



Safety is no Accident



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The Goal of Safety

- Implement programs to provide a safe environment for the employees, visitors and patients of the agency.
- Reduce costs associated with worker's comp cases, reduce losses related to MVCs and protect the assets of the company.



Why do it?

- # To create a safer working environment for the employees
- # To comply with regulations and standards
 - OSHA
 - NFPA
 - FHA
 - ASTM
- # To reduce costs
 - Studies show safeguarding has a cost benefit
 - Liberty Mutual study: save \$3 for every \$1 invested in safety programs
 - OSHA claims savings of \$6 for every \$1

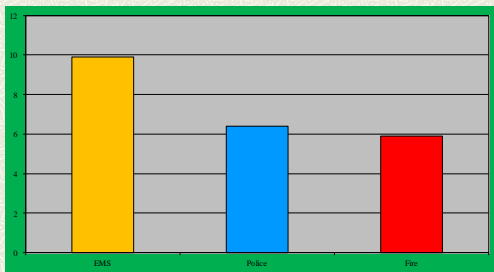


EMS Injuries

- # Higher than the injury rate for any private industry tracked by the DoL
- # 34.6 injuries/100,000 full time workers per year
- # 1.5 x higher than fire fighters
- # 5.8 x higher than other health service workers
- # 7 x the nation average



Occupational transportation fatalities / 100,000 workers





Where to start?

- # Usually in response to an accident / near miss
- # Look at the things we are required to do
- # Think proactively
If it looks unsafe: it probably is



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OSHA can be helpful

**OSHA's 2011 TOP TEN
Most Frequently Cited Violations**

1. Scaffolding (C)	6. Electrical: wiring
2. Fall Protection (C)	7. Powered industrial trucks
3. Hazard communication	8. Ladders (C)
4. Respiratory protection	9. Electrical systems design
5. Lockout/tagout	10. Machine guarding

C - Construction standard

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OSHA says:

Section 5(a)(1) of the OSH Act, often referred to as the General Duty Clause, requires employers to "furnish to each of his employees employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees".



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How often will it happen:

- # **Very likely** –near certain to occur
- # **Likely** –may occur
- # **Unlikely** –not likely to occur
- # **Remote** –so unlikely as to be near zero



What happens if it happens?

- # **Catastrophic** –death or permanently disabling injury or illness (unable to return to work)
- # **Serious** –severe debilitating injury or illness (able to return to work at some point)
- # **Moderate** –significant injury or illness requiring more than first aid (able to return to same job)
- # **Minor** –no injury or slight injury requiring no more than first aid (little or no lost work time)



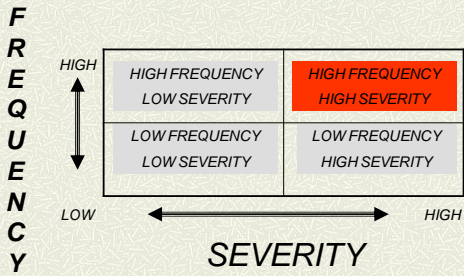
In other words...

- # How dangerous is it and how likely it is to cause us harm





What we focus on



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Some things to look at:

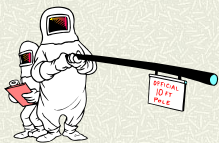


- # MVCs
- # Employee Injuries
- # Infection Control
- # Stretcher Drops
- # Patient Injuries
- # OSHA Compliance
- # High Risk activities

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Ways to protect ourselves

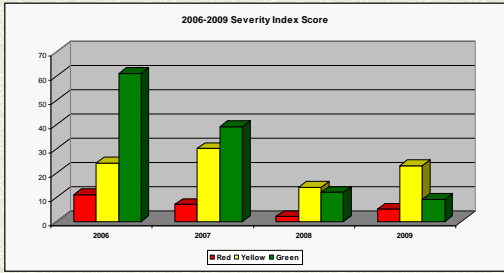


- Elimination / Replacement
- Engineering controls
- Training and Procedures
- Personal Protective Equipment

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MVCs

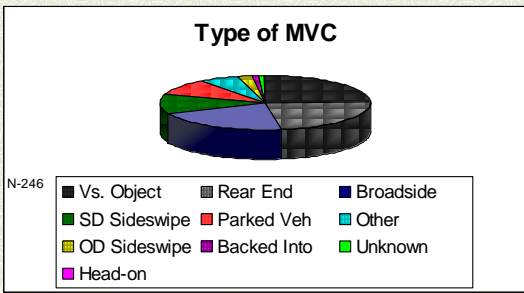


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Problem:

57% are side or rear impacts



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Solution:

Redesign for hi-vis



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Problem: High rate of MVCs with L&S

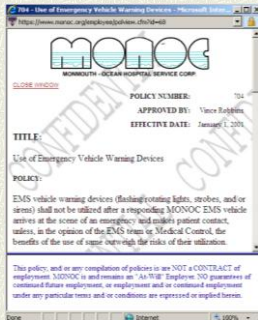
2008 Responding with Lights & Sirens



N=76



Solution: Enforcement of policies





Problem: Poor seatbelt compliance





Solution: Educational programs



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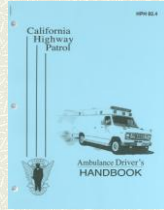


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How to prevent MVCs

- ⌘ Screen Driver Abstracts
- ⌘ Everyone takes CEVO
- ⌘ Have policies related to operating the ambulances
- ⌘ Use technology
 - The MDCs advise management when the unit is speeding
 - The DriveCam enables us to review collisions and driver behavior





One option





Another option





When it goes bad...



