6th WORLD CONFERENCE

Injury Prevention and Control

6e CONFÉRENCE MONDIALE

Prévention et contrôle des traumatismes

ABSTRACTS • RÉSUMÉS

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ABSTRACTS • RÉSUMÉS

INJURIES, SUICIDE AND VIOLENCE:
Building Knowledge, Policies
and Practices to Promote a Safer World

TRAUMATISMES, SUICIDE ET VIOLENCE :
Construire un savoir, des politiques
et des pratiques pour promouvoir
un monde en sécurité

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MACHINE-RELATED WORK INJURY IN THE USA

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PROBLEM UNDER STUDY: Machinery safety in the USA can improve during the 21st century if risk reduction measures can be implemented that are the result of meaningful machinery risk assessment team activities. Effective machinery risk reduction is guided by data about injuries that have already occurred on similar machines.

OBJECTIVES: This presentation reviews recent machinery-related injury data for the USA and discusses opportunities for North American cooperation to reduce fatality and injury rates.

METHOD OR APPROACH: Machinery-related injury data is categorized by task (normal operation, maintenance), severity, and machine type. Trends are charted where sufficient data is available. Sources of data are: the NIOSH National Traumatic Occupational Fatalities Surveillance System (NTOF); the Bureau of Labour Statistics (BLS) Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI); and the BLS Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses.

RESULTS: The trend in average number of fatalities reported annually for metalworking machinery decreased during the 80's and 90's projecting a straight-line decrease to 5 fatalities per year by 2010. The trend in average number of amputations reported annually for metalworking machinery decreased during the 80's and 90's projecting a straight-line decrease to 4000 amputations per year by 2010. The frequency of severe injury during machine maintenance and during normal operation is about the same, but the injury rate for maintenance tasks is higher when exposure time is considered.

CONCLUSION: In the new century, data collection capabilities must continue to improve in order to drive injury reduction activities, especially with regard to injuries during machine maintenance.

LIMITS: Data collection on machine-related injuries is not sufficiently geared toward highlighting the task, hazard, and safeguarding provided. Lack of information on these factors limits the precision with which corrective measures can be recommended.

CONTRIBUTION OF THE PROJECT TO THE FIELD: Data-driven machinery safety activities in the USA will be advanced. Data helps machinery safety practitioners focus on:

- Goal setting: in areas where protective measures are needed; and
- Measurement against goals to see how effective countermeasures actually are in preventing injuries. Partnering with other North American experts on common machine safety goals is also achieved.