

ILLINOIS MASTER PLUMBER

ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF PLUMBING•HEATING•COOLING•CONTRACTORS

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September 2016

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EDITORIAL AND EXECUTIVE OFFICES

821 South Grand Avenue West
Springfield, Illinois 62704
Telephone: (217) 522-7219
FAX: (217) 522-4315
1(800) 795-PHCC

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PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Steve Stimson
Illinois PHCC President

Greetings from Central Illinois. I'd like to say Fall Greetings, but we're not quite there yet even though temps today are a super pleasant 77 degrees with low humidity. After all of the rain I'm looking forward to an awesome Labor Day Weekend! I hope everyone had the chance to take a break, relax & enjoy it with family and friends. Labor Day should have special meaning to everyone in the trade whether union or nonunion, so I'd like to give you a brief reminder of the reason we celebrate Labor Day according to Wikipedia:

Beginning in the late 19th century, as the trade union and labor movements grew; different groups of trade unionists chose a variety of days on which to celebrate labor. In the United States and Canada, a September holiday, called Labor or Labour Day, was first proposed in the 1880s. In 1882, Matthew Maguire, a machinist, first proposed a Labor Day holiday while serving as secretary of the Central Labor Union (CLU) of New York. Some maintain that Peter J. McGuire of the American Federation of Labor put forward the first proposal in May 1882, after witnessing the annual labour festival held in Toronto, Canada. In 1887 Oregon became the first state of the United States to make Labor Day an official public holiday. It became an official federal holiday in 1894 signed into law by President Grover Cleveland.

The form for the celebration of Labor Day was outlined in the first proposal of the holiday: A street parade to exhibit to the public "the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations", followed by a festival for the workers and their families. This became the pattern for Labor Day celebrations. Speeches by prominent men and women were introduced later, as more emphasis was placed upon the civil significance of the holiday. Still later, by a resolution of the American Federation of Labor convention of 1909, the Sunday preceding Labor Day was adopted as Labor Sunday and dedicated to the spiritual and educational aspects of the Labor movement.

Labor Day is called the "unofficial end of summer" because it marks the end of the cultural summer season (summer officially ends at the September Equinox anytime from September 21 to 24). Many take their two-week vacations during the two weeks ending Labor Day Weekend. Many Fall activities, such as school and sports, begin about this time.

Sorry for the long definition but I think we as a nation

sometimes forget to stop and celebrate our heritage, but also forget to be grateful for the many opportunities that are available to us as long as we work hard and give it 100% each and every day.

On another important topic, SAFETY, most companies have a Safety Director or someone that wears the "Safety" Hat in their organization, however I feel that safety is everyone's responsibility. As a field foreman myself, I feel it is up to me to ensure my crew works safe and has the appropriate safety equipment so they can return home in one piece each and every day. For that reason I'd like to bring your attention to National Safety Preparedness Month.

September is National Preparedness Month. National Preparedness Month affects each and every one of us, both at work and at home. The first area of concern is Mother Nature. Typically Illinois is not drastically affected by a hurricane, but as we have experienced in the past, the remnants of one can cause flooding here in the heartland. Are you ready for large amounts of rain? Do you clean your gutters on a regular basis? Is your sump pump working and do you have battery backup for it? Along with flooding, heat & humidity can cause storms that produce high winds & even tornados. Do you have a plan in place if this type of weather event hits your jobsite, your business, or your home? Do your employees and your families know what to do during such an event? These are just some of the questions you need to ask yourself. Although tornado season is officially over (March-August) being prepared is a necessity all year long. Be sure to plan ahead for Old Man Winter and any ice storms or blizzards that may come your way. Devise a safety plan and practice it at least once a year. FEMA has designated September as the month to prepare. We all get busy and say to ourselves – I'll do that tomorrow. Tomorrow never comes. Don't get caught off guard. Take the time to educate yourself, your employees and your family.

