

# National Safety Month 2022



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# National Safety Month: An Opportunity to Focus on Safety

By: **Maureen Paraventi**

June is designated by the National Safety Council (NSC) as National Safety Month, a time to focus efforts on improving the safety of work environments by spreading awareness of hazards and preventing occupational injuries and illness. National Safety Month has been observed since 1996. The NSC itself dates back to 1913, when it was established (as the National Council for Industrial Safety) at the Second Safety Congress. That was during an era when an estimated 20,000 industrial workers died from work-related causes annually, and two years after the infamous Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire that claimed the life of 146 workers. The name was changed to National Safety Council in 1914, to reflect a broader scope.

Workplace injuries and illnesses cost the U.S. an estimated \$250 billion each year. Approximately 2.8 million nonfatal workplace incidents and injuries occur in the private sector of the U.S. each year, with overexertion; slips, trips and falls, and contact with objects and equipment accounting for 84% of them. In 2019, 5,333 U.S. workers died on the job. The most dangerous injuries are agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting, followed by the transportation and warehousing industries and the construction industry. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), 64,640 of the 421,400 employees who were involved in workplace accidents in 2019 missed at least one day of work due to the injury or illness they sustained during their shift. Some 28%, or 32,470, of those who missed work, sustained a sprain or strain, while 14.5%, or 16,790, had soreness or pain, and 13.3%, or 15,380, had a cut, laceration or puncture. More than 5,000 workers died on the job that year – about 15 workplace deaths per day across the nation.

## FROM MSDS TO SLIPS, TRIPS AND FALLS

Each year, National Safety Month includes four specific safety related topics – one for each week in the month. This year's topics are:

**Week 1: Musculoskeletal Disorders (MSDs)** - Injuries or disorders of the muscles, nerves, tendons, joints, cartilage and spinal discs may be caused by work or exacerbated by it. MSDs cases are more severe than the average nonfatal injury or illness and result in high costs to employers related to absenteeism, lost productivity, and increased health care, disability and worker's compensation costs.

Typical MSDs are:

- Sprains, strains and tears
- Back pain
- Carpal tunnel syndrome
- Hernia

**Week 2: Workplace Impairment** - Substance abuse on the job can pose a serious risk, but impairment can take on other forms as well. Mental distress, stress and fatigue can also affect an employee's ability to perform work tasks safely. Employers are encouraged to identify and address *all* forms of impairment that potentially effect on workplace safety.

**Week 3: Injury Prevention** - In 2020 alone, more than four million workplace injuries required medical attention in the U.S. A comprehensive approach to injury prevention requires an analysis of the work environment and tasks to identify potential hazards, changes to reduce the risks and effectively and regularly communicating safety policies to employees.

**Week 4: Slips, Trips and Falls** – Falls are the second-leading cause of unintentional injury-related death in general and are the top cause of fatalities in the construction industry. This National Safety Month topic is an opportunity to reduce the risk of slips, trips and falls and falls from height, through changes in work practices and, when appropriate, the use of fall prevention equipment.

Safety, of course, should be a priority all year round and in all situations – not just the workplace. During National Safety Month, it's a good idea to enhance safety in a variety of ways – beyond the topics of this year's observance. This may include first aid, CPR and AED training; making sure your home or workplace's first aid kit has any supplies that might be needed in the event of an emergency; avoiding distracted driving – and making sure family members and/or employees do the same; and taking a self-defense course. You should also have your home tested for radon; make sure you have a functioning fire extinguisher on hand; ensure that hazardous materials like cleaning solutions or pest control products are out of reach of small children and pets; and take measures to prevent heat stroke during hot weather and frostbite and hypothermia in the colder months. ■

*The NSC has a wealth of resources, for both National Safety Month and year-round safety. Visit the organization's website at: [www.nsc.org/work-safety/get-involved/national-safety-month](http://www.nsc.org/work-safety/get-involved/national-safety-month)*



# Milwaukee Tool® Disrupts the Jobsite with Zero Gas Emissions and Safer Equipment

Milwaukee Tool remains committed to disrupting the wet concrete process by providing safer and more productive alternatives. Gas and corded equipment cause user frustrations and safety concerns on jobsites because of emissions, equipment malfunctioning, tripping hazards, and more. Milwaukee's MX FUEL™ Equipment system delivers the performance and durability demanded by the trades, while operating on one compatible battery platform. This system goes beyond the limitations of gas or corded solutions and eliminates the hazards associated with them.

