



Pacific Maritime Association

Accident Prevention Department

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SAFETY BULLETIN 01-07

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2000 INJURY ANALYSIS

INFORMATION



As a result of changes in the PMA data system, the injury and illness analysis is changed this year. Instead of looking at accidents solely from a single dimension, the analysis this year will drill down into the top injured occupations in order to identify areas for a safety corrective focus in 2001.

In 2000 the most injured occupations on the waterfront were Lashers, Semi Tractor drivers, Holdmen and Mechanics.



The most common injuries in 2000 were sprains, contusions and cuts. While the most common cause was slips trips and falls and being "struck by" an object.



Taking a closer look at lasher injuries, most were caused by being struck or by slipping and falling. However there were significant over exertion and over extension injuries.



Not surprisingly lashing injuries were mainly caused by lashing bars. However turnbuckles also played a big roll in lasher injuries. Examining injuries by body parts shows: torsos, hands, legs and heads were injured most often with fingers, backs, knees and shoulders being the most injured parts of the larger groupings.

<u>Part</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Total</u>
Head	Head	25
Neck	head	14
Eye	Head	13
Forehead	head	9

Mouth	head	8
Nose	Head	6
Jaw or Cheek	Head	5
Ear, External	Head	2
Scalp	Head	2
Head Total		84
Shoulder	body	41
Ribs	body	7
Abdomen	body	5
Chest	body	4
Groin	body	3
Musculo-skeletal	body	2
Buttocks	body	1
Body Total		63
Back Total	Back	59
Elbow	Arm	20
Arm, Forearm	Arm	11
Arm, Upper	Arm	9
Arm	Arm	6
Arm Total		46
Fingers	Hand	60
Hand	Hand	30
Wrist	Hand	23

Hand Total		113
Knee	leg	51
Leg, Lower	leg	16
Leg	leg	9
Hip	leg	5
Leg, Thigh	leg	4
Leg Total		85
Foot	foot	18
Ankle	foot	17
Toes	foot	4
Foot Total		39

Semi Tractors

Semi Tractor accident data show more causes than lasher accidents. However looking closely, the accidents occur in three major groups. First are jostling accidents where either the container is set down hard on the chassis or the chassis is picked up and dropped. Secondly there are still a lot of slips trips and falls from Semi Tractors. Thirdly are collisions with another vehicle or with a fixed object. Although not as prevalent, drivers have also been affected by respiratory illnesses and injuries.



The number three occupation sustaining high numbers of injuries is the holdman. This worker comes in close contact with the cargo and therefore sustains more direct injuries than other occupations.



In addition to back injuries, Holdmen suffer more leg injuries proportionately than other occupations.



Holdmen get injured directly by the cargo and by the cargo gear due to their standing and walking on the cargo and while rigging it for lifting.