



FORESTRY SAFETY ASSOCIATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

FALL 2015

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 1

Message from the Executive Director

I would like to welcome you all to the first edition of the Forestry Safety Association of Newfoundland and Labrador's (FSANL'S) first ever newsletter.

The Forestry Safety Association of Newfoundland and Labrador is a not for profit organization that is governed by a board of directors representing the different stakeholders in the forest industry.

We provide various safety training courses that are specific to the forest industry. We also provide safety information and safety program guidance at little or no cost to our members. If you are regis-

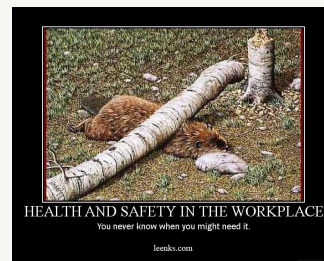
tered in a forestry NIC code with WorkplaceNL you are automatically a member and can avail of member pricing on all safety training courses.

The association was originally established to aid the forest industry but I am pleased to announce that we have expanded our services to include service to the private sector. There are a lot of homes in our province that use wood to heat their homes and cabins. There have been too many accidents on both the commercial and domestic sides in our forests and FSANL is here to help. Many of us know how to use a chainsaw but a lot of

us either don't wear the proper safety gear or not maintaining our saws in the proper way. Not one of us that has used a saw can say we never had a close call because that would be a lie. FSANL is committed to safety in the forest and we are a resource for you to use. If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact me at anytime. I don't have all the answers but I have a board of directors that work in all facets of the industry and they will get the answer for us. Safety is everyone's responsibility and we have to take it seriously. Nobody plans on getting injured when they leave for work.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- ◆ FSANL AGM—TBD
- ◆ FSANL 5th Annual Safety Conference in Deer Lake, NL—TBD



Toolbox Talk

Fall is a beautiful time of year when all the trees begin changing color and the landscape becomes a sea of red, yellow and orange. Even though the fall is the best time to work in the woods, it also brings with it hidden hazards we may overlook.

Daylight savings time comes to an end and the days get shorter. We have to plan our activities around the amount of daylight we have and ensure we have enough artificial light to finish the job safely.

Fall weather can change really quickly and we get more precipitation during this time. Make sure you dress adequately for the season, not the day. We all know that fall temps can be nice to start the day and can plummet very quickly and a clear sky can change to rain.

Our provinces forests belong to all of us and FSANL promotes the safe use of our forests. That being said there are many users who go out to enjoy

the beautiful season for different reasons and one big one is hunting. Hunters must obey "No Hunting" signs and watch where they are using their firearm. Hunters must be aware of what is behind their target and ensure they only shoot when it is safe and obey all hunting laws pertaining to their activity.

Everyone in the forest during this season should wear blaze orange to be seen and not be mistaken for an animal.

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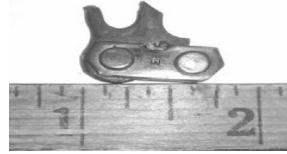


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Chain Shot

“Chain shot can maintain its lethal velocity after penetrating a polycarbonate glass window or ricocheting off a hard object”.

What is chain shot?



It's when a piece of saw chain separates from the end of a broken chain and travels at high speed. Chain shot can travel at the speed and force of a bullet.

WARNING:

Chain shot can maintain its lethal velocity after penetrating a polycarbonate glass window or ricocheting off a hard object.

How does chain shot happen?

1. First, the loop of saw chain

breaks and forms two ends.

2. If the leading end is not contained by the saw box, a chain guard, or a chain catcher, it can rapidly accelerate past the drive sprocket or bar tip in a whip-like motion.

3. At the peak of the whip, a second break occurs that sends saw chain pieces at high speed.

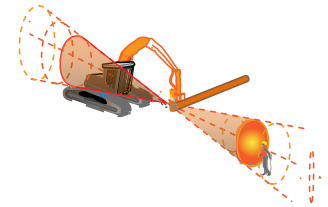
Who is at risk?

Operators of harvester heads, stroke delimiters, or dangle-head processors are most at risk, especially if they are working within a chain shot zone. However, anyone in or near the chain shot zones (e.g., other machine operators, chasers, truck drivers, bystanders)

is at risk of being struck by chain shot.