## NO GAS HEADACHES (EMISSIONS & GAS MAINTENANCE)

When working on a jobsite, a user is subject to the hazardous emissions from gas-powered equipment and the frustrations of engine maintenance. Emissions will cause carbon monoxide (CO) accumulation, which can occur even in areas that appear to be properly ventilated. This build-up inevitably leads to CO poisoning, which is highly dangerous and, in many cases, fatal within minutes.

In addition to workplace hazards, gas-powered equipment needs regular maintenance and upkeep. There is a constant risk of engine failure if the gas and oil are mixed incorrectly

or if the engine is not properly maintained. Additionally, priming, choking, and pulling the engine to start is a lengthy and strenuous process, while running the risk of flooding the engine and forcing users to start the process all over again.

With the MX FUEL™ Equipment System, these common gas hazards and frustrations are eliminated. The MX FUEL Backpack Concrete Vibrator and the new MX FUEL Vibratory Screed provide instant power with no gas headaches, produce less noise, and zero emissions for a safer workspace, indoors and outdoors. Both products are compatible with all MX FUEL™ REDLITHIUM™ batteries, giving users the most reliable power for their equipment. Their push-button start delivers instant, reliable power, eliminating the repetitive motions of a pull start and reducing downtime, allowing users to get jobs done faster while matching the power and performance of the gas units users are accustomed to.

## NO TRIPPING HAZARDS

Historically, many concrete vibrators have been run on-site with generators and extension cords, which can cause tripping hazards on the jobsite. When introducing the new MX FUEL™ Concrete Vibrator, Milwaukee sought

to eliminate extension cords and generators that cause excess clutter. By eliminating the need to run extension cords across the jobsite to power a concrete vibrator, Milwaukee is both improving safety on site by removing tripping hazards and increasing the user's mobility and productivity because they no longer need to manage an extension cord. Lastly, the MX FUEL™ Concrete Vibrator's wireless remote gives users the ability to turn the vibrator on from up to 30 feet away, which can be extremely beneficial when using longer whips.

The MX FUEL™ battery-powered equipment system delivers the demanded performance and durability without the hazards associated with emissions, tripping on cords, and the frustrations of gas maintenance. To learn more, visit <https://www.milwaukeetool.com/Innovations/MX-FUEL> ■

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MAINTENANCE**



**NO  
CORDS**

# National Safety Month 101

Manufacturers know that on-site [safety](#) is the number one performance indicator and creating a workplace that is as safe and efficient as possible for employees is imperative. Wildeck, the largest U.S. manufacturer of industrial steel work platforms and safety guarding products, centers its business around creating products to enhance safety. In honor of June's National Safety Month Wildeck is sharing important tips:

**Educate:** Implementing and [training](#) workers on equipment safety is the first step in creating a safe work environment. Understanding new equipment and educating employees on the best safety procedures while using this equipment will improve productivity and employee satisfaction.

**Follow Equipment Guidelines:** Strictly adhere to the design load rating supplied by the manufacturer and use equipment for its intended purpose only. Regularly clean and inspect equipment to ensure that it is safe.

**Reduce Clutter:** It is important to keep walkways and the area around equipment clutter free, to reduce risks of slips, trips and falls.

**Install Safety Gates:** Installing a safety gate is perhaps the most effective way to ensure your crews on-site safety and prevent exposed elevated edges on the structures. Safety gates are effective safety solutions that can be configured to fit your space and should meet or exceed safety standards. Safety gates come in customizable, easy to install versions while

still maintaining strong, balanced construction that allows easy for lifting and safe gate operation. There are options that include features such as when one side of the gate opens, the other automatically closes, to ensure maximum safety.