PHCC is always a step ahead. Their publications throughout the year have articles that focus on preparedness. Not only do they talk about weather related emergencies, they also address many business related emergencies as well. Who's in charge if the owner or president suddenly becomes ill, what steps are taken if an accident or injury occurs on the jobsite or in the office, and what action is required if there is a power failure or the computer crashes? Are your employees & co-workers properly trained? The

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

PHCC publications also remind us that as a business we must meet certain OSHA requirements for being prepared. As stated in previous PHCC articles, "The importance of emergency planning is emphasized by the OSHA requirement that facilities with ten or more employees have a written emergency action plan (EAP – not to be confused with an Employee Assistance Program). Organizations with fewer than ten employees should also have an EAP, but it may be communicated orally to workers without stepping out of compliance with the OSHA requirement". The Personnel e-bulletin is one of the many benefits to PHCC membership and contains articles addressing these issues on a regular basis.

October has National Fire Prevention Week – October 9-15. Fire Prevention and Preparedness is important all year long, but October is a great time to review your emergency action plan or create one if you don't already have one in place. Be sure everyone at work and at home knows the plan and has practiced the plan. Change your smoke detector batteries and be sure the correct amount of smoke detectors are installed in the proper locations around your home & business. Be on the lookout for many public service announcements that will be broadcast during that week.

Are you prepared not only to help yourself, your business and your family but are you prepared to help your customers in the wake of an emergency? Can you provide service in the wake of a flood? Can you continue to deliver quality service in the wake of a management crisis? Are you ready to help your business, family & customers survive a disaster of any sort? Hopefully you can answer yes to these questions. If not, seek assistance from your insurance agent, from PHCC, or from its partner, Federated Insurance.

PHCC can help with a multitude of safety issues. PHCC's Safety Program offers valuable guidelines to develop or enhance your safety training program. A CD can be purchased from PHCC for only \$50 (member price).

REMINDER: There's still time to register for Connect 2016. You should have received the brochure with registration info in the mail. This year the convention will be held San Antonio, TX, October 18th-21st. Just in case you've lost your brochure, don't worry, go to www.phccweb.org click on Connect 2016 for all the registration details.

"Ambition is a dream with a V8 engine"

Elvis Presley

Until next time,

Steve 

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPTEMBER 21, 2016

IL PHCC & Federated Insurance
Risk Management Academy
East Peoria, IL

SEPTEMBER 23, 2016

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
John A. Logan College
Carterville, IL

SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
Holiday Inn Express
Vandalia, IL

OCTOBER 14, 2016

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
Ramada Inn North
Springfield, IL

OCTOBER 19 – 21, 2016

PHCC Connect '16
San Antonio, TX

NOVEMBER 2, 2016

ERTC Backflow Symposium
Doubletree Hotel
Bloomington, IL

NOVEMBER 4, 2016

Illinois PHCC CEU Class
Rend Lake College Marketplace
Mount Vernon, IL

NOVEMBER 12, 2016

Illinois PHCC & Auxiliary Board Meetings
TBD



LEAD IN DRINKING WATER BROCHURE AVAILABLE

The Illinois PHCC, in conjunction with the PCA Midwest and Plumbing Council Midwest, has developed a "Lead in Drinking Water" brochure for use by PHCC member contractors.

The brochure provides an easy way for contractors to explain to customers about issues related to lead in water. It includes answers to frequently asked questions, links to helpful websites, and a Consumer Acknowledgement & Release Form.

Contractors doing any work related to removal/

replacement/repair of lead water services or distribution systems will find this to be a very helpful tool, especially the release form.

The brochure can be customized to include the PHCC member's logo and company information. If you are a member of PCA Midwest, you can obtain the brochure from the PCA/Plumbing Council website. Members other than PCA should contact the Illinois PHCC office at 800-795-PHCC, or bev@ilphcc.com or shelly@ilphcc.com. 📄

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DIRECTORY CORRECTION

Associate Member Ziel-Carlson has moved and has a new fax number and address. Please make the correction in your Illinois PHCC Directory.

