

# HAZARD ALERT

## LACK OF HAZARD ASSESSMENT DEADLY October 2010

**FATALITY** On August 13, 2010 a 32 year old man was making repairs to a feed mixer at a hog production facility near Treherne. According to reports, the man stopped the machine before entering, but forgot about the automated start-up sequence programmed into the machine. He was crushed and pronounced dead at the scene. The man was engaged to be married in two weeks.

**FATALITY** On August 24, 2010 a 58-year-old electrical contractor, was unhooking hydro power lines from a pole at a construction site at a Greenhouse near Carman, Manitoba. There were 3 wires attached to the pole. When he disconnected one wire, leaving the other two attached, the pole shifted and broke causing the man's ladder to fall. RCMP stated that the man died from injuries suffered in the fall.

In both cases an assessment of potential hazards prior to doing the job would likely have prevented both of these incidents.

**DO NOT** underestimate the value of conducting pre-job hazard assessments!

### It is especially important to conduct a hazard assessment:

- when undertaking non routine or unusual jobs
- when the environment, materials or equipment change
- before contracted and / or self employed persons begin work in your workplace

### Remember:

- conditions can change from hour to hour and day to day even with routine jobs
- as an employee it is your responsibility to report hazards and near misses to your supervisor
- as a supervisor, it is your responsibility to ensure that appropriate corrective action has been taken
- if it wasn't documented, it didn't happen!

### Thought Provoking Questions:

- What hazards are present in your workplace?
- What could be the resulting loss to people? To property? To your process?
- Are these hazards properly controlled?

**As a subscriber to mySafetyAssistant, please ensure to take advantage of the HAZARD AWARENESS TRAINING Program that is part of the system. En roll all employees if possible.**



## Manitoba Workplace Safety & Health Act. 4(4)

### 4(2) Every Employer Shall:

(c) ensure that all his workers, and particularly his supervisors, foremen, chargehands or similar persons, are acquainted with any safety or health hazards which may be encountered by the workers in the course of their service, and that workers are familiar with the use of all devices or equipment provided for their protection;

*NOTE: Any reference to the Manitoba Workplace Safety and Health Act and Regulation is for convenience sake only. The original text must be consulted for all intents and purposes of applying the law.*

*"I feel this course (Hazard Awareness) will change the way I work and will make everybody work safer." - Employee, Randal Plumbing & Heating*



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Toll Free: 1-866-233-7374

www.mySafetyAssistant.ca