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# PPD's News to Live By

ES&H Newsletter  
November 2011

## Ch-Ch-Ch-Changes!

The Particle Physics Division is already beginning to see some of the effects of the changes occurring at Fermilab. In particular, some of the areas which have been posted for certain radiological conditions are being modified or removed altogether. For instance, the PB7 Wide Band lab has been removed from the PPD list of Facilities Containing Radioactive Materials and all radiation postings have been removed. From this point, no work with radioactive materials can occur in that area without first contacting the PPD ES&H group for special preparations. Also, because the Do and CDF collision halls will no longer receive beam, they too will undergo posting modification. With these, and other changes coming just around the next bend, it is important to pay attention to the areas in which you may have worked for many years – there is a good chance that conditions might quickly change and new entry/work requirements might be introduced.



## Melted Electrical Plugs

While Dervin Allen's technical crew was deconstructing the CDF first floor electronics room, two CAMAC crates were found with power plugs that were essentially melted. Dervin was surprised we did not have some sort of electrical incident. The plugs were given to Angela Sands for a lessons learned on a near miss analysis.

The plugs and crates had been in use for over 20 years, and it appears that there was likely a loss in spring tension, which caused increased resistance and heat.

Be on the look-out for additional near misses as equipment from Tevatron experiments is being decommissioned!



## New "Green" Stockroom Products

Please note that the Stockroom is now carrying additional green products: biodegradable plates and bowls made from 100% reclaimed fiber. See stock room item numbers below:

Stock Number	Cost/Unit	Description
1750-0551SA	\$54.32/case	Bowl, disposable, Chinnet Paper Pro Naturals, 100% reclaimed fiber, biodegradable, compostable, 12 oz.
1750-2301SA	\$44.52/case	Plate, round, disposable, Chinnet Paper Pro Naturals, 100% reclaimed fiber, biodegradable, compostable, 6 in.
1750-2351SA	\$45.36/case	Plate, round, disposable, Chinnet Paper Pro Naturals, 100% reclaimed fiber, biodegradable, compostable, 8-3/4 in.

Coming soon...Bio-based disposable cutlery.

## Material/Equipment Handling Incident

A recent injury at Argonne (*Employee was injured while working in the back of a pickup truck. As he and a co-worker were attempting to off-load a pipe threader, the employee mis-stepped off the back of the truck's open tailgate.*) is a reminder to us to evaluate how we are going to transport items and develop precautionary measures beforehand.

Transporting material or equipment in vehicles is a very common occurrence on-site. Please consider the following to prevent any similar incidents occurring here:

- ⇒ If an item requires a two-person lift, take the time to determine how you will accomplish this.
- ⇒ If moving material/equipment with a vehicle, evaluate the load, then determine if you can move it safely. If you need assistance, consider contacting [Business Services Transportation Services](#).
- ⇒ Make sure you choose the proper vehicle for moving the load, so that when loading/unloading, it can be accomplished without having to overextend your reach:
  - If using a car, will the item fit in the backseat or trunk without having to overreach to place/remove it?
  - If using a van, be mindful of the step down from the cargo and rear doors, and that the van ceiling is not very high.
  - If using a pickup truck:
    - ◊ Make sure you have plenty of room in the truck bed to maneuver. If the truck is equipped with a shell, there will be restricted movement.
    - ◊ If the truck is backed up to a loading dock, make sure it is lined up square to the dock and keep any gaps minimal.
    - ◊ If the tailgate must be lowered to place/remove the equipment, leave sufficient space when parking so that the tailgate has room to lower and rise.



## Recent Near-Miss Incidents

**Respirators:** This past month, there was an incident at another lab where a worker was issued a respirator without the proper fit-test. A worker was performing beryllium and radioactive material work wearing a full-face air-purifying respirator, for which he had not been fit-tested. This respirator was worn for 3 days before this error was caught. Work was paused and the worker subsequently successfully passed a fit-test for the respirator he had been using.

Remember that respirator use requires medical approval, training, and proper fit-testing for the type of respirator(s) you will be using before you begin the work. Contact PPD's Industrial Hygienist, [Rob Bushek](#), for more information.

