Safety in Carpet Collections

Recycler faces fine, possible prison time from EPA over hazardous waste

By: Jim Johnson

January 13, 2015

The owner of a plastics recycling company in El Dorado, Kan., faces the possibility of prison time and a fine over the handling of hazardous waste, according to federal authorities.

Integrated Plastics Solutions LLC also will pay more than $118,000 in restitution to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency after allowing paints and solvents to be dumped on its grounds, U.S. Attorney Barry Grissom said in a statement.

The owner of Integrated Plastic Solutions, Brian J. Riley, of Andover, Kan., faces a maximum penalty of up to one year in prison and a fine of up to $100,000 after pleading guilty to one count of negligent exposure to a hazardous air pollutant, Grissom said.
Risk Management is Simple
Layers of Protection

- Procedures, Training, Observation
- PPE
- Equipment
- Determination
Injury and Fatality Statistics

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) 2013 Injury and Fatalities in the Waste and Recycling Industry showed little change:

- Injuries in the last 3 years totaled:
  - 2011: 6870
  - 2012: 5880
  - 2013: 5500
Fatalities in the Waste and Recycling Industry in the last 3 years totaled:

- 2011: 35
- 2012: 32
- 2013: 31

How can injuries and fatalities be prevented in the Waste & Recycling Industry?
Agenda

1. What is Risk and Safety?
2. PPE
3. Equipment Safety
4. Transportation Safety
5. Area Safety
6. Challenge to Change
RISK – More than a four letter WORD

RISK Management in Safety World comes in two types:

• Process Safety
• Personal Safety
A hazard is anything that can cut you
A hazard is anything that can trip you.
A hazard is anything that can burn you
A hazard is anything that can crush you.
A hazard is anything that can hurt your hearing.
A hazard is anything that can hurt your eyes.
A hazard is anything that can make you sick.
A hazard is anything that can cause you pain.
Comparison of Workplace Incident Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Incidents Per 200,000 Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utilities</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wholesale</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leisure &amp; Hospitality</td>
<td>3.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal Mining</td>
<td>3.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail</td>
<td>3.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>3.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education &amp; Health Services</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agriculture/Forestry/Fishing/Hunting</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation &amp; Warehousing</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: 2010 data from Peabody; U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety & Health Administration; Mine Safety and Health Administration
The Bird Triangle

A study by Frank E. Bird into the relationship between varying incident severity

Fatality or Major Accident

Minor Accidents

Property Damage

Close Calls
PPE

- Safety Glasses – Lint, Other flying debris
- **Vests** – Fork Truck traffic
- **Gloves** – metal contaminates, cuts/sharps
- Shoes – Covered toe and heel
- Ear Plugs (if over 83db) – Loud equipment
Tools

• Knife – **Correct knife** for the job
  – Box cutter
  – Hook bill knife
  – Scissors
  – Electric shear

• Regardless of the type, a **sharp knife** will lower the **risk** of injuries
Powered Equipment

• Baler – Follow the factory instructions for operating baler
  – Never enter a baler (LOTO)

• Conveyor Systems – Moving belts present hazards
  – Pinch points
  – Opportunity to be pulled by or into the belt by clothing or hair
Lift Trucks

• Anyone operating a lift vehicle must be properly trained on the type of lift and on hazards the operator will face in the facility of operation
• Operators must always wear a seatbelt
• The vehicle must be of size and capacity rating for the load to be carried
• Loading Procedures for trucks
Lift Trucks
Video of Fork Truck accident
Material Handling

- Stack baled material in a stable arrangement
- Do not block emergency exits
- Do not block fire extinguishers
Bale Stacking – “Easy” Safety

- Sure, w/h is limited
- Sure, this results in some lost space
- But, How much is a life or limb worth?
The Missing Piece

YOU
Performance can be Improved / RISK can be Reduced

Change your Attitude
Change your expectations
Housekeeping, switch bypassing, etc

Purchase PPE
Work one day in the w/h
Safety is no Accident
The Challenge

- I determine to Work Safe TODAY
- I determine to provide PPE for my EEs
- I determine to set HIGH expectations
- I determine to do all I can so that an EE who works for me not get injured
Do you have any questions?
Bonus Video of White Shirt