For more information, visit <https://www.wildeck.com>.



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### THE VISUAL WORKPLACE: SAMPLE FLOOR PLAN

Visual devices tell us what we need to know, exactly when we need to know it. They often also tell us what to do, and help keep us safe and informed,

Imagine a visual workplace environment where the benches, tools, fixtures, and even the floor are intentionally designed to direct, change, or even prohibit behavior. An environment that helps workers and visitors do the right thing, every time, and safely.

The challenge is information deficit—missing visual cues. The solution is to identify missing information and transform the workplace.

The visual workplace builds information directly into the process of work and becomes a powerful way to ensure adherence to both technical standards (specs) and procedural standards (SOPs).

This sample facility floor plan demonstrates real-world floor marking and color-coding applications:

- 1. Purple Tape - Finished Goods

- 2. White Tape - 5S Cart Storage
- 3. Blue Tape - Part Organization
- 4. Printable Tape - Traffic Marking
- 5. White Tape - Work Area
- 6. Green Tape - Part Organization
- 7. Black Tape - Part Organization
- 8. Yellow Tape - Pallet Storage
- 9. T's & Corners
- 10. Red/White Stripe - Keep Clear Area
- 11. Stop Sign for Traffic
- 12. Black/Yellow Stripe - Hazardous Area
- 13. Yellow Tape - Traffic Flow
- 14. Black/White Stripe - Keep Clear Area
- 15. Black/Yellow Stripe - Electrical Area
- 16. Green Tape - Safety Area
- 17. Footprint Cutouts
- 18. Glow-in-the-Dark Floor Marking

#### SAFE WORKPLACES INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND REVENUE

Every employer is responsible for providing a safe workplace. Safety signs produce safe work practices and help you meet regulatory requirements.



#### ABOUT US GRAPHIC PRODUCTS + DURALABEL

For more than 50 years, Graphic Products has delivered safety solutions and visual communication that increase workplace operational growth and revenue. Our

industry expertise and high-quality supplies will help your operation achieve compliance, keep workers safe, and increase productivity and efficiency.



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# EXECUTIVE VOICE CORPORATE PROFILE

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### About Us

A leading global provider of professional cleaning products and services.

Nilfisk was founded on a vision of producing and selling products of the highest quality worldwide and for more than a hundred years, has adapted to the changing needs of markets and customers with innovative products and solutions. With a global sales force and proven sales channels, we have established strong and valuable customer relations and partnerships across the world and we strive to be at the forefront of technological advancement to drive future customer needs.

of domestic vacuum cleaners and high pressure washers to consumers worldwide.

By choosing Nilfisk, you can expect top-tier cleaning performance across our extensive product portfolio, complemented by services that increase productivity, reduce total cost of ownership, and generate lasting value in any field. And as global company, we also prioritize the sustainability of our products, because we want you to accomplish more

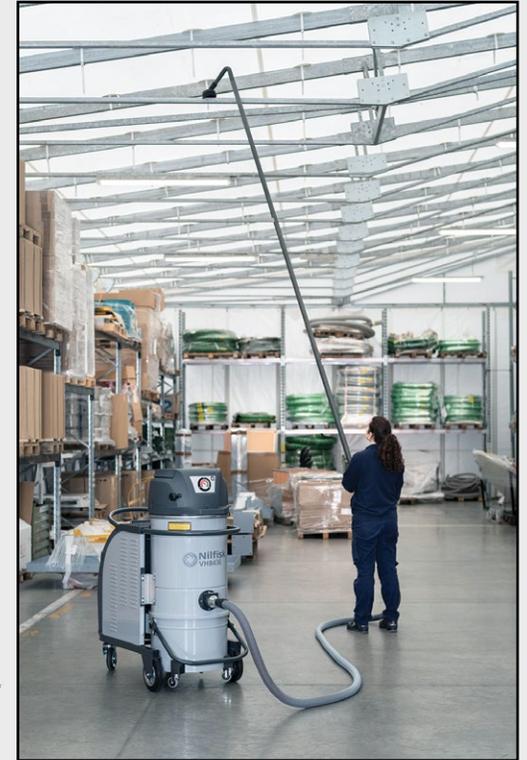
with equipment that consumes less. No matter which opportunities we pursue, we remain driven by a passion for innovation, knowledge, sustainability, and transformative technologies. As a trusted partner when it comes to both equipment and services – anywhere in the world – we make it our business to help you maximize the performance of yours.

