

Risk management tips brought to you by:
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DID YOU KNOW?

Diacetyl gives butter and certain food flavorings a distinctive buttery flavor and aroma. Food flavorings containing diacetyl are used in microwave popcorn and other snack foods, pet foods, candies, baked goods, and other food products.

Inhaling diacetyl can cause severe damage to bronchioles in the lungs and result in an irreversible condition known as bronchiolitis obliterans. It has led to a handful of worker deaths and hundreds of illnesses.

5 Tips for Improving Conveyor Belt Safety

Conveyor-related injuries typically involve an employee's hands or fingers becoming caught in nip points or shear points on conveyors. Other common conveyor-related hazards include improperly guarded gears, sprocket and chain drives, horizontal and vertical shafting, belts and pulleys, and power transmission couplings.

You can reduce the risk of injury by adopting the following safety measures:

1. Ensure all pinch points are properly guarded and guardrails are in place to prevent objects from falling off.
2. Have functioning warning devices located in receiving areas if workers are unable to see packages on the belt.
3. Never stand where it's possible to be hit by material moving on conveyor belts.
4. Ensure workers operating the controls are able to see the conveyor system.
5. Never allow workers to climb on a conveyor belt.

Texas Foundry Facing \$165,200 in Penalties

An OSHA inspection of American Spincast Inc. found the company in violation of 32 serious safety and 18 serious health standards. OSHA initiated the inspection as part of its Site-Specific Targeting program and under the agency's National Emphasis Program on Primary Metals. The Belton, Texas, foundry faces \$165,200 in proposed penalties.

Violations include failing to provide guardrails, personal fall arrest systems and machine guarding; ensure flammable liquids were stored in tanks or closed containers, and arc welding cables were undamaged; and provide hazard communication training on methylene chloride and hexavalent chromium.