are worn. Tight-fitting goggles offer the most complete protection and should be worn for liquid chemical hazards.

Flying particles -The Bureau of Labor & Statistics found that almost 70 percent of the accidents studied resulted from flying or falling objects striking the eye. Injured workers estimated that nearly 60 percent of the objects were smaller than a pin head. Contact with chemicals caused about 20 percent of the injuries. Other accidents were caused by objects swinging from a fixed or attached position.

More information on eye safety can be found here:

Good videos can be found at [RS SafetyTV](#)

[Safety Meeting Kit for Personal Protective Gear on Eye Protection](#)

The second item is: **Ladder Safety**. Just how important is ladder safety? Well, ladders are one of the major causes of fall-related fatalities, according to the National Safety Council's statistics. It is estimated that in any given year 65,000 individuals receive emergency room treatment due to ladder accidents. Most ladder incidents happen at ten feet or less from the ground. Remember to use the right ladder for the project.

Ladder handout is included in this packet. More information is available on [RS SafetyTV](#) and [SAFEME Essentials has a Ladders module](#).



Thinking safety for you,

Rick Means - CSMP

Safety Specialist

Retail Association Services

618 Quince SE Olympia, WA 98507 rmeans@waretailservices.com 360-943-9198 ext. 18