



Safety Bulletin

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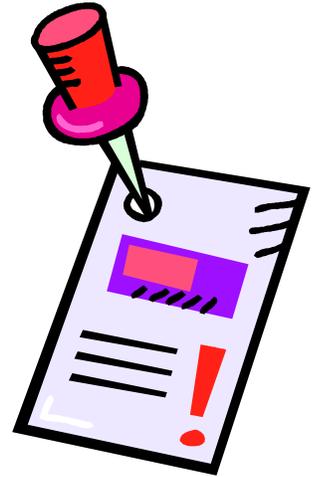
Mobile District
Safety and Occupational
Health Office

Did You Know?

Forty-five percent of the U.S. population is protected by the 7% of fire departments made up entirely of career firefighters.

Activity Hazard Analysis

Bulletin #05-03 discussed the requirements for Activity Hazard Analyses as they pertain to contractors. NOW we wanted to emphasize the requirements for AHA's as related to USACE activities and personnel, even though these requirements ARE NOT NEW. Again, **Activity Hazard Analyses (AHA's), are such critical documents to the success of an activity or project, that we want to make sure everyone is made aware of when they are required.** Understand that the information included in the AHA's shall be pertinent to the job at hand and shall be made as specific as possible. The AHA's are not meant to be developed by just field office personnel but also by District office personnel that perform field activities. Review the activities required by your job and determine which would require AHA's and develop them accordingly. Remember, if you have any questions, we are here to help you so give us a call.



PLEASE POST AND SHARE WITH OTHERS.

01.A.14. An **AHA** shall be prepared and documented for each USACE activity as warranted by the hazards associated with the activity. Generally, an AHA shall be prepared for all field operations.



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OSHA Recordkeeping Handbook Available Online

OSHA has a new publication on its website to aid employers and workers in understanding the agency's recordkeeping policies, procedures and requirements. The [OSHA Recordkeeping Handbook](#) combines information from the agency's recordkeeping rule, the recordkeeping policies and procedures manual, as well as tools and guidance materials from throughout the agency's website. The handbook allows the user to easily locate specific information pertaining to each section of the rule, and also contains recordkeeping-related Frequently Asked Questions and OSHA's enforcement guidance that has previously been presented in various agency Letters of Interpretation.





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We're on the web:
www.sam.usace.army.mil/so

• **Seatbelts Save Police Officers' Lives, Too**

• **Those who don't wear them 2.6 times more likely to die in crash**

• FRIDAY, Jan. 28 (HealthDayNews) -- Police officers who don't wear their seatbelts are 2.6 times more likely to die in patrol crashes than officers who wear seatbelts, says a University at Buffalo study in the January issue of the Journal of Trauma.

• "More police officers died from traffic accidents in 2003 than from gunshot wounds," lead author Dr. Dietrich Jehle, associate professor of emergency medicine at the university's School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences, said in a prepared statement.

• "The fact that traffic-related crash fatalities now are greater than the number of officers killed by felons suggests this issue needs to be revisited on a national scale," he said.

• Jehle and his colleagues analyzed data from the national Fatality Analysis Reporting System. For their study, they included only occupants in the police vehicle involved in the crash and only crashes where there was information about seatbelt use.

• They identified 516 occupants of police vehicles that met the study criteria from 1997 to 2001. Of those 516 people, 106 died in the crash. Twenty percent (104 people) of those who died were not wearing seatbelts. The analysis revealed that 40.4 percent of the unbelted officers died, compared to 15.5 percent of those who were wearing seatbelts.

• Rushing to a crime scene was not the major reason that police officers didn't use their seatbelts. Sixty percent of the fatalities occurred when officers were responding to non-emergency calls, the study found.

• "Civilians are often ticketed for not wearing their seatbelts, but paradoxically, police officers are exempt from this law because of the amount of additional gear they have to wear," Jehle said.

• "The thought is that seatbelts can get tangled up in the gear. Plus, officers get in and out of their cars many times a day, which makes buckling up an inconvenience. Even police departments that have seatbelt rules often don't enforce them vigorously," he noted.

• Improved seatbelt technology might make officers more willing to buckle up, he said.

• "Belts could be engineered to release as soon as the door opens or when the car is shifted into park," Jehle said.

More information

The National Safety Council has more about [seatbelts](#).

Activity Hazard Analysis, continued from page 1



a. The GDA, using the advice of the safety and occupational health office, shall determine the need for an AHA for each activity within their area of responsibility.

b. In developing the AHA for a particular activity, USACE supervisors should draw upon the knowledge and experience of employees in that activity and the safety and occupational health office.

c. The Government will use this process to assess and manage the risk associated with the project.

REMEMBER: Just like Contractor-developed AHA's, those developed for COE activities require that you provide the names of the competent/qualified person(s) required for a particular activity (i.e., excavations, scaffolding, fall protection and other activities as specified by OSHA and the EM 385-1-1). The AHA should be reviewed and modified/updated as necessary to changing conditions or personnel (see paragraph 01.A.13.).