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REVISIONS TO THE ILLINOIS PLUMBERS LICENSING CODE

Revisions to the Illinois Plumbers Licensing Code (750 Rules) became effective on June 17, 2016. Some of the changes were minor grammatical changes. The more substantial changes are summarized below. To view the most current version of the Illinois Plumbers Licensing Code go to <http://www.ilga.gov/commission/jcar/admincode/068/06800750sections.html>.

Section	Summary
750.110	Deletes the definition of “Conflict of interest”.
750.125 b)	Adds the Federal statute for the American With Disabilities Act.
750.210 a) – e)	Removes language regarding the duties of the State Board of Examiners and now references Section 7 of the Plumbing License Law.
750.300 a)1	Corrects the website address for IDPH.
750.310	States that the exam be administered in a manner prescribed by the Plumbing Code Advisory Council and the Examining Board. Adds ADA language for the license exam.
750.310 a)1,2,3	States that the exam will consist of Knowledge Assessment (adds fill in the blank questions); Construction Drawings (either on paper or electronically); Practical Application Assessment (using materials from Appendix A, Table A).
750.310 i)	Deletes the language stating that if an examinee fails to pass the exam, that they have to retake all 3 parts of the exam.
750.310 h) (was j)	Removes language that an applicant observed cheating shall appear before the Examining Board and the IDPH on the day the offense occurs. The person observed cheating will be immediately expelled and the exam declared void.
750.310 h) 1	Adds language of the intent to bar an exam applicant who was observed cheating from reapplying for a period not less than six months. The applicant can contest the IDPH notice.
750.510	Removes the Examining Board from the approval process of criteria for CEU sponsors.
750.510 a)1)C	Adds that the name, address, and license number of the plumber supervising a CEU course must be included in the sponsor’s registration with IDPH.
750.510 b)7	CEU sponsors must report any changes in the information in their initial registration before conducting their next class. (Was within 30 days)
750.510 c)3	The Department may deny, suspend or revoke CEU course sponsor approval and fine the sponsor for violation of requirements, including not reporting changes to their status prior to their next class.
750.530 a)2	Requires that a course of instruction in plumbing must be supervised by a licensed plumber.

750.530 f)	Requires that a training program’s facilities will be evaluated for its suitability for training in the practice of plumbing in all its forms.
750.530 g)1	If the Department finds deficiencies in a training program and/or their facilities, the program will have not less than 30 and not more than 90 days to remedy the deficiencies. The specific time period will be stated in the notice given by the Department.
Subpart G 750.710	Removes “Certification of” in front of Plumbing Inspectors. Removes the language that required all plumbing inspectors to be certified.
750.730	Removes “Responsibility of Certified” from in front of Plumbing Inspectors.
750.730 b)1	Adds: Any licensed plumber who inspects plumbing shall: Not inspect any plumbing that the licensed plumber has directly or indirectly caused to be installed, modified or repaired.
750.730 b)2	Adds: Any licensed plumber who inspects plumbing shall provide upon completion of a plumbing inspection, a written report, either in paper or electronic form, that sets forth the following: the specific violation, if any, with citation of the applicable code; the name, address, phone number, license number, and email of the inspector issuing the report; the date of inspection; the date or dates by which the violation(s) must be cured; the authority under which the inspection was conducted; and the name, phone number, license number, and email of the plumbing contractor and licensed plumber responsible for the work.
750.730 b)3	Adds: Any licensed plumber who inspects plumbing shall cooperate with the Department in any investigation or inquiry it may conduct concerning plumbing.
750.800 a)	For the purposes of subsections a & b, the term governmental unit shall mean a city, town, village, township or county with a water supply system or sewage disposal system or both.
750.800 b)	Regarding local ordinances: spells out how an ordinance is to be submitted and that the Department must review and comment on a proposal within 45 business days of its receipt.
750.800 d)	Removes the requirement that the Department must evaluate each governmental unit’s plumbing program at least once in a 3 year period. Now states that the Department “may” evaluate each program.
750.910	Removes “Certified” in front of Plumbing Inspector Violations. Makes all the requirements now apply to any plumbing inspector, whether certified or not. Adds that it is a violation for any inspector who fails to follow any directive or order of the Department.



WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE?

First of all, there is absolutely nothing wrong with the fixture itself. It is from a very reputable manufacturer, and is a popular item that we are seeing installed more frequently. The bottle filler portion of this water cooler unit is convenient for the user and a solution for too many plastic bottles going to the landfill. This unit meets the following code section: Section 890.720 Drinking Fountains
a) Design and Construction. Drinking fountains shall conform to the standards specified in Appendix A. Table A.

So, what's wrong? It looks like a typical high/low drinking fountain installation in a public building, but looks can be deceiving. These code compliant drinking fountains are installed at the proper height, and the activation element for the bottle filler meets the reach range as per the Illinois Accessibility Code. The problem is an unlicensed installer used an unapproved drain connection

between the two units, and not shown in the picture is where the maintenance staff cut the side of the drinking fountains so one could drain into the other. The manufacturer of the drinking fountain can supply accessories to properly connect the drinking fountains. Also, the water supply was not properly connected and there is never any cold water reaching the bottle filler.

According to the Illinois Plumbing Code, all plumbing fixtures and appurtenances are to

be installed as per manufacturer's recommendation. AND, by a licensed plumber, not unlicensed maintenance workers in a public building.

This month's winner was Scott Graves with G.A. Rich & Sons, Inc. in Deer Creek and he will be receiving a PHCC logo item. Is there a code violation on this month's cover? Let us know by emailing your answer to bev@ilphcc.com.



PHCC NATIONAL NEWS

REGULATORY AFFAIRS UPDATE BY CHUCK WHITE, VP OF REGULATORY AFFAIRS

DOE Circulator Working Group Update
PHCC continues working with the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and other industry stakeholders to establish efficiency standards for circulator pumps. Yet to be determined is what minimum efficiency level will be established as technologically feasible and economically justified. There are strong indications that circulator pumps would have required efficiency levels that could only be obtained with permanent magnet type motors (generally considered ECM motors). The working group has a Sept. 30, 2016 deadline to complete their work.

OSHA Clarifies Residential Confined Space

After industry encouragement, OSHA has provided additional guidance on residential confined space as applied to attics, crawl spaces, and basements (without out permanent stairs installed). A key clarification indicates that the mere presence of gas or electrical utilities do not necessarily cause these areas to become "Permit Required Confined Spaces". OSHA has modified its Frequently Asked Questions list to include a number of questions directly asked by the construction industry.

DOE Commercial Water Heater

The U.S. Department of Energy has issued a notice of proposed rulemaking to revise minimum efficiency standards for commercial water heaters and its associated test procedure. PHCC has been monitoring this process with Corporate Partner Bradford White and other industry stakeholders to review the proposed regulation. As presented, commercial gas fired water heaters would increase to a minimum 95% efficient class of product. PHCC filed comments during the comment period relative to



The advertisement features a red race car at the top with the text "1/3HP-60HP IN 24 HOURS" in a stylized, bold font. Below the car is a collection of various industrial pumps and components, including large black cylindrical tanks, smaller black pumps, and various fittings. The text "Champion Pump" is prominently displayed in a red, stylized font. At the bottom, there is a black banner with the SSPMA logo on the left and the text "Champion Pump Company, Inc. Phone 419-281-4500 | Toll free 800-659-4491" on the right.

the feasibility of installation of those types of products in hardship situations.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE BY MARK RISO, VP OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

114th Congress Going Back into Session

Congress will be back in session soon following its annual August recess. This will be the last gasp of legislative activity prior to the 2016 Congressional elections in November. Issues on the agenda that Congress will look to tackle this fall include a Continuing Resolution (CR) to fund the federal government, Zika research funding, gun control, criminal justice overhaul, and an initiative to impeach the current IRS Commissioner John Koskinen. The issue stems from the pre-2012 election and accusations that the IRS «bullied» conservative groups, including the destruction of backup tapes containing emails that were under Congressional subpoena.

Also, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce recently released a new study, “The Growing Burden of Unfunded EPA Mandates on the States,” examining ongoing regulatory burdens that are crippling states.

