Industrial hygiene, safety and environmental consulting services

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MONTHLY SAFETY BRIEF: IN-PLANT RAIL SAFETY

As introduced in our January 2018 Safety Brief, we have added a few new safety policies. One of them is In-Plant Rail Safety Training (Hygieneering Policy 7.40). We were required to add this one due to our current work at Citgo, but it also has applications to other client sites we may visit. The policy is short, so it is presented in its entirety below for your review.

7.40 IN-PLANT RAIL SAFETY POLICY

Many of Hygieneering clients have in plant rail systems and extra care must be taken when working around or traversing passed rail lines. This policy presents the good practices required of workers in these areas.

Visibility and personal protection is important around rail lines. Approved hard hats, approved metatarsal boots and approved safety glasses with permanently attached side shields shall be worn in designated areas by Hygieneering staff. High visibility vest is also required.

Appropriate training will be conducted by the Project Manager based on complexity of the job and potential hazards related to in plant rail system. This training shall be documented for all applicable employees. The Project Manager shall perform an assessment to determine whether the personnel have the knowledge and have demonstrated skills to safely perform their work assignments.

Retraining and testing shall be required for unsatisfactory/unsafe performance of job assignments.

The following general practices shall be followed when working around rail lines:

- In all cases, employees shall cross at existing designated pedestrian rail crossings where provided. Additionally, vehicle crossings are not intended as pedestrian crossings unless they are so identified and/or located, and no other pedestrian crossings exist in the area.
- Do not cross within 10 feet of the end of a parked rail car, do not cross between uncoupled cars, stop, look and listen prior to proceeding across the tracks, and never step on rails, as they may be slippery.
- Never attempt to crawl under rail equipment or climb over moving rail equipment or attempt to cross in front of moving equipment.
- Never position any part of the body in a potential pinch point. Rail equipment can move in either direction at anytime.
- Prior to performing work within six (6) feet of any railroad track, permission must be obtained from railroad Supervisor/Designated person to take the track out of service.



IN-PLANT RAIL SAFETY QUIZ

Employee Signature		Supervisor Signature	Date
SC	CORE: PASS/FAIL		
5)	 If for some reason, your field work involves activities directly adjacent to a railcar, a. Make sure your Project Manager is informed prior to conducting work activities. b. Make sure you have approval from the client site safety manager prior to conducting work activities. c. Make sure you conduct a site safety review (job hazard analysis) of the situation due to the increased hazard potential of the railcar. d. All of the above 		
4)	Never crawl under railcars. Enough s ☐ True ☐ False	said.	
3)	Always step over rails carefully as the ☐ True ☐ False	y are a tripping hazard and can be very slippe	ery, especially when wet.
2)	Its OK to cross between un-coupled ☐ True ☐ False	rail cars if they are not connected to an engir	ie car.
1)	Since this policy was required to be practices at other client sites that may True False	e put in place for Citgo, we don't need to have in-plant rail lines.	pay attention to these