



Network Bulletin

Refrigeration/Air Conditioning

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SAFETY BULLETIN #13 HANDLING

Statistics have shown that certain types of lost-time-injuries are more prevalent to HVAC Work. This bulletin has been prepared to create awareness and suggest solutions to reduce these causes of lost-time-injuries.

Case Histories

HVAC/R mechanic was handling an exhaust fan when fan slipped and struck his knee, bruising it.

HVAC/R mechanic was handling 5 lbs. of rubber gaskets when the tie wrap from packaging whipped backwards and struck his eye.

HVAC/R mechanic was handling freon from air conditioning unit when it splashed on worker's face and hands, burning them.

HVAC/R apprentice was handling material while on scaffold when scaffold collapsed and worker fell, injuring his left arm and foot.

HVAC/R mechanic developed tennis elbow after handling pipe over an extended period of time.

HVAC/R mechanic was handling 8' piece of pipe when he cut his fingers.

Activity

Handling pipe, metal, chemicals or other HVAC equipment/ material continues to be a factor in lost-time injuries for HVAC/R Work.

Prevention

- Maintain scaffolds in safe condition and use with precautions.
- Wear proper personal protective equipment at all times (gloves, eyewear).
- Use proper stance and grip when handling material.
- Incorporate materials handling during weekly toolbox talks.

Please photocopy this bulletin and distribute as widely as possible



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