Volume 1,Issue 2
WINTER 2008



# SAFETY FIRST

# TECHNO ACOUSTICS HOLDINGS LLC

## SAFETY COMMIT-TEE SPEAKS

Techno Acoustics Holdings, LLC safety committee met again at the end of January to discuss key issues related to safety. Some highlights of the meeting include:

- -Encouraging foreman and veteran company employees to pay special attention to the work/safety habits of both apprentice and new employees and to encourage them to put "safety first" by wearing personal protective equipment etc.
- -New safety goggles with straps were recommended to allow employees to have their own glasses always at the ready.
- Jack McCarthy will continue to stress the importance of the stretch

and flex program with foreman and employees to promote health and wellness.

Remember, the safety committee is made up of representatives of all Techno trades and management. If you are interested in participating in future committee discussions, please contact our safety manager, Jack McCarthy.



### JACK'S SAFETY TIPS

Let me take this opportunity to thank everyone for making our safety program a success. Safety is everyone's concern and must be practiced everyday. This issue's safety tip concerns ladder safety. Ladders are a necessary tool at most of our jobs. A major concern is faulty ladders. Please inspect a ladder before you use it. Check for broken rungs and split side rails. If the ladder is broken, "do not use it". Broken ladders should be disposed of immediately. Never stand on the top two rungs of a ladder, this is extremely dangerous and a OSHA violation. See additional information on page 3.

Foremen, please continue the weekly "Tool Box Talks" and return the sign in sheets to me. Any questions, or concerns, call me at the office (718) 784-3730 or on my cell (917) 295-3855.

Jack McCarthy Safety Manager Jeanne Martin HR Director

Debbie Amodeo Newsletter Editor



# **TECHNO REWARDS**







The following foremen are being recognized for their outstanding effort in our safety program. Each of them will be rewarded as part of our Gift Card Program for completing injury free projects.

### **FOREMAN**

### ARTY AVON BRIAN COLL RAY FINNERTY TIM KELLEHER STEVE MCDONAGH PAUL MUIA ROB ROSIAC ROB ROSIAC ELROY VIDAL

### **JOB**

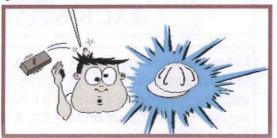
SACRED HEART
CITIGROUP
CIPRIANI
VORNADO
NORTH FORK BANK
STANDARD & POORS
RAINBOW
SUPERSTRUCTURES
STANDARD & DOODS

### LOCATION

1141 NORTH AVENUE 153 E. 53 STREET 55 WALL STREET 333 W. 33 STREET 57 W. 57 STREET 55 WATER STREET 11 PENN PLAZA 32 6 AVENUE 55 WATER STREET



A special "Thank You" to JOE ARAYES and GEORGE HARPER for maintaining a high standard of safety at challenging job sites these past few months.





As part of our Gift Card Program, Jack will continue to reward outstanding employees onsite in recognition of their efforts to work safely.



# Do's and Don't for Using a Portable Ladder

Do's



### Don'ts

Inspect the ladder for defects such as missing, damaged or loose components; snags; oil, mud or other slippery materials. Make sure moving parts work properly and all connections are secure.

Get help with a ladder that is too heavy to handle by yourself. If possible, have another person hold the ladder while you are working on it.

Wear slip-resistant shoes or boots, and make sure the sole are clean. Climb one step at a time while facing the ladder. Keep your body centered and use your hands.

Be sure the ladder has been set up with all ladder feet on firm, level ground.

Keep the area around the ladder clear and control traffic. For example, is the ladder is located where a door might open, lock or bolt the door.

Keep your body centered on the ladder. Hold the ladder with one hand while working with the other. Never let your belt buckle pass beyond either ladder rail.

Don't climb a ladder if you are not physically or mentally up to it. Dizziness and shortness of breath can interfere with balance. Certain medications can also affect balance.