For more information, please contact us at [www.nilfisk.us](http://www.nilfisk.us).

Today, Nilfisk offers an extensive range of premium cleaning products and a trusted after-market offering to the professional market. Our main product lines are floorcare equipment, vacuum cleaners and high pressure washers and a wide range



## Nilfisk America



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Haws® holds itself to the highest standard when it comes to a safety culture with recognition by OSHA and SHARP (Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program) status. Our safety culture is engrained in all we do, by providing ANSI Z358.1 compliance resources and education, the products we develop and recommend, to the service and maintenance we provide.



Haws® Services is a warranty and service provider for all brands of emergency shower and eye/face wash products to ensure your emergency equipment is ANSI compliant and functioning properly. From startup and commissioning to annual inspections and preventative maintenance, *Haws Services'* experts specialize in emergency response equipment.

In a safety industry survey<sup>1</sup> conducted by *Haws*, professionals who make product recommendations and/or buying decisions were asked what they considered the most crucial factors when selecting an eyewash and/or eyewash/shower combination unit. Not surprisingly, the top answers were ANSI compliance and victim comfort. Victim comfort is an important consideration to creating a complete safety response environment. By putting yourself in a victim's shoes, you are most likely to purchase equipment that not only meets the ANSI standard but provides the most critical care during an emergency.

Based on testing by *Haws Services* it was found while all sites believed they were complying, 75% of equipment tested was

actually non-compliant for both minor and significant violations.<sup>2</sup>

When selecting, placing, and maintaining your emergency equipment, remember these five key things:

**1. Proper Product**

**Specification:** When it comes to emergency response equipment, there is no shortage of available products. With many choices, it's important to critically assess specific risks to determine the most suitable product.

**2. Assure Proper Visibility:**

High visibility of safety equipment can be achieved with clear signage, proper lighting and the use of the "safety green" color. This color is used industrially to designate both the concept of safety and the physical locations of first aid and emergency response equipment.

**3. Provide Tepid Water:**

Excessive temperatures in equipment can exacerbate the very injuries the safety equipment is designed to reduce. By selecting a suitable mixing valve and

defining a tepid water range that is more comfortable to the user, you are encouraging the full flush period.

**4. Perform Continuous Maintenance and Testing:**

One implied responsibility of specifying and installing emergency equipment is assuring a maintenance process is designed to keep safety equipment functioning optimally. Testing should replicate a real-life scenario and the proper coordination of testing alleviates any concerns related to functionality allowing your safety team an instant reference for monitoring all safety equipment performance.

**5. Create a Robust Safety Culture:**

In 2016, OSHA increased its penalties by 80% and continues to increase annually based on the Consumer Price Index yearly percentage increase<sup>3</sup>. Studies have shown workplace injuries are reduced in settings in which health and safety inspections have direct

## Haws Corporation

consequences for violations. The hope is emergency eyewashes and showers will never be used, and it is this mindset that exposes facilities to risks and potential severe fines for non-compliance. The key to overcoming this is developing a strong safety culture and understanding the risks of non-compliance.

Knowledgeable personnel should be responsible for the execution of a cohesive safety program necessary to meet minimum requirements and to cultivate a culture of safety for all. *Haws Services* offers various safety service offerings to help standardize and maintain safety equipment. A subject matter expert can be a helpful resource to alleviate workload and guarantee functionality.

