Five Hidden Workplace Safety Hazards

Detecting workplace safety hazards may not be easy as it seems. There are hidden hazards that may be found in almost any workplace. According to Creative Safety Supply blog, here are examples of hidden dangers in the workplace.

1. **Extension Cords**

An extension cord is often the most convenient solution to have electrical power easily accessible. However, extension cords can post the workplace and employees at significant danger.

- **Electrocution** — A vehicle or cart could run over the cords, cutting through it. Exposed electrical wires can put people at risk of electrocution.
- **Tripping Hazard** — A person may not see the cord and get his/her feet caught on it, which could be dangerous.
- **Surge Hazards** — An extension cord could cause an overloaded circuit or other issues, resulting in a power outage or even a surge.

2. **Fatigued Employees**

Studies have shown that when employees are fatigued, they are much more likely to make a mistake and experience an accident or injury. Working overtime could cause employees to become a safety hazard.

3. **Indoor Temperatures**

When it is hot outside, it could become dangerously hot inside very quickly. If this happens, it could be very difficult to control the indoor temperature, even with high end air conditioning units. Employees could easily wind up dehydrated or experience heatstroke.
WHY HEALTH & SAFETY NEWSLETTER?

Health and Safety is a priority at BCIT. OHS newsletters contain monthly first aid statistics, compliance concerns, and updates of new legislation and interest articles.

Please visit the Safety and Security Office at the North End of SW01 for printed copies of the newsletters.

To submit ideas or suggestions for future installations, please contact OHS Office.

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FIRST AID SUMMARY REPORT

The chart indicates the number of injuries from each person type (Student, Employee, Contractor), and the proportion of injuries for each school.

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The Squeaky Wheel

Much like the chain looping the gears, it probably isn’t getting the required lubrication. If you’re like a lot of us, you’ve been waiting for warmer days to begin cycling around greater Vancouver. But have you maintained your ride? Now’s the time to get ready for the sunny days ahead.

- Besides a well-oiled chain, make sure your lubed brakes activate with ease.
- Clean any mirrors or reflectors. See and be seen.
- Inflate those tires. Just like a car, a saggy tire makes the engine (you) work harder.
- Make sure the bell works if you have one; get one if you don’t. It saves yelling ahead to inform pedestrians of your approach on narrow paths and access roads.
- Don’t forget the most important safety item—your helmet.

- Review the rules of the road if you want to ride there. Cyclists in Vancouver often take liberties against common sense traffic flow. Be courteous and signal by hand. Obey traffic laws.
- If you ever thought about cycling to work, don’t forget BCIT offers shower and change rooms in various locations.

Have fun this summer. Head out on a day trip or cycle up a storm. Living on the West Coast with temperate weather means never running out of adventure.