PHCC Disaster Relief Fund

As a result of the current flooding in Louisiana and other areas, PHCC has activated its Disaster Relief Fund to provide immediate assistance to members in need. Your donation will support members whose businesses have been disrupted by major disasters now and in the future.

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WADE BLOCKER (BIRK PLUMBING, INC.) WINS UA INTERNATIONAL PLUMBING APPRENTICE CONTEST

After four and a half days of theoretical and practical skills' tests culminating in a complex lavatory fixture build out platform that was critiqued by returning contest judges Bob Abbott (Abbott Industries, Inc.) and ASSE International Executive Director Scott Hamilton and others, UA Local 130 apprentice Wade Blocker (Birk Plumbing, Inc.) pictured above took home the top plumbing apprentice honor at the UA International Apprentice Contest in Ann Arbor, Michigan in mid-August. Blocker competed against six other plumbing apprentices from the U.S., Canada and Australia. The PCA and Plumbing Council, and the Illinois PHCC proudly congratulate Blocker on this outstanding achievement.



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Article and photo provided by the PCA Midwest.




PCA DELEGATION TOURS UA INDUSTRY DAY

An estimated 1,800 United Association instructors, union officials, industry leaders and plumbing and mechanical contractors attended the UA's Industry Day on August 17, 2016 at Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Several PCA contractors traveled this week to tour the UA's state of the art training classes and mobile units including the plumbing service class led by PCA contractor Bob Melko and PCA Board Director Brian Wilk of Bishop Plumbing, Heating & Cooling, Inc. Other PCA members in attendance included Local 130 JAC Trustee Derek Biba (Backflow Testing Services,

Inc.); Local 130 JAC Trustee and PCA Board Treasurer Brian Kennedy (Gehrett Plumbing, Inc.); PCA members Lori Abbott and UA International Plumbing Apprentice Contest Judge Bob Abbott (Abbott Industries, Inc.); PCA member Patrick Birk (Birk Plumbing, Inc.); and PCA & Plumbing Council Director of Communications & Public Affairs Jeff Weiss. The PCA and Plumbing Council delegation was also on hand as they cheered on UA Local 130 member Wade Blocker (Birk Plumbing, Inc.) who competed against six other plumbing apprentices representing the U.S., Canada and Australia vying for the highest apprentice skills' honor in our industry.



Photo caption: (From left) PCA member Patrick Birk (Birk Plumbing, Inc.) and Local 130 JAC Trustee, PCA Board Treasurer and PCA member Brian Kennedy (Gehrett Plumbing, Inc.) test out the UA mobile education trailers set up at the UA Industry Day in Ann Arbor, MI.

Article and photo provided by the PCA Midwest. 



2016-2017 Continuing Education for Illinois Licensed Plumbers

<u>Date/Time</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Fee</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> **September 23, 2016 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	John A. Logan College, Carterville, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **September 24, 2016 – 8:00 am-12:00 pm	Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Vandalia, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **October 14, 2016 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Ramada Springfield North, Springfield, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **November 4, 2016 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Rend Lake College Marketplace, Mt. Vernon, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **January 13, 2017 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **February 24, 2017 – 1:00 pm-5:00pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **March 24, 2017 - 9:00 am -1:00pm	Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, IL	\$35.00

No Walkins – No Exceptions. All Registrations for the March 24 class must be received before March 1, 2017

<input type="checkbox"/> **April 7, 2017 – 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	Rend Lake College Marketplace, Mt. Vernon, IL	\$50.00
<input type="checkbox"/> **April 21, 2017 - 1:00 pm-5:00 pm	*Heartland College, Bloomington/Normal, IL	\$75.00

****State hours for Certified Plumbing Inspectors**
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IMPORTANT:

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Cancellation Policy: IL PHCC reserves the right to cancel a course due to insufficient enrollment. If we cancel a course, you will be notified and your pre-registration will be refunded to you or you may transfer to another location. There is no refund for any registration not cancelled (10) working days prior to the class. Cancellations made prior to (10) working days will be charged a \$15.00 cancellation fee. There will be a \$50.00 service charge for any checks returned due to insufficient funds.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Illinois PHCC Association will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities at its meetings. Please call 217-522-7219 with any special requests.



