

NAOSH Week!

North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) week is a continent-wide event which includes Canada, the United States and Mexico, where employers, workers and all partners in Occupational Health and Safety collaborate to raise awareness about the importance of increasing understanding, raising awareness and reducing injury and illness in the workplace, at home and in the community. NAOSH week started in 1997 when Canada, the USA and Mexico decided to dedicate the first week of May to supporting and recognizing a healthier workplace.

The NAOSH symbol is designed as three hands forming a triangle which is meant to show the participation and partnership between Canada, the USA and Mexico; the cooperation and commitment to the common goals shared by all occupation health and safety partners. The connecting hands symbolize the assistance and cooperation required on many levels, from interpersonal relationships in the workplace to international exchange.

NAOSH week's mission is to increase understanding of the benefits of investment in occupational health and safety, to raise awareness of the role and contribution of safety and health professionals, and to reduce workplace injury and illness by encouraging new health and safety activities.

Employers should take this great opportunity to focus, reinforce and strengthen your organization's commitment to occupational health and safety. Get employees involved in committing this week (May 4th – 10th) to various activities surround health and safety in the workplace. Make it a fun learning experience for everyone and in return employees will gain knowledge of safe working habits which benefits everyone in the working environment.

Some fun ways to get employees involved in the health & Safety of your organization can be:

- Conduct quizzes with prizes for participation to employees on your workplaces' health and safety protocols
 - Or provide a jeopardy game to get some competitive juices flowing!
- Conduct training throughout the week, try to make it fun!
 - Fire drills
 - Fire extinguisher training
 - Combine training with a lunch provided for employees!
- Recognize those in your workplace who have done a great job of contributing to overall health & safety

This safety week is quite timely following the National Day of Mourning on April 28, 2016 where we remember those employees who lost their lives or suffered an injury or illness due to a workplace accident.

Resources:

<http://www.naosh.org/english/about/logo.html>

<http://www.naosh.org/english/about/history.html>