**Flooring:** Last month at Fermilab, an employee was injured after their leg plunged through rotten wood flooring. The flooring had been intact and did not have any obvious defects. He sustained several scrapes and bruises, but was able to return to work the following day with no limitations.

A follow-up inspection found that this was a section of flooring where plywood had been placed over the original wood planking. Additional areas of rot were found elsewhere in the building, but are not obvious to an individual walking on the second floor. Currently, access to the second floor of this barn is restricted until the floor can be fully evaluated and repaired.

There is a current structure inspection process that is being reviewed to determine if another approach is necessary to evaluate structural integrity.

## Holiday Food Safety

If you are planning on preparing any food this holiday season, please check out the following resources for food preparation safety:

- [Holiday/Party Buffets](#)
- [Countdown to the Thanksgiving Holiday](#)
- [Food Safety for those Glorious Holiday Goodies](#)
- [It's Turkey Time: Safety Prepare Your Holiday Meal](#)



## Turkey Fryer Fires

If your family prefers to fry their holiday turkey, please check out the safety resources below:

Watch [this video](#) from Underwriter's Laboratory (UL) of various potential turkey fryer fires.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission offers the following safe use tips in [this news release](#):

- Keep fryer in FULL VIEW while burner is on.
- Place fryer in an open area AWAY from all walls, fences, or other structures.
- Never use IN, ON, or UNDER a garage, breezeway, carport, porch, or any structure that can catch fire.
- Raise and lower food SLOWLY to reduce splatter and avoid burns.
- COVER bare skin when adding or removing food.
- CHECK the oil temperature frequently.
- If oil begins to smoke, immediately turn gas supply OFF.
- If a fire occurs, immediately call 911. DO NOT attempt to extinguish fire with water.

For safest operation, CPSC staff recommends that consumers follow these guidelines as they prepare to use a turkey fryer:

- Make sure there is at least 2 feet of space between the liquid propane tank and fryer burner.
- Place the liquid propane gas tank and fryer so that any wind blows the heat of the fryer away from the gas tank.
- Center the pot over the burner on the cooker.
- Completely thaw (USDA says 24 hours for every 4 to 5 pounds) and dry turkey before cooking. Partially thaw and/or wet turkeys (or any other meats) can produce excessive hot oil splatter when added to the oil.

Follow the manufacturer's instructions to determine the proper amount of oil to add. If those are not available:

- Place turkey in pot
- Fill with water until the turkey is covered by about 1/2 inch of water
- Remove and dry turkey
- Mark water level. Dump water, dry the pot, and fill with oil to the marked level.

Additional safety information on turkey fryers can be found from the following organizations:

- \* [Underwriter's Laboratory](#)
- \* [National Fire Protection Association](#)

## Vehicle Safety Ratings

How does your vehicle rate?

Check out the vehicle safety ratings from the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety [here](#).



## The "Doh!" Photos of the Month

Thank you to Walt Jaskierny for submitting these photos!



## PPD October Injuries

10/7/2011—While seating strong back crane attachment to floor position, the employee noticed a warning sign in the way and moved his hand to push sign out of way. In doing so, his hand got caught between crane attachment and sign. Required first aid treatment only.

Always take the time to plan your job beforehand, and scan the work area for any hazards.

## October Winner!!!



Shulamit Moed Sher

**Question:** Approximately how many injuries requiring treatment are caused by nail guns each year in the U.S.?

**Correct Response:** 37,000.

## November Contest

For a chance to win a PPD ES&H acrylic cup w/ straw, please answer the following correctly:

**What are the requirements for respirator use?**



Please submit your responses/answers to [Angela Sands](#) by November 23<sup>rd</sup>.

(If there are multiple correct answers/entries, a drawing is held.)

Did you find this newsletter helpful? Does it have the kind of information you are looking for? Your feedback is important. Please continue to use the [electronic safety concern database](#), the suggestion boxes in your area, or send comments to Angela Sands, [asands@fnal.gov](mailto:asands@fnal.gov)