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Total amount enclosed \$ _____

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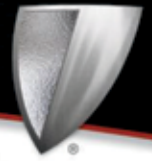
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The Unpleasant Side of Cyber Space

The Internet connects businesses of all sizes to data networks and computer systems around the world. It also exposes companies to hackers, viruses, and other computer attacks. And, let's face it, there is no such thing as perfect computer security. Whether by hacker, glitch, or employee error, **many businesses will experience a data breach incident at some point.**

Knowing a breach is practically inevitable, and the recovery cost potentially devastating from a financial, public image, and regulatory enforcement standpoint, how does a business owner protect his or her organization?

A few years back, Hartford Steam Boiler Inspection and Insurance Company (HSB) teamed up with The Ponemon Institute to conduct a study of small businesses and the impact of data breaches. Their findings are eye-opening and informative, and can serve to inspire business owners everywhere to take steps to protect their valuable data.

- Fifty-five percent of small companies have experienced at least one data breach; 53 percent have experienced multiple breaches.
- Only a third of small businesses notified people that their personal information had been compromised, even though 47 states require notification.
- Nearly three-fourths of companies that experienced a breach were not able to fully restore their company's computer data.

Most common causes of data breaches:

- Employee error
 - Lost/stolen hardware
 - Inadequate safeguarding procedures
-

The research also revealed the three most likely causes of data breaches. More than half were due to employee mistakes. Forty-two percent involved lost or stolen hardware (laptops, smart phones, tablets, and storage media such as USBs and back-up drives). And, more than a third were a result of procedural inadequacies.

But, the breaches aren't caused only by internal errors. There is also a significant exposure when exchanging information with outside entities:

- Eighty-five percent of businesses share customer and employee data with third parties, such as those providing services for billing, payroll, employee benefits, and information technology. Most do not have contracts that require third parties to cover all the costs associated with a data breach.

As cyber-crimes get more sophisticated, your defense against them needs to keep pace. Federated Insurance can help you learn ways to minimize the risk of a breach, and, if you are a Federated client, you also have access to a seven step cyber security plan through Federated's Shield Network[®]. To learn more, visit www.federatedinsurance.com.

This article is intended to provide general information and recommendations regarding risk prevention only. There is no guarantee that following these guidelines will result in reduced losses or eliminate any risks. This information may be subject to regulations and restrictions in your state and should not be considered legal advice. Qualified counsel should be sought regarding questions specific to your circumstances and applicable state laws. © 2016 Federated Mutual Insurance Company. All rights reserved.

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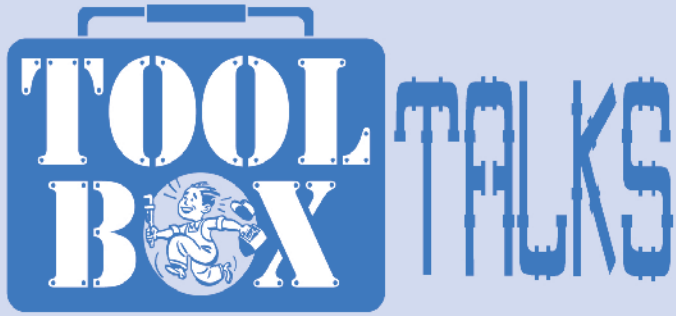
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ANTICIPATE ACCIDENTS

Another important ToolBox Talk brought to you by the Quality Service Contractors (QSC) – An Enhanced Service Group of PHCC, P.O. Box 6808, Falls Church, VA 22040.

Ph. 800-533-7694. Visit our website at: <http://www.qsc-phcc.org>.

ANTICIPATE ACCIDENTS

One of the key words in accident prevention is “anticipate”. By anticipating what could happen, it’s possible to take safety steps to prevent an accident.

One of the steps we can take is to investigate all near miss accidents. We should always be on the lookout for unsafe practices and for accidents that do not result in injury.

