

23—Sources of Help

Machinery Safety and OSHA Committee
Coordinating Committee on Consumer Safety
Urethane Safety Group

The Safety and Loss Prevention Committee conducts semiannual survey of disabling injury experiences among plastic processors. The recently published *Plastics Industry Safety Handbook* is designed to assist supervisors and other management personnel. Safety posters and other visual aids have been developed to supplement total management safety services.

Machinery Safety and OSHA Committee is made up of representatives from members of the Society's machine builders. This committee is developing machinery standards for promulgation through the American National Standards Institute. These standards will encompass all the machinery that is prominently used in the plastics-processing industry.

The Coordinating Committee on Consumer Safety is responsible for the total consumer fire safety program. It works closely with research organizations and other trade associations to help the general public to better understand how synthetic and natural materials perform in a fire environment. This group also coordinates the activities with similar existing federal programs.

The Urethane Safety Group represents the urethane industry, fosters intelligent regulations, meaningful standards, and truthful communications looking toward safety for the consumer. It will assure that the urethane industry is represented on matters before governmental agencies, industry, and other concerned groups as regards questions of urethane flammability and the safe use of urethane products. It will collect statistics and other data concerning the use of urethane, as may be necessary or appropriate, and will support and conduct research and testing programs related to the safe use of urethane.

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The association has an active safety committee which prepares publications on safety for member companies and their employees. Some of these are

"Supervisor's Accident Prevention Manual for

Field Erection and Construction,"
"Basic Safety Rules for Fabricating Shops,"
and
"Basic Safety Rules for Field Erection and Construction."

The Association sponsors jointly with the National Safety Council the Steel Plate Fabricators Safety Contest.

U. S. Government Agencies

There is an overwhelming amount of safety information available from the federal government concerning all aspects of safety and health, environmental problems, pollution, statistical data, and other industry problems.

Because of the constant change in government agency activities and frequent reorganizations, it is recommended that the reader consult the *United States Government Organization Manual*, published by the Government Printing Office, Washington, D C 20402. It can be found in most libraries.

Information on the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, along with the Consumer Product Safety Commission can be found in Chapter 2 of this Manual.

Departments and Bureaus in the States and Possessions

It is most important that a safety professional has a good working knowledge of the state agencies responsible for the enforcement of safety and health laws. He should therefore contact the proper groups in his specific labor department or other agency and find out how the various boards, divisions, and services function, so that he can properly direct inquiries when the occasion arises.

Much difficulty can be avoided if the safety professional is familiar with the labor legislation and safety and health codes under which he is working. Codes and laws vary widely in the different states and provinces, and men who have safety jurisdiction in plants in a number of places should understand these differences.

In many cases, the standards set up by the code may serve only as a minimum, and the