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
  - 3013: 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**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td><strong>What is Risk and Safety?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td><strong>PPE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Equipment Safety</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>Transportation Safety</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Area Safety</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td><strong>Challenge to Change</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
RISK – More than a four letter WORD

\[ \text{RISK} = f\{\text{HAZARD}, \text{Probability}\} \]

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

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
• 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
Performance can be Improved / RISK can be Reduced

Step 1: Change your Attitude
Step 2: Change your expectations
Step 3: Purchase PPE
Step 4: Work one day in the w/h

Housekeeping, switch bypassing, etc
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