

## SAFETY BULLETIN: Vehicle Repair Shop Safety

### Ready Mixed Concrete and Vehicle Repair Shop Safety

According to the National Ready Mixed Concrete Association nearly 75% of all ready mixed concrete production facilities include at least a small repair shop. Large trucks, dangerous chemicals, heavy objects, flammable materials, and powered equipment are all part of implementing a Safety Management System in a shop. Keeping shop employees and shop visitors safe starts with making sure shop housekeeping is a priority. Shops can get rather cluttered in a short period of time. Strict procedures should be in place to maintain an orderly shop. Whether its securely storing tools and equipment, testing fire alarms regularly, replacing burned out lights, or making sure emergency exits are clear, organization is the key.

### Safety for Repair Shop Mechanics in the Ready Mixed Concrete Industry

Safety for shop mechanics starts with understanding that the job's not done until all the tools are put away. Make sure the proper gloves are used to avoid abrasions, burns and cuts. Always use proper lifting techniques for heavy objects. Safety goggles/face shields are a must when welding and grinding. Steel toed boots with non-slip soles reduce the risk of slipping and falling. Use ear protection when around loud equipment. Always use lockout, tagout procedures, including wheel chocks, when working on or in a mixer truck. Make sure spilled oil, transmission fluid, or other liquids are cleaned up immediately to reduce the risk of slips and falls. Sweep and clean floors daily. Never eat or drink in the shop to avoid contamination with chemicals. Make sure the shop is vented properly to avoid harmful fumes. Never smoke in the shop. Never work under a vehicle unless all jacks are set and stable. Keep your hazard communication program up-to-date and available to all employees. Make sure cell phones are kept secure in the shop office to limit unsafe distractions. Finally, make sure the shop has an emergency action plan and mechanics know what to do in case of an emergency.

### Shop Staff and Visitors... Dos and Don'ts

- Think first before entering a shop
- Verbally announce yourself when entering a shop
- Park your vehicle in designated spot, never behind rolling doors
- Be especially mindful of wet or slippery floors
- Only walk within designated walkways
- Wear appropriate PPE (hardhat, gloves, goggles, hearing protection)
- Never stand in front of or behind a moving vehicle
- No smoking in the shop
- Follow all posted safety signage

### Resources

OSHA: [Autobody Repair and Refinishing](#)

NRMCA Safety Series: [Repair Shop Safety for the Ready Mixed Concrete Industry](#)