

## For Your Safety: June is National Safety Month

Recently the U.S. Senate unanimously passed a resolution declaring June 2006 as National Safety Month. The goal of National Safety Month is to raise public awareness about safety and injury prevention in hopes of reducing workplace deaths and injuries. The month of June was selected because there is historically an increase in the number of injuries and fatalities as the country moves into the busy summer months. So what does this mean to you? It is an opportunity to take a step back and think about how safe you are at work, behind the wheel and at home. Ask yourself the following questions:

- Do I ever hurry and take unsafe short cuts to get the job done?
- Do I wear my safety equipment all the time or just when the boss is around?
- Do I remind co-workers to act safe or is that someone else's job?
- How much do I talk on the cell phone while driving a vehicle?
- Do I drive at unsafe speeds?
- Do I always wear my seatbelt?
- At home, do I store gasoline and other hazardous chemicals where my kids can get to them?
- Does my family know what to do in case of an emergency?
- Do I teach my kids about safety?
- What do I have to lose?

How you answer the questions may give you some insight on how safe you are. Take a look at the last question again. What would your life be like if you suffered a crippling injury? What would happen to your family? What you have to lose by doing something unsafe always outweighs what you have to gain. Take advantage of National Safety Month by doing your part in "Making Our World a Safer Place." To learn more about National Safety Month, visit the National Safety Council's website at [www.NSC.org](http://www.NSC.org).

## For Your Information: OSHA issues first aid guidelines

OSHA recently released new guidelines designed to assist workplaces in meeting OSHA standard 29 CFR 1910.151, which requires employers to have people at jobsites who are trained in first aid.

"Fundamentals of a Workplace First Aid Program" urges employers to give a specific employee the responsibility for choosing and maintaining the types and amounts of first aid supplies. The guidelines also discuss automated external defibrillators in the workplace. A 28 page best practice guide can be downloaded at: <http://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3317first-aid.pdf>.

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