

SAFETY ORGANIZATION AND SAFETY INSPECTION

ards, and result in making it a safer and more healthful place in which to work. A plant benefitting from an effective safety program will have a working environment in which operations can be conducted economically, efficiently, and safely.

In preparing for an inspection, it is advisable to analyze all accidents for the last several years so that special attention can be given those conditions and those locations known to be accident producers. Safety inspections may be classified as follows:

- 1 Periodic inspections
- 2 Intermittent inspections
- 3 Continuous inspections
- 4 Special inspections

Periodic inspections

Periodic inspections are those scheduled to be made at regular intervals. It is advisable to schedule inspections for the entire plant, for certain operations, or for certain types of equipment. Such inspections may be made monthly (Fig. 2-7), semi-annually, annually, or at other suitable intervals. Some types of equipment, such as elevators, boilers, unfired pressure vessels, and fire extinguishing equipment are required by law to be inspected at regular intervals.

All periodic inspections should be well planned so they can be made with dispatch and efficiency. A tickler file or some other method should be set up so that those in charge can be notified sufficiently in advance of the scheduled date to make necessary preparations.

General inspections. In many plants, it is an established policy to make a general inspection of the entire premises each year, except for those departments or equipment that are scheduled for more frequent inspections.

A general inspection should cover those places that "no one ever visits" and "where no one ever gets hurt." Many of these out-of-the-way places are located overhead where it is difficult to see a hazard from the shop floor.

Inspections should not be confined to those places where serious injuries have occurred. Even no-injury accidents and near-accidents will often point to causes of future injuries.

General inspections are particularly valu-

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These are some of the things to look for when making a safety inspection:

1. Do men operate machinery, or use tools, appliances, or other equipment without authority?
2. Are they working or operating at unsafe speeds?
3. Have guards been removed, or have guards or other safety devices been rendered ineffective?
4. Do men use defective tools or equipment; or use tools or equipment in unsafe ways; or use hands or body instead of tools?
5. Do they overload, or crowd, or arrange, or handle objects or materials unsafely?
6. Do men stand or work under suspended loads, open hatches, or shafts, or scaffolds; or ride loads; or get on or off equipment or vehicles in motion, or walk on railroad tracks, or cross car tracks or vehicular thoroughfares except at crossings?
7. Do they repair or adjust equipment in motion, under pressure, electrically charged, or containing dangerous substances?
8. Does anyone distract the attention of, or startle, other workers?
9. Is there any failure to use safety devices or protective clothing?
10. Are there any other unsafe acts of person?

Fig. 2-6. Typical inspection check list for unsafe work practices.

Courtesy Tennessee Valley Authority

able before reopening a plant after a long shutdown or previous to a safety campaign or contest. However, they should not take the place of other types of inspections. A general inspection should not signal that all responsibility has ended for the continual inspection throughout the year has ended, nor should known hazards be neglected until such general inspections are made.