19 November

(A&B Group, Inc.) Health & Safety Newsletter

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Portable or permanently installed standby generators can come in handy during long-term power outages. However, if you do not know how to use them properly, they can be dangerous. Contact a qualified vendor or electrician to help you determine what generator is best suited to your needs. Before using, read and follow manufacturer's instructions.

If you are installing a permanent generator, it must have a transfer switch. The transfer switch prevents energy from leaving your generator and going back onto the utility electrical equipment, when it could be dangerous to a lineman or others near downed power lines, a process known as "back feed." A qualified electrician should install your generator and transfer switch.

Safe Electricity has the following tips to use portable generators safely:

- Operate it outdoors in an area with plenty of ventilation. Never run a generator in a home or garage. Generators give off deadly carbon monoxide.
- Do not plug a generator into the wall to avoid back feed. Use heavy-duty extension cords to connect appliances to the outlets on the generator.
- Turn the generator on before plugging appliances to it. Once the generator is running, turn your appliances and lights on one at a time to avoid overloading the unit. Remember, generators are for temporary usage; prioritize your needs.
- Generators pose electrical risks, especially when operated in wet conditions. Use a
 generator only when necessary when the weather creates wet or moist conditions.
 Protect the generator by operating it under an open, canopy-like structure on a dry
 surface where water cannot form puddles or drain under it. Always ensure your
 hands are dry before touching the generator.
- Be sure the generator is turned off and cool before fueling it.
- Keep children and pets away from portable generators. Many generator components are hot enough to burn you during operation.

Safe Electricity suggests these safety guidelines and basic operating instructions be posted in the home and with the generator.



Safe Winter Driving Tips

General preventive driving habits can make a big difference in winter driving safety. Before beginning any trip, remember to check the current road conditions and closures, weather forecast and local winter requirements such as use of tire chains. For highway information 24 hours a day, check your state's Department of Transportation website.

- Buckle up!
- Before departing, have a contingency plan for what you will do if weather conditions deteriorate.
- **Don't ignore dashboard warning lights!** Be mindful that the regeneration process that is required for emissions control will not execute in extreme temperatures.
- **Be conscious of weather conditions** that may limit visibility. Keep your headlights on at all times and use low beam headlights when there's poor visibility.
- **Give yourself plenty of room** between your vehicle and the others on the road. Avoid traveling alongside snow plows and give extra room at least 200 feet between your vehicle and other snow service vehicles on the road.
- **Avoid sudden braking** that can be extra dangerous with slick road conditions. Do not use cruise control and avoid abrupt driving maneuvers.
- **Use extra caution and lower your speed** when approaching curves and intersections to reduce the chance of losing control. Be aware of icy conditions that occur especially on bridges and overpasses.
- Be aware of the signs of cold-related stress: fatigue, confusion, shivering and slowed breathing.
- **Do not let your truck idle.** The Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) tank freezes at about 10 degrees, so make sure to begin driving your truck immediately to ensure the heaters warm up DEF in order for it to circulate throughout the engine.
- **Brush snow and ice from the vehicles rooftop** before traveling, which will keep the windshield and mirrors clean for better visibility.
- **Use a solid, 3-point stance** when entering and exiting vehicle cabs. Wear appropriate footwear for the weather conditions. Be aware of ice and snow on walking surfaces, as well as falling snow and ice from the top of your vehicle.
- If you have to stop or pull over, find a safe spot to do so. If you cannot get off of the road, make sure your truck is as visible as possible use emergency triangles, cones, flashers and a reflective vest.
- **Maintain at least a half tank of gas** during winter season. Along with the correctly blended fuel, this will keep the fuel lines from freezing.
- In a skid, turn into the skid. Depress the clutch fast; Look at the left mirror only; Steer and counter-steer as fast as you can to get back in front of the trailer.
- **Keep an emergency supply** of water, non-perishable food, extra clothes and blankets in case of a vehicle breakdown or other emergency.
- Don't ask your truck to do more than it can. If you don't feel comfortable driving, park it. Period.

Clay Cormier DOT Safety Manager

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR SAFETY???