Injury analyses prove that, in the average case, for every mishap resulting in an injury there are many other similar accidents that cause no injuries.

One study of the problem revealed that for every major injury there is an average of 329 other opportunities to eliminate the problem. This means that an employee, either because of his or her repeated unsafe action or repeated exposure to an unsafe mechanical condition, suffers on the average 300 no-injury accident and 29 minor injuries before a major lost-time injury occurs.

Other studies

have indicated the opportunities to prevent a major injury can be as high as 600 incidents.

So we see that accidents do not have to result in injury. But, they are strong indications that something is wrong. If not remedied in time, they may very well result in major lost-time injury.

We know that accidents with personal injury, however minor they may be, occur frequently. They are expensive and add to the cost of production. Preventing these accidents is important.

When an accidental injury does occur, unsafe practices probably had previously been committed. There probably had also been previous narrow escapes. If you stumble, fall, and sustain an injury,

chances are that this was not the first time that you stumbled and fell.

If you have a near miss while driving your car, do you take corrective action to prevent the same type of near miss from happening again? If not, you should.



If you find yourself hitting your brakes in a panic stop, it may very well be that you are following the car ahead of you too closely. You should take action to prevent this from happening again.

How many times do we have to have a narrow miss before we get the message? If we really believe in safety and want to avoid personal injury, one near miss should be enough. Near misses or no-injury accidents, as well as injuries, must be investigated.

Report all accidents to your supervisor. If you don't, eventually the law of averages will catch up with you – changing that near miss into a serious injury.

So, let's try and anticipate what could happen by being aware of near misses and reporting them. In this way we can play a big part in preventing accidents.

Remember to practice safety. Don't learn it by accident.



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2016 WORLD PLUMBING COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The World Plumbing Council (WPC) Chairman, Mr. Sudhakaran Nair has officially launched the WPC Education and Training Scholarship Program for 2016.

The World Plumbing Council offer two scholarship opportunities, one for applicants from Developed countries and another for Developing or Least Developed countries.

All members of the plumbing industry are invited to apply for these industry scholarship programs. Each of the scholarships provides up to US\$10,000 in funding to cover approved expenses for the duration of the program.

The scholarships are intended to provide for an educational exchange between countries focusing on plumbing industry training, while at the same time exposing the participants to new technologies and innovations in training systems. They also provide an opportunity to increase awareness of the contribution that plumbing has made to global health and the environment. Participants have an opportunity to gain knowledge of the industry, technology, training and systems which can be applied to improve standards in their own countries.

The program also enables participants to experience the culture, language and work practices of other countries and provides a platform for networking and relationship building.

Mr. Sudhakaran Nair, Chair of the WPC said “From my observations these scholarships have the potential to deliver life changing opportunities

for applicants in gaining invaluable skills and knowledge of plumbing practices from around the world.” He also stated that “the scholarship program now offered by the World Plumbing Council was a significant step towards achieving its mission, to promote the role of plumbing in improving public health and safeguarding the environment, by uniting the World Plumbing Industry for the benefit of all.”

Scholarship applicants are encouraged to focus on these areas during their scholarship program;

- Identification of emerging vocational training needs and trends
- Plumbing training & education to address the environment and sustainability issues
- The value of water efficiency to the community and the plumbing industry
- How does plumbing training or lack of training affect public health in a country or region?

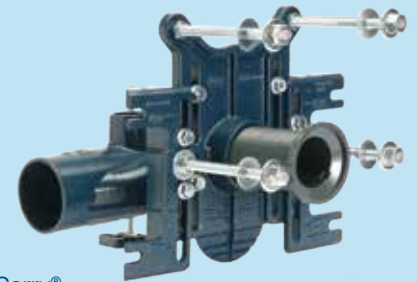
Applications close on the 22nd September 2016 and the WPC would like to encourage candidates from all areas of the global Plumbing Industry to apply.

Please visit www.worldplumbing.org to see the reports of previous recipients and to download an application for either of the 2016 Scholarships.





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