year(s). The total costs for those claims in each of the subsequent years were also extracted.

The proportions of each year's cohort of claims which incurred costs in subsequent years were determined. The average costs per original year claim were also determined for each subsequent payment year.
The analysis shows some minor increase in the proportion of claims incurring costs in subsequent years (suggesting that "simple easy-to-prevent injuries are diminishing more rapidly than more difficult ones). Cost analysis shows some quite variable results.

(Data to be provided in tables and charts)

P05

Title: Preventing Worker Deaths and Injuries from Contacting Overhead Power Lines with Metal Ladders

Author: **Romano N**

Introduction: A NIOSH review of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) data from 1992–2005 identified at least 154 electrocution deaths that resulted from contacting overhead power lines with portable metal ladders (excluding truck-mounted and aerial ladders). Of these 154 deaths, 36 involved a person of Hispanic origin (CFOI data for all years exclude New York City; the data for 2005 are preliminary).

Methods: The NIOSH Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE) Program identifies and studies fatal occupational injuries, with the goal of identifying effective prevention measures. Through on-site fatality investigations, FACE personnel collect agent, host, and environmental information from the pre-event, event, and post-event phases of the fatal incident.

Results: A review of NIOSH FACE cases between 1987 and 2007 identified 11 investigations involving the deaths of 12 workers that occurred while working around overhead power lines and using metal ladders. Ladder contacts with power lines usually occurred during erection, lowering, or relocation of the ladder. Some examples of preventive recommendations from these investigations are: (1) employers eliminating use of conductive ladders, (2) employers developing a comprehensive safety and training program in language(s) and reading levels of the workers, (3) manufacturers affixing bilingual labels with graphics to provide hazard warnings and instructions.

Conclusions: Evidence collected during FACE investigations suggests that the victims may not have been fully aware of the hazards to which they were exposed, and that employers did not have adequate safety programs and training to address this hazard. In order to lower fatality rates, workers must be informed of the potential hazards present and should receive training to perform their tasks in the safest possible manner.

P06

Title: Review of Research on Disability in Construction

Authors: **Becker P**, DiSalvo C

Introduction: Numerous articles have been published in the last 5 years reporting causes and conditions of disability (and particularly disability prior to normal retirement age) among construction workers. In some cases these articles note risk factors associated with these disabling conditions. An overview of the reported disability experience of construction workers can help focus on controlling hazards contributing to these disabilities.

Methods: Review peer review literature in peer review journals and government reports on incidence and risk factors associated with disability among construction workers. Construct a table summarizing these findings.

Results: There is now substantial evidence that there are several leading causes of disability among construction workers. Identification these conditions and associated risk factors focuses attention on priority areas for control.

Discussion: There is wide anecdotal evidence that many construction workers retire early due to disabling conditions. This poster provides baseline data confirming the need for the development of focused research on early disability among this population. We may find the need to develop a contrarian hypothesis about aging and physically demanding work which counters the prevailing hypothesis that aging causes workers to fall short of strenuous job demands. The alternative hypothesis might be that strenuous work is prematurely aging (and disabling) a particular workforce (worn out worker.)

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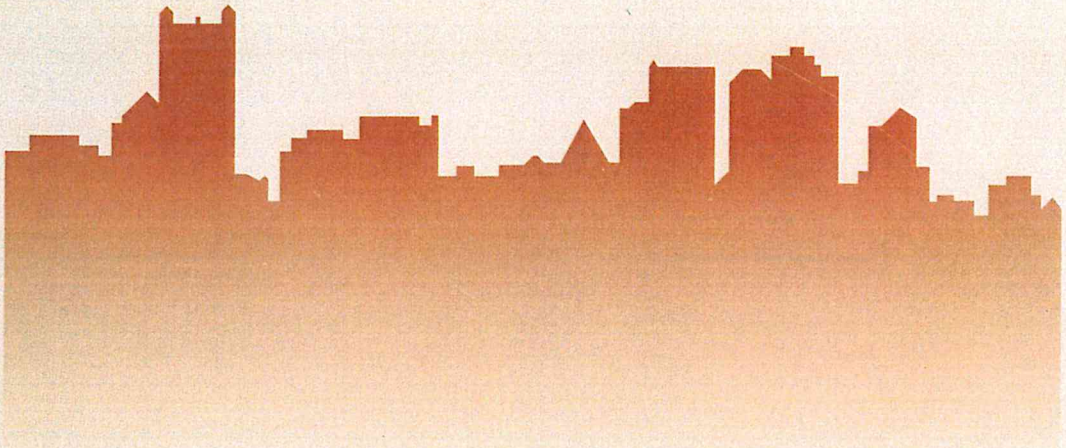

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