

Temporary Worker Safety

Handout

Four out of every 10 workers injured at work have been on the job for less than a year. As a temporary worker, you're much more likely to be part of that group and, therefore, to face an increased risk of work-related injury and illness. So, you'll need to be vigilant about protecting yourself on the job. Here's how you can do that.

Understand your assigned job duties.

- If it's part of your assigned duties, you should receive the training and equipment you need to do the job safely.
- If it's not part of your assigned duties, or if you haven't received training, don't jump in just to be helpful. You could get hurt.
- If you're not sure you're supposed to do a job, or if you're not sure how to do it safely, ask your supervisor.

Know what to do in an emergency.

- Know what each type of emergency alarm sounds like and how to react.
- Know how and when to activate the emergency alarm system.
- Know at least two ways to get out of the building from your assigned work area.
- Know where the assembly point is.
- If you work with or near hazardous chemicals, know where the nearest emergency eyewash and shower are located and how to activate them.

Work together with your supervisor.

- Your supervisor's job is to make sure the work gets done as efficiently and safely as possible.
- If you observe a situation that you think is hazardous, tell your supervisor.
- If you are not sure you can do a job safely, tell your supervisor.
- If you need something you don't have or can't find, tell your supervisor.
- If you suffer an injury or illness at work, report it to your supervisor.
- If you have a "close call," tell your supervisor.

Make an effort to learn about hazards in your work area.

- Know how to work safely with hazardous chemicals.
- Know how to stay safe around hazardous machinery.
- Understand your role in lockout/tagout.
- Know how to use your personal protective equipment properly.