



October 2018

Dear RETRO Members;

October 18th marks earthquake preparedness day with **Shake Out**. The Great Washington Shake Out is a statewide opportunity to practice how to be safer during big earthquakes: "[Drop, Cover, Hold](#)". The Shake Out has also been organized to encourage you to review and update emergency preparedness plans and supplies, and to secure your space to minimize damage and injuries.

First topic is: **Emergency Preparedness** – To tie in with the Shake-Out event, we want you remind you to evaluate your business as well as personal preparedness for any major disaster event. Taking the time now will give you the advantage of getting back up and running sooner. As part of its business continuity efforts, the American Red Cross administers the Ready Rating Program. This is a free self-guided tool to help businesses, organizations and schools become better prepared for emergencies. Click [here](#) to complete a 123-point self-assessment of your level of preparedness and have access to tools, tips and best practices to help improve your preparedness. There is more information available at the following links:

[RASI SAFETY TV](#) Major event preparedness

[RASI SAFETY TV](#) Business continuity

[Ready.gov](#) Business continuity

The second item is: **Blood Borne Pathogens** – You may think that that this is only for hospital workers or EMT's, but there are also opportunities that can expose you to blood borne pathogens. Work injuries, exchanging money, puncture wound hazards - such as garment tag guns, or when performing regular housekeeping chores, are all opportunities for contact. You need to be observant and careful of what you are doing when exposed to blood and other body fluids in the workplace. Hepatitis spreads this way. Included in this packet is a Blood Borne Pathogens handout. If you are regularly finding needles in your restrooms, get a [sharps box](#) installed to help protect your housekeeping employees.

For safety meeting presentation information click [here](#).

[RASI SAFETYTV](#) has a video on this subject.

Other helpful information from the Center for Disease Control is available [here](#).



## And finally: **Engine Lift Chains**

Some of you have engine hoists that require a lifting chain to get the motor out of the engine compartment. In L&I's mind, they consider these as rigging chains which would fall under [this rule](#) section 296-24-29423, subsection 1. If you are using engine lifts with just any chain you are **not** in compliance with the safety rule. You need to have a specific chain material – alloy grade 80 or 100 – that has been tested under ASTM standards. These types of chain will have a tag or specific stamp on them designating load weight and chain material. You may already have an equipment supplier that can get you this type of chain. Another option for where to obtain these types of chain can be found [here](#).

Let me know if you have any questions or need further safety assistance.

Think safe. Act safe. Be safe.

### ***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