

farm chores (rate ratio 9.65). Men were at higher risk of injury when involved with farm maintenance activities (rate ratio 0.36), crop production (no women were injured), and transport of agricultural produce (no women were injured).

When controlling for hours spent at specific tasks, there was no evidence that women were at reduced risk of injury compared to men when involved with animal handling, farmstead material handling, and other farm chores.

P03

Title: *Effects of Company Size on Non-Fatal Injury Rates in Construction*

Authors: McVittie DJ, Neves F

The effects of company size on Lost Time Injury Rates in construction in Ontario, Canada were previously examined using data for 1988-1993 inclusive. Those data showed a clearly inverse relationship between the frequency of Lost Time Injury (LTI) and size of company. (See Table 1). Analysis of the trends showed that the largest construction companies were not only performing better in terms of Lost Time Injury rates, they were continuing to improve at a faster rate than the smaller firms.

Analysis of more recent data (1996-2001 inclusive) shows the relationship between company size and LTI rates is consistent in that larger firms still have the lowest LTI frequencies, however, their rate of continued improvement is not as great as that of the smaller companies.

Further analysis of the performance of different sized companies shows that most firms operate with a zero injury frequency in any given year. Even in the largest employers (those employing more than 100 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) workers, 32 of 144 (22%) firms operated with no Lost Time Injuries in any given year. Analysis of the insured hours worked shows that approximately 58% of all construction worked in Ontario over the study period was performed without an LTI. If the employer population is expanded to include firms with only 1 LTI, the proportion of work done with 1 or fewer LTI's becomes 76%.

The belief that injuries are "common and expected" in construction needs to be addressed to conform to the fact that most construction firms operate without incurring a Lost Time Injury in any given year. Firms which incur multiple LTI's in any given year are clearly the "exception to the norm" and they need to recognize that these are abnormal events. This may reflect the increased fatigue associated with greater work hours.

P04

Title: *California Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation (FACE): Summary of Occupational Fatalities in Los Angeles County 1992-2001.*

Authors: Styles LE, Cierpich H, Rogge J, Harrison RJ

The California Department of Health Services, in collaboration with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), has established the California Fatality Assessment and Control Evaluation program (FACE) for the surveillance and investigation of workplace fatalities. The FACE program seeks to link multisource reporting of fatal occupational injuries with timely investigations to identify work-related risk factors, make recommendations for preventing fatalities, and facilitate workplace prevention programs. Preliminary results from 1992-2001 show that the leading cause of occupational fatalities in Los Angeles County was homicide (40%), followed by transportation-related (18%), falls (11%), suicide (6%), electrocution (5%), fire/explosion (4%). This presentation will describe the demographics and the industry and occupation of those who died at work. Investigated deaths will be summarized and at the conclusion of the session, the participant will be able to list 5 recommendations to prevent similar workplace fatalities.

P05

Title: *Haulage Truck Safety at Surface Mine Dump Sites*

Authors: Mayton AG, Turin FC, Wiehagen WJ

Dump site safety regarding surface mine haulage trucks remains an important issue for future review and investigation to reduce serious injuries. For improving safety at surface mine dump sites, safe work procedures and practices for haulage trucks are encouraged and discussed. The information provided is based on years of experience and informed practice for safe operations at dump sites. NIOSH IC 9454 identified stationary dumping and backing up as activities associated with more than 90 percent of serious injuries to haulage truck drivers. Among others, these two activities are highlighted and discussed in the context of important practices and procedures to ensure safe work operations at dump sites.

P06

Title: *Worker Age and Type of Injury in Ontario Construction*

Authors: Vi P, McVittie D

There is a widespread belief that young construction workers are more likely than older workers to suffer non-fatal injuries in the workplace. To test the validity of this belief, the Construction Safety Association of Ontario conducted a study of all lost-time injuries (LTIs) from 1996 to 2001.

NOIRS 2003 ABSTRACTS

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