Every person is the architect of their own fortune, good or bad, depends on the individual's acceptance of personal responsibility.

At a young age, we are taught to assume responsibilities. ("Look before you cross the street . . . playing with matches is dangerous . . . be home before dark . . .") Even today, as adults, we still learn and decide whether to accept certain obligations. Young or old, we make individual choices.

When responsibilities are shunned or rejected, someone must cope with the results. Police officers, judges, juvenile officers, and social workers respond to most of these rejections in our society. In safety, doctors, nurses, and funeral directors deal with the consequences of rejected responsibilities.

There are laws, both federal and state, designed to spell out responsibilities for safety in the workplace, but actual performance of these obligations still belongs to you.

By accepting and practicing safety responsibility, you insure your future both at home and on-the-job. You do the same for your fellow worker as well, because socially and morally you are responsible for preventing accidents to others as well.

- If you see an unsafe act, do something about it point it out so others are aware and can avoid future mistakes.
- Point out to other employees when safety isn't being practiced. (IT MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE SOMEDAY!) After all, it's their responsibility to prevent an accident to you as well.
- Be willing to serve on a safety committee. Be more than just a member, be active and creative.
- Use good work habits don't be impulsive, and remember that hurry up can hurt!
- Develop the attitude that "If I do something wrong, I'm going to get hurt!" Then do the job the right way.
- If you are a supervisor help new employees learn that safety is the rule, not the exception. Teach them proper safety responsibility before you turn them loose.
- Practice leaving personal problems and emotional stress away from the job.
- Remember that accidents don't happen they are caused.
- Correct little mistakes before they grow into permanent bad habits.
- While attempts may be made to cloud or reject the responsibility for safety, when all is said and done, safety responsibility is up to you. You are the architects of your own fortune.
- "Practice safety don't learn it through Accidental Experience."

WORK RESPONSIBLY AND HELP EACH OTHER OUT

Lauren Vincent Industrial Safety Manager



Birthdays



September Birthdays

Christine Granger- 9/5

Charles Hammer- 9/6

Anthony Owczynsky- 9/10

Kevin Simms- 9/22

William Morales- 9/24

Kevin Trimmer- 9/25

Elvis Ballard- 9/29

October Birthdays

Darla Perry- 10/8

David Hardy 10/20

Jimmy Thompson- 10/23

Darrick Prater- 10/27

Tracy Seay- 10/30

Eugene Mayes- 10/31

November Birthdays

Hillary Rougeau- 11/11

Nicholas Roy- 11/16

Steve Magda- 11/16

Brandi Brown- 11/19

Donald Hargrave- 11/19

Mario Tanguma- 11/27

Work Anniversaries

September Work Anniversaries

Ben'Nequa Curtis- 1 year

Clay Cormier- 1 year

Robert Miles- 1 year

Colby Frey- 2 years

Will Taylor- 2 year

George Tanguma- 3 years

Robert Vincent- 3 years

Twila Gabriel- 4 years

October Work Anniversaries

Nicholas Roy- 6 years

Darrick Prater- 7 years

Ryan Theunissen- 7 years

November Work Anniversaries

Tracy Seay- 4 years

Clean DOT Inspections

A special thank you to **William Morales** out of the Pasadena Terminal as well as **Donald Hargrave** & **Jimmy Thompson** from the Sulphur Terminal!! All 3 drivers received Clean DOT Inspections for A & B Transport.

They each received a \$100 bonus on their check for the Clean DOT Inspection.



What did you learn?

Name:		Date:
1.		nich of the following can be found in n blueberries, blackberries and purple cabbage and it linked to art health, brain health and cognitive function?
	a.	Lycopene
1.	b.	Anthocyanins
	C.	Sulforaphane
2.	Lis	t 3 symptoms of heat stroke.
	a.	
	b.	
	C.	
3.	dri	study conducted by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration revealed that eating while ving increased the odds of an accident by percent.
	b.	48
	C.	80

If you return this portion completed to the Safety Department by November 30th, you will be entered into a drawing for 2- \$25.00 gift cards. Good Luck!