AL PAGLIONE/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

In Secaucus, the aftermath of a collision between an NJ Transit bus and an ambulance that had been rushing to the train wreck.

Medics rushing to accident collide with NJ Transit bus



When it goes really bad...

2 weeks later... Friday July 20th 2007 The worst ambulance crash in USA history

Five Killed in Crash of Ambulance and Semi

July 21, 2007 08:20 AM EDT

YAN WEN, OHIO (AP) — The Ohio State Highway Patrol continues to investigate the crash of an ambulance that killed five people Friday night, including three emergency medical technicians. Troopers say the ambulance was brotocolled by a semitrailer in Clark Township, about 65 miles southeast of Toledo.

The ambulance, with four Ambler Emergency Medical Services workers aboard, was taking two victims from an earlier car crash to a hospital. Troopers say it was brotocolled by a tractor-trailer at the intersection of County Road 29 and County Road 67. The ambulance then burst into flames.

The highway patrol says three EMS workers were killed — they were identified as 44-year-old Danny Smith, 31-year-old Matt McDougall and 23-year-old Kelly Eager. The two patients were also killed. They were identified as 64-year-old Robert Walli, 60-year-old Amanda Maly of Nevada.

Another emergency medical technician, Matt McDougall, and the truck driver, Gerald Chapman, 31, of Indiana, were both taken to the hospital. It's not yet clear whether they suffered any injuries.

Authorities have not said who had the right of way at the rural intersection nor have they said if the ambulance's emergency siren and lights were turned on.





Not all MVCs are preventable



Princeton, NJ 2006



Sometimes we can't prevent it



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Sometimes we can



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Hi Vis



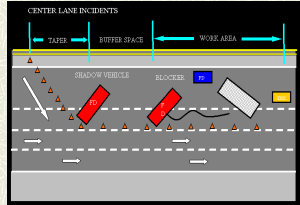
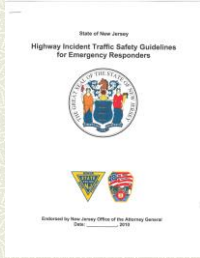


Use new safety devices





Highway Safety





Wake up, we're almost done





New taskings

- # Bariatric
- # Tactical
- # USAR
- # Swift Water Rescue





Exposure Hazard Control Plans

- # Must be reviewed and updated annually or as needed
- # Document annually, consideration and implementation of appropriate commercially available and effective safer medical devices
- # Solicit input from non-managerial employees responsible for direct patient care who are potentially exposed



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In The News

- # Swine Flu could hit 40% of US
 - Associated Press
- # H1N1 Swine Flu virus more dangerous than expected
 - HIN1news.com
- # Screenings for staph are now the law
 - Chicago Tribune
- # Two more "superbug" cases reported at area schools
 - Asbury Park Press
- # When MRSA gets personal
 - ABC News
- # Concern at Canarsie school where infected student died
 - Newsday NY
- # Killer bacteria outbreaks prompt call for action
 - USA Today

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Information and Training

All employees with occupational exposure are required to participate in training provided at no cost during working hours

- # At the time of employment
- # At least annually thereafter
- # Upon changes to tasks or procedures

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Record Keeping

Training records must be maintained for three years

- ✦ Summary of the training session
- ✦ Names and qualifications of persons conducting the training
- ✦ Names and job titles of persons attending the training

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Sharp Injury Log

An employer must establish and maintain an injury log for 5 years

- ✦ Type and brand of device (if a sharp)
- ✦ Where injury occurred
- ✦ Explanation of how the incident occurred

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Traditional Exposures



45



Atypical Exposures





Vehicle Decon

Low Levels of Resistant Bacteria Found in Chicago-Area Ambulances

Page 1 of 3



Low Levels of Resistant Bacteria Found in Chicago-Area Ambulances

1 week ago

2 Comments
Proctor in News, Research, Research & Studies, Environmental Hygiene, Staphylococcus Aureus, Environmental Surface Cleaning, Cleaning
PHD

Thousands of ambulances found not when tested for dangerous bacteria, according to a new study published in the April issue of the American Journal of Infection Control. Approximately 6 percent of 686 samples in Chicago-area ambulances tested positive for Staphylococcus aureus (S. aureus), a bacterium that can cause serious infections and can easily acquire resistance to potent antibiotics.
A team of researchers from Lewis University in Romeoville, Ill. took samples from 26 areas inside of 71 ambulances from 34 different Chicago-area municipalities. The team recovered 100 S. aureus isolates from more than 1,800 sites that were sampled (less than 1% positive). At least one S. aureus sample was found in 69 percent of ambulances tested. Of all isolates detected, 77 percent showed resistance to at least one commonly used antibiotic, and 12 percent were identified as the "hounding" Acinetobacter baumannii (A. baumannii), a bacterium that can cause serious infections and can easily acquire resistance to potent antibiotics.
The authors state, "In contrast, only 2 of 71 ambulances tested positive for MRSA, at least one isolation (yielding the 12 MRSA isolates studied). Although there have been few previous studies of front-line advanced life support ambulances, a higher frequency of resistant MRSA in ambulances from has been reported previously.
"These results indicate that first responders are doing a good job of protecting their patients," adds James Rago, PhD, lead study author and assistant professor of biology at Lewis University. "The research is significant because it shows



Have a safety motto.....





Have clear cut directions



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Some resources




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QUESTIONS ?



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New Jersey's
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HOSPITAL SERVICE CORP
UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

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