Don't use a ladder, particularly an aluminum ladder, around electrical wires that might be live. If the power is turned off, be sure it cannot be turned on while you are working.

Don't use a ladder in strong winds.

Don't place a ladder on slippery or unstable surfaces, and don't try to move or shift the ladder while you are on it.

Be careful not to overbalance when moving materials. Carefully limit the weight of materials you carry on the ladder. Have materials handed to you or haul them up with a rope.

Don't stand or sit above the highest safe standing level. This means you don't use the top two rungs of an extension ladder or the top of a stepladder.

### HEART ATTACK WARNING SIGNS

Some heart attacks are sudden and intense-the "movie heart attack," where no one doubts what's happening. But most heart attacks start slowly, with mild pain or discomfort. Often people affected aren't sure what's wrong and wait too long before getting help. Here are signs that can mean a heart attack is happening:

- Chest discomfort. Most heart attacks involve discomfort in the center of the chest that lasts more than a few
  minutes, or that goes away and comes back. It can feel like uncomfortable pressure, squeezing, fullness or
  pain.
- Discomfort in other areas of the upper body. Symptoms can include pain or discomfort in one or both arms, the back, neck, jaw or stomach.
- · Shortness of breath with or without chest discomfort.
- Other signs may include breaking out in a cold sweat, nausea or lightheadedness.

As with men, women's most common heart attack symptom is chest pain or discomfort. But women are somewhat more likely to experience some of the other common symptoms, particularly shortness of breath, nausea/vomiting, and back or jaw pain.

Learn the signs and remember: Even if you're not sure it's a heart attack, have it checked out. Minutes matter! Fast action can save lives-maybe your own.

Calling 9-1-1 is almost always the fastest way to get lifesaving treatment. Emergency medical services staff can begin treatment when they arrive-up to an hour sooner than if someone gets to the hospital by car. The staff are also trained to revive someone whose heart has stopped.

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### SAFETY MEETINGS/ TOOLBOX TALKS



All employees are required to participate in weekly safety toolbox talks given by their field superintendent on site. Employees have the right to ask their foreman to conduct such talks if they are not provided. The toolbox talk sign in sheets must be submitted to the safety director timely.

### **DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE**

Techno Acoustics Disciplinary Procedure operates on a 3 strike basis.

- 1) Employee will be informed by supervisor that he/she is not doing the right thing relating to safety. The supervisor will clarify the proper way to continue working. Also, the supervisor will remind the employee of disciplinary procedure if he/she continues to work in an unsafe manner.
- 2) If another incident occurs, employee will be notified that this is the second time they have been working in an unsafe manner and sent home for the rest of the day. Written documentation of the incident will be placed in the employee's personnel file. The employee will be warned that a 3<sup>rd</sup> discretion warrants termination.
- 3) If a third incident occurs involving the same employee, he or she will be terminated immediately and will not be hired by Techno in the future.
- \*Any employee acting in a grossly negligent or dangerous manner, appearing under the influence of drugs or alcohol or deliberately putting co-workers at risk of injury will be asked to leave the work area

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Techno encourages all employees to be aware of their surroundings and understand the steps to follow in an emergency. In each new work area, employees should check with their supervisor for the location of:

- -nearest fire exit
- -all stairwells
- -all elevators including freight







In addition, each gang box has an emergency packet including, a first aid kit, fire extinguisher and list of area hospitals.







### **EMPLOYEE DRESS CODE**

It is the Policy of Techno Acoustics that all employees shall adhere to proper dress code.

**Office Employees:** Dress is casual business attire. In addition, office employees must wear personal protective equipment including but not limited to hard hats where required when visiting a job site.

**Field employees:** must wear shirt with sleeves (no cut-offs), correct footwear (no sneakers), long pants (no shorts). Additionally, all field employees must wear all personal protective equipment provided to them including but not limited to protective eyewear, gloves and hard hats.

If an employee does not follow the dress code, he/ she will be asked to go home. A second offense may result in termination.