Aerial Work Platform Safety Around Power Lines

When operating an aerial platform around power lines, consider the following:

• Maintain the appropriate clearance distances (see Safety Bulletin #22: “Addendum A” for chart).
• Inspect the equipment, including the hydraulic systems, prior to operation.
• Evaluate the location and consult the local utility company, if necessary.

Overall, take reasonable precaution when working around power lines, and contact your supervisor or safety representative for additional information.

For additional information see Safety Bulletin #22: Guidelines for the Use of Elevating Work Platforms (Scissor Lifts) and Aerial Extensible Boom Platforms and “Addendum A”—Power Line Distance Requirements at www.csatf.org by clicking on Safety Bulletins under the Production Affairs and Safety tab.

CSATF SPOTLIGHT

Diana Humphrey joined the staff of the Substance Testing Program (STP) as a coordinator in September of 2013. In addition to ensuring that the day-to-day functions of the STP are running smoothly, Diana devotes her energy to managing the specific concerns of each individual she comes into contact with.

She tries to address each person with respect and courtesy, as if they were her only customer. When they are frustrated, she is mindful that other factors in their lives may be contributing to the stress of the situation, so the best thing she can do is to provide the information they need in a clear and pleasant manner.

Diana says that being an employee in the STP department is challenging, demanding a high level of attention to detail. Diana has a positive, can-do attitude and enjoys being part of an organization that helps its participants adapt to changing needs and regulations in a way that makes it easier for them to do their jobs safely and efficiently.

When asked how someone who knows her would describe her, Diana laughs and says, “That I’m a Packer fan, of course! What people may be surprised to find out about me is that I’m artistic.” Diana draws, paints, and uses a camera to capture images featuring landscapes and animals. When not at work, Diana uses her camera as an excuse to go to quiet, peaceful places, finding subjects to photograph, and sometimes also paint.

STUDIO SAFETY HOTLINES

Every employee has the right to report unsafe conditions or unsafe practices to their employer without fear of reprisal. As part of an Injury and Illness Prevention Program, the Studio Safety Hotline (888.7.SAFELY or 888.772.3359) is the industry-wide hotline for participating studios. The directory can connect you to any studio. A complete list of studio safety hotlines can be found in the back of each course book.

Winter is coming

Winter weather is around the corner. Whether your location is on a mountain top or right here in Southern California, bad weather can make for a very bad day. The best advice is to be prepared—monitor local weather, have appropriate clothing, and have a reliable method of communicating with coworkers and family.

Interesting weather facts:
• Lightning can strike several miles away from a storm
• It does not have to be raining at your specific location for a flood to occur
• Wind can be destructive whether it is a hot or cold wind

Safety Bulletin #38: Guidelines for Inclement or Severe Weather covers extreme conditions, including tornados, blizzards, and hurricanes. If you will be working at a location that is prone to severe weather, check this safety bulletin for tips.

Check our website for additional information and current office hours: www.csatf.org