What are chain shot zones?

They are cone-shaped danger areas projecting from both ends of the guide bar along its plane, where potential chain shot is most likely to travel at great distances.



To learn how to prevent chain shot visit our website nlforest-safety.ca

Member Spotlight Majors Logging



Major's Logging Limited is a privately owned, family business with more than 30 years of experience in timber harvesting, forest biomass production, transmission line clearing, forest road and bridge construction, snow clearing, highway bridge construction, trucking and equipment maintenance.

With expansion and diversification, safety played a critical role in worker safety, planning expansion, bidding on contracts and building a culture of safe, efficient production. In 2014, Major's secured a multi-year

contract with Emera Newfoundland and Labrador (ENL) which again further expanded the scope of work and the need for managing safety effectively.

Major's is COR Certified and contributes to CBPP's low OSHA rate of 0.93 (2014) as CBPP's largest forest contractor. Further, Major's management and employees are very proud of the fact that they have not experienced a single recordable incident on the complex ENL Project.

It is not by chance that Major's enjoys an excellent safety culture.

A comprehensive training (Orientation, Powerline Hazards, JOHSC Certification and Job/Task Specific etc.) takes place for all workers in addition to a written formal risk assessment and control process. In addition, Policies and Safe Work Procedures are in place for all high risk activities. Major's management has dedicated the time, people and resources to ensure safety is managed equally with all aspects of the business and strives to make the safety program “real” in the day to day work in all divisions of the company.

Thanks to our Corporate Sponsor



The Forestry Safety Association would like to take this opportunity to thank Deer Lake Home Hardware and Power Sports for the generous donation of the chainsaw used to deliver the chainsaw safety awareness course.

Being a not for profit organiza-

tion FSANL relies on business partnerships to help ease the financial burden of running the association. By partnering with local business it helps FSANL provide safety training and information at little or no cost to you the members.

If your business would like to

be a corporate sponsor of FSANL drop us a line at:

ExecutiveDirector@fsanl.ca

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FORESTRY SAFETY ASSOCIATION OF NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Safety Business

“reducing
accidents will
reduce costs, and
reducing costs
will improve
profits”.

It is important to look at a few perspectives on the “business” aspects of safety. While we are all very concerned about the health and well-being of our employees, and ensuring that our employees get home safely from work every day, there is still the important business component to consider. Employers know from their WorkplaceNL assessments that accidents cost money. Indeed, the cost of workplace accidents are directly linked to these assessments – the higher the accident costs, the higher the assessment.

Then we have all the “indirect costs” such as lost productivity associated with training a replace-

ment worker. There is the loss of knowledge and experience that the injured worker has that is now gone from your worksite. There are usually overtime costs associated with replacing the injured worker. Also if your company is seen as not being concerned for safety at the workplace your company can experience bad publicity that can actually ruin your business.

Taking the time to properly train and orientate a worker to your operations will ensure that your employees are safe and will in turn make your workplace safe. A properly trained worker is more productive, happier and will take

pride in their work (your business) when they feel safe at work and know that their employer is concerned for their safety.

The business implication is simple, “reducing accidents will reduce costs, and reducing costs will improve profits”. Indeed, the slogan of our safety association is **“Safety is good business – Plain and Simple!”**



Due Diligence in the Workplace

Due diligence occurs when actions normally considered reasonable in a particular circumstance are taken. Due diligence can be used as a defense under the law. In cases where a serious workplace accident has occurred and legal action has been taken, defendants will want to prove they were duly diligent. This means that they took all reasonable precautions to prevent the accident.

Due diligence should be an everyday part of “doing business”. Making it a part of normal business life means creating a safety culture where the employer is involved and supports workers, supervisors, Occupational Health and Safety Committees and Worker Health and Safety Representatives/ Workplace Health and Safety Designates. All workers, regardless of their position within an organization, have an obligation to practice due diligence.

The Basic Elements of Due Diligence:

Due diligence can be described as “a system approach that provides information, instruction, training, supervision, verification of knowl-

edge, and correction of physical and human hazards.” The Basic Elements of Due Diligence include the following:

Information and Instruction (Education)

This part of the system ensures that workers receive the appropriate level of education they need to work safely. Education routinely takes place in classroom-type group settings, crew talks, one-on-one safety reviews, or through written or verbal directions.

