

# Eye on SAFETY



Risk control news and safety tips for HISIG members

## HURRY UP CAN HURT

Sports cars speeding over race tracks are marked with racing stripes. People speeding through tasks on the job are marked with cuts, bruises, and bandages. There are places to race and places not to race. Speed belongs on the race course, not in the workplace. But almost everyone has been guilty of speeding through a job. We forget, until it's too late, that hurry up can hurt.

In just about every instance, hurrying on the job does not do much to increase productivity. Typically it is just an easy way to get a job done, get a tough job out of the way, or to try to get off the job as soon as possible. When we hurry on the job, the only thing we really accomplish is increasing our chances of an unsafe act happening.

Below are a few hurry up facts. Which ones have you caught yourself doing?

**When we hurry on the job, the only thing we really accomplish is increasing our chances of an unsafe act happening.**



- Did not wear safety glasses because the job should only take a few minutes.
- Used the wrong ladder because the proper one was too far away.
- Did not use proper lockout procedures because you could fix it yourself and wouldn't have to bother anyone else.
- Took a short cut between machinery or stockpiles of materials.
- Used a wrench instead of a hammer because your hammer was in your toolbox on the other side of the room.
- Climbed a ladder with tools stuck in your pocket or in your hand because you didn't have a tool belt.
- Cut the grounding prong off a three-way ground wire plug because you didn't have an adapter.
- Removed a guard to repair your machine but still haven't put it back.

*Continued on back*



# HURRY UP, CONTINUED

- Reached “just a little bit further” on the ladder so you did not have to get down and move it.
- Did not unplug a power tool before making adjustments because you would only have to plug it in again.
- Used a dull saw blade for just one more cut.
- Gave the forklift truck just a little more gas so you could get one more load in before lunch.
- Did not completely brace the scaffold because one of the braces was missing.
- Laid a board down full of nails with the intention of bending the nails over in a minute.
- Climbed up the side of a bin instead of getting a ladder.
- Did not slow down at a blind corner because you’ve never seen anyone there before.



The list is endless. Do they sound familiar? Maybe a little too familiar?

Sometimes when you hurry, nothing bad happens and other times there may be near misses. But eventually a serious injury will occur and it is only a matter of time. Is it really worth your eyesight, your limbs, or even your life to save those few minutes?

When hurrying on the job, you don’t end up speeding up the work, you just speed up your chances of an accident. Practice safety - don’t learn it through accidents.

# PREVENT DUST EXPLOSIONS

When materials are broken down into fine dusts or powders, such as sawdust, they create a fire and explosion hazard that poses serious injury to your employees. To prevent fires from dust explosions, keep dust levels in the workplace to a minimum with consistent housekeeping. Control flame and ignition sources, such as hot equipment, static electricity and prohibiting smoking in the workplace.

Create a checklist to identify areas within your store that are prone to high build up, and establish a routine cleaning schedule to remove dust from floors, ledges, beams, equipment, or other surfaces. Proper dust collection, along with routine cleanings, can help prevent dust fires and explosions in your workplace.

## HISIG MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

HISIG extends a warm welcome  
to its newest members:

**Andy’s Hardware**  
**Billington Ace Hardware, Susanville**  
**Design Hardware, Los Angeles**  
**Design Details**  
**Terminal Hardware, Los Angeles**  
**Welcome to the group!**