

January 2024

Volume 25, Number 1

## **Maintenance Safety**

## FIELD EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS ARE ESSENTIAL TO A SAFE OPERATION.

Sometimes maintenance and repairs mean that production must cease, which may create pressure to take shortcuts and work at an unsafe pace. This can cause human error and increases the chances of injury.

## Tip of the Day – No job is so IMPORANT and no service so URGENT that we cannot TAKE TIME to perform our WORK SAFELY!

Basic rules to follow in order to lessen the risk involved:

 <u>Train</u>: Everyone should be trained and adhere to basic safety practices, which includes wearing all proper PPE and keeping a tidy workplace.



- Plan: Review the task, create a process and perform a
  job safety analysis (JSA). Both employee and employer
  need to fully understand the task and risk involved.
  Employers and employees should be knowledgeable
  and prepared to perform the safest methods to
  complete the task.
- <u>Secure the workplace</u>: The work area needs to be secured by preventing unauthorized access by using lock-out tag-out, barriers, signs, etc.
- Use proper equipment: Employers should provide employees with appropriate tools and equipment, which may be different from those that they normally use.
- Stick to the plan\*: For a plan to work as designed, the steps need to be adhered to.
- Inspection and clean up: Maintenance and repairs need to end with an assessment to ensure that the equipment can be declared safe. This information needs to be documented and reported to management. After management coordinates with everyone involved, the area needs to be cleaned, reported as cleaned, and then released.
- Final step: Go home the same way you came.

\*Occasionally a plan doesn't go as designed or unforeseen circumstances require an alteration to complete the task. Changes need to be properly communicated to management and a new JSA needs to be performed prior to taking action. Communicate, then act.

Training breeds the safety culture. Communication relays the safety culture.

That's how we achieve our goals – safely.