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1 2014 Independent research survey, Haws Corporation

2 Based on results from Haws Site Survey Program

3 OSHA fines to increase significantly. (2015, November 5) Retrieved from <http://www.safetyandhealthmagazine.com/articles/13258-osa-fines-to-increase-significantly>



# EXECUTIVE VOICE

## CORPORATE PROFILE

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### About Us

Gamber-Johnson is a leading supplier of rugged mounting systems that safely secure mobile communication systems, computers and other electronic equipment in fleet vehicles, public safety vehicles, forklifts and other mobility applications. Their products are used by law enforcement, public safety, military, and warehouse fleets around the globe and are known for being rugged, reliable and responsive.

Gamber-Johnson has always strived to be at the forefront of technologies; Founded in 1954 as a wooden furniture manufacturer that housed radios to a globally recognized rugged mount manufacturer for critical job-related technologies. The idea of “supporting technology to help save the world” has fueled innovation and company direction since the beginning. This evolution from producing furniture in 1954 to becoming a 21st-century world leader in mounting equipment for electronics was a natural progression, fostered by company culture and continuous improvement. As a result, the company currently exports to more than 40 countries, with installations in thousands of fleets worldwide.

Today, Gamber-Johnson is still proudly made in Stevens Point, Wisconsin, and manufactures **rugged, reliable, and responsive**, complete mounting solutions and systems for laptop, tablet, and

handheld computers, radios, light, and audio products, cameras, printers, keyboards, and other devices. Partnering with major technology manufacturers such as Dell, Getac, Panasonic, Samsung, and Zebra, Gamber-Johnson is a trusted name in the industry. With more than 20 patents and counting, the company has received numerous awards and accolades as an industry leader. These include:

- The President’s “E” and “E” Star Award: Recognize outstanding contributions and growth to U.S. exports.
- Wisconsin Governor’s Export Achievement Award: Honors the company’s work in furthering Wisconsin’s global economy.
- The Cygnus Innovation Award: Acknowledging that the company is at the cutting edge of emerging technologies.
- Gamber-Johnson has been nominated as Wisconsin Manufacturer of the Year eight times, winning a special award for Outstanding Customer Relations in 2019.
- J.P. Leggett Innovator Award from Leggett & Platt
- “Workplace of Distinction” by Corporate Report Wisconsin.

Gamber-Johnson’s dedication to producing products that are rugged, reliable, and responsive is



unparalleled. The Gamber-Johnson name has become synonymous with high quality products that can withstand even the most extreme situations. Our products are designed and tested for long term durability and performance. Combined with a strong focus on customer service, the Gamber-Johnson brand is also uniquely responsive, offering custom-designed solutions, lightning-fast production and shipping and working directly with technology partners to ensure the optimum fit and function every time.

From the company’s local origins to its modern-day global impact, Gamber-Johnson has continued pursuing its mission — supporting our heroes and saving the world through a laser-like focus on innovation. This is accomplished by

understanding individual needs and making recommendations based on them for improved technology/docking/mounting solutions.



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# EXECUTIVE VOICE

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### Why Ideal Shield is the leader in Facility Maintenance & Protection Products

#### About Us

Officially established in 1997, Ideal Shield is a minority-owned, family-run company headquartered in Detroit, Michigan.

Since 1997, Ideal Shield has been covering bollards, guardrail, and handrail with plastic to limit maintenance needs within plants and warehouses all over North America. The company has also been covering the needs of customers since then with the mentality that “the customer is king”. This has led to working directly with customers

to design new products that cover their every need.

“We’ve Got You Covered” is more than just a tagline. It’s the way Ideal Shield has been operating its business since its beginning when Frank Venegas saw the growth potential for two of his most popular inventions, the plastic-sleeved steel pipe guardrail system,

and the Bumper Post Sleeve or Bollard Cover, which went from a “crazy idea” to architecturally specified all over the country.

Now, officially celebrating 25 years in business, Ideal Shield continues to be an industry leader. Featuring five manufacturing plants across the country including a 75,000 sq.



ft. facility in Detroit, Michigan, Ideal Shield has a talented workforce that produces and fabricates an extensive product catalog designed to limit cost and maintenance time while improving productivity and appearance.

From a single bollard to national rollout capabilities, Ideal Shield can cover it all. Contact the sales team today!



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