



May 2018

Hello RETRO Members;

May is **National Electrical Safety Month** and is sponsored by [ESFI.org](http://ESFI.org), an organization dedicated exclusively to promoting electrical safety in the home, school, and workplace. Their annual campaign is educating people about the steps that can be taken in order to reduce the number of electrically-related fires, fatalities, injuries and property loss, which can be found at <https://www.esfi.org/workplace-safety> .

First topic is: **Global Harmonized System (GHS)/Safety Data Sheet (SDS)** - This is globally recognized and brings a common format to labels, data sheets and pictograms which became effective in 2016. Manufacturers, distributors, and end users will be utilizing the same format – globally. Workers that use chemicals as part of their regular work functions; janitorial, paint stores and automotive shops servicing automobiles, should have been trained on understanding these changes. **If you have not yet done training**, the [RASI Safety Library](#) and [RASI SafetyTV](#) has more information on this topic. If you have additional questions or need help, please contact me. This is L&I's number one cited item for 2017.

The second item is: **Late Night Working Safety** - Employees who work alone or in isolation face an increased risk of confrontations or even violence, particularly if they are on shift during late night hours. For example, a lone retail worker may be more vulnerable when dealing with angry, difficult, or abusive customers. Even if an incident doesn't lead to a physical confrontation, it can still be stressful or emotionally traumatic for the worker. And if a lone worker is injured or an emergency occurs, how does the worker get help? The [RASI Safety Library](#) has section on *Working Late and Violence* to help you on this topic. Here is the [L&I Rule](#) for reference. [Downloadable slide show](#) (provided by WorkSafe BC).

The **SAFE ME** app <http://www.wrasafeme.org/> has training modules on GHS and the types of Workplace Violence. Have your employees take the lesson and email you their passing certificate!



Here at WRA, we want all employees to take the time and be safe! Remember, DOSH can fine your business if you do not have an Accident Prevention Program in place.

Thinking safety for you,

***Rick Means***

Safety Specialist

Retail Association Services

618 Quince SE Olympia, WA 98501

[rick.means@retailassociationservices.com](mailto:rick.means@retailassociationservices.com)

360-943-9198 ext. 18