LeClasp Workplace No Jewellery Program -THE PROBLEM

We've all heard the old sayings: "An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" or... "Better safe than sorry."

These are all wise words to live by that have stood the test of time. Safety, in many cases, should be plain common sense.

Today workers of all ages and sexes are wearing more and more jewellery (bling-bling).

From the **traditional** watch, precious wedding or engagement ring (s), bracelet (s), necklace (s) to the **trendy body piercing** to "beautify" the nose, tongue, lip/cheek, belly button, navel and the "other" body parts.

And let's not overlook **religious** and <u>Medic Alert Identification</u> (bracelets, necklaces) **jewellery** displaying emergency life-saving medical information.

Hazards of wearing any-and-all jewellery in most workplaces.

Harmful, at times life threatening, **jewellery-related accidents and injuries** can happen to workers wearing **dangling neckwear**, **jewellery** (rings, bracelets, wristwatch), **body piercing** or other **similar items** that can **come into contact**, **get caught or stuck against objects**, **equipment and moving parts of machinery**.

Hand lacerations, crushed and broken fingers, ear scars from headwear, arm injuries are typical jewellery caused injuries accounting for thousands of lost-time claims per year.

Also, in some facilities wearing jewellery can carry or cause **infectious diseases**.

Work environments prone to jewellery-related accidents and injuries are manufacturing, processing, packaging, wholesale, distribution, construction, oil and gas, forestry, mining, public works, health care, waste and recycling, airline, telecommunication, transportation, agriculture, retail and restaurant industries and sub-sectors and police\firefighters\military.

Typical questions to evaluate the risks of jewellery-related accidents and injuries at your place of work?

- 1. Does your organization have a strict no jewellery policy?
- 2. Are safety coordinators and plant managers repeatedly hounding obstinate workers to remove jewellery?
- 3. Do some of your employees operate heavy machinery? Handle machines that rotate, slide or press? Operate hand or powered tools?
- 4. Do your workers make use of materials or job processes that might be hazardous?
- 5. Do your workers wear "dangling" Medic Alert Identification jewellery (bracelets, necklaces) in the workplace? If so, are you searching for a <u>substitute</u> medical alert identified product that can **safely be kept on their person**?
- 6. Do you have jewellery-related hand accidents and injuries stories (or close call) caused by a careless employee wearing a ring or dangling bracelet in the workplace? Read the story of a military soldier "This Little Piggy..."
- 7. Is your joint health and safety committee (JHSC) have a process for **identifying** and **addressing** jewellery-related **safety risks** for **workers**, temporary and young hires or **guests** touring a site?
- 8. Is your JHSC launching a No Jewellery Program in the near future?

If you answered "YES" to any one of these questions, then take advantage of the resources on the next few pages and learn more about our easy-to-implement Workplace No Jewellery Program:

- Our Solution Phase 1 Equipping workers with a portable jewellery holding device
- Our Solution Phase 2 Equipping workers with a non-hazardous Medical Alert ID substitute product
- Cr... learn more about Jewellery-related Work Safe Practices, Bulletins, Warnings and Procedure in your industry

Are you sick and tired handing out the same ol, same ol rewards, recognitions and awards?? Searching for a unique and useful safetyrelated gift to handout during a workshop, orientation session or the annual safety week campaign?