Training:

Typically takes place on the job assigned. A training system includes training standards, selection of trainers, supervision during training, verification of training, and demonstrated competencies when training is completed.

Supervision:

This part of the system ensures:
-verification of training and education;
-identification and correction of hazards;

-direct observation of workers;
-correcting unsafe or unwanted behavior;
-direction and instruction of workers;
-response to worker questions and concerns; and
-documentation.

As a supervisor, you must have a clear understanding of your responsibilities within the safety management system.

In summary, practicing due diligence means ensuring that the employees are competent for the job tasks they are required to perform as well as understand all instructions, information and supervision. Written company policies and procedures are developed and record of training, inspections, safety meetings, equipment maintenance, incidents, and investigations are maintained. The practical steps for implementing due diligence are:

Be Aware
Be Objective
Be (Pro)Active
Take Care
Take Note

“All workers,
regardless of
their position
within an
organization,
have an
obligation to
practice due
Diligence”.



Programs offered on a continual basis, contact us to book your seat in the following courses.

Chainsaw Safety Awareness	Fall Protection (2 day)
Brush Saw Safety Awareness	Fall Protection Recertification (1 day)
Power Line Hazard	Confined Space Training (2 day)
OHS Committee Training	Environmental Awareness
Emergency and Standard First Aid	Safety for Supervisors (2 day)
Wilderness First Aid (1,2 or 3 day)	WHMIS 2015
Certificate of Recognition (COR)	Transportation of Dangerous Goods

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**WE'RE ON THE
WEB!**
nlforestsafety.ca

“SAFETY
IS
GOOD
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Working Near Power Lines



Planning Your Work

As part of the preharvest planning process, always check for power lines in the proposed work area. Most power lines are on your operating maps, but any new power lines may not be in the database. Before commencing work near power lines, contact the local electric utility office to determine the voltage of the lines, the location of any underground lines near the work area, and if working conditions are safe. Talking to the utility will help in assessing hazards, planning safeguards, as well as complying with legislation, permits (if necessary), and the utility policies on worker and public safety. Before building **capital** roads, the Supervisor will contact the utility; for **operational** roads and harvester and forwarder trails, it is the responsibility of the Contractor Supervisor.

Utility contact numbers are: **Newfoundland Power: 1 800 663 2802; Newfoundland Hydro - 1 888 737 1296.**

When planning operations, consider the following:

Ensure equipment operators working near power lines hold a valid Power Line Hazards certificate, issued with-in the last three years.

If possible, locate roads and trails so as to avoid or minimize crossing under power lines. Locate landings and loading areas away from overhead lines.

To ensure adequate clearance, locate the road or trail at least 10-15m (33-50 ft.) away from the structure supporting the lines. Clearance should allow safety from arcing, as direct contact is not necessary for current to pass through equipment. Stay clear of the anchors and guy wires that extend from the structure. Damage to these may result in fallen lines or increased sag of the line, reducing safe clearance distances.

Never attempt to measure ground clearance on your own. The electric utility has the proper tools to determine ground clearance for you.

Provide a “spotter” to ensure attachments are clear when building the part of the road directly under the power line.

Mark travel lanes under power lines within the cutover, to guide operators to cross at appropriate locations.

Mark “danger” trees that could fall into lines, so cutters can take appropriate precautions, or make alternate arrangements to remove these trees safely.

Crossing Under Lines

When a truck or piece of equipment must cross under a power line:

Ensure booms and other attachments are in the stowed or lowered position prior to crossing beneath the line.

Cross only at designated spots that have been previously identified as having adequate overhead clearances .

Don't travel directly under the wires when moving parallel to them.

Maintain at least 5.5 m (18 ft.) between overhead power lines and any extended part of a piece of equipment.

Be aware that air temperature, wind, and ice loading conditions can change the sag in overhead wires there-by affecting the clearance.

Acknowledgements

FSANL would like to take a moment to thank all the contributors of information to this newsletter. We would like to say a special thank you to NLCSA and Corner Brook Pulp and Paper Ltd for all their support and help over the last number of years and we look forward to working together to make the forest industry a safer place. We would also like to thank Rick Donato Safety Manager with Major's Logging for his contributions.