Welcome to The Hard Hat Training Series



Welcome to the Hard Hat Training Series! Today, you will learn about hazards related to working with asphalt, as well as safe practices that can prevent accidents. We will provide information that will increase your knowledge and make you a safer asphalt worker.





Asphalt is a strong adhesive that is primarily used to pave roads. However, asphalt has many other applications in such products as shingles, floor tiles, and more. Chances are that you have passed by, driven on, or benefited from asphalt multiple times today.









Asphalt is a dark brown or black adhesive that is derived from crude oil. It can be solid, semi-solid, or liquid, as well as either hot or cold.











Whether it is filling pesky potholes in the road or preventing rain from leaking into your home, asphalt is intertwined in your daily life. Unfortunately, despite its benefits, asphalt does pose some serious health risks that can cause lifelong problems.







To emphasize the dangers of asphalt work, we will look at a recent event reported to OSHA. In this event, three employees arrived onsite to pave a basketball court. Soon after, an asphalt truck pulled up with a load of hot fresh asphalt for the job.













The site manager told the truck driver that they would be transferring the asphalt from the truck to the worksite by wheelbarrow, and to dump it slowly. As the driver raised the bed of the truck to unload, the material inside shifted and broke the back gate. Employee #1, who was standing behind the truck, was completely buried by the 280-degree asphalt.











The other two workers on the scene heard Employee #1 yell and rushed to the back of the truck to dig him out of the asphalt.

Employee #1 was eventually freed, but only after sustaining severe burns on most his body. He was sent to the hospital immediately, where he was put on life support.



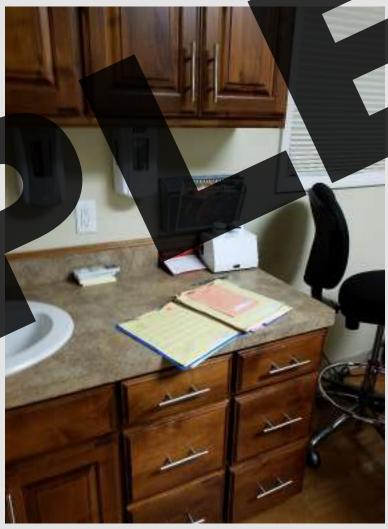






After a few agonizing days at the hospital, Employee #1 was removed from life support. He died soon after.













Incidents like this happen far more often than they should. In fact, there are more than half a million asphalt workers each year that are at risk of sustaining similar injuries and illnesses.









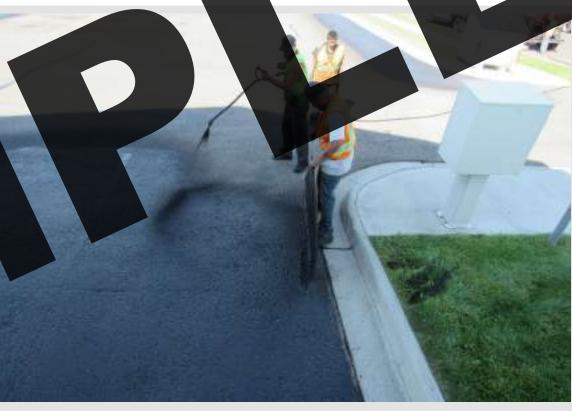
Improper asphalt practices can cause health effects spanning from burns to skin rashes and possibly cancer, just to name a few. Because of this, the dangers associated with asphalt should not be taken lightly.







In this presentation, we will cover the health risks associated with inhalation and dermal exposure to asphalt, emphasizing ways to prevent harmful exposure and protect workers.







We will cover how to spot and respond to illnesses or injuries from asphalt fumes, cold asphalt, and hot asphalt.









We will go over the personal protective equipment required to keep workers out of harm's way when working with asphalt.













We will also talk about safe practices that can be implemented to reduce possible asphalt inhalation and dermal exposure.















Finally, we will discuss other common hazards of working with asphalt, emphasizing combustible and traffic control hazards.





Upon completion of this training, you should be familiar with proper protective equipment for asphalt, how to administer first aid from asphalt exposure, and how to protect yourself and those around you from common asphalt-related hazards. This knowledge will improve safety for all those in and around your work area.









Training

Training is a crucial aspect of any job, and we will emphasize its importance many times throughout this presentation. Asphalt workers should be trained before working with asphalt and every year after that. Properly trained employees are able to react and assess situations better, and can potentially save their own lives or those of the people around them.











Initial training, as well as any evaluations or refresher courses, must be documented with the name of the person or persons who taught the class or conducted the evaluation. Although OSHA doesn't require wallet cards as proof of training, many companies and worksites do require onsite evidence that you are qualified. At the very least, in the case of an investigation, OSHA will want to see proof of proper and consistent training (in the way of training outlines, class lists, training goals, tests, certificates, etc.).





- potential risks of said chemicals pertaining to the jobsite
- Are competent in their work and understand their duties
- Utilize all proper PPE and other protective devices



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STANDARDS

- Section 5 (a)(1) OSH act of 1970 General duty clause on training
- 1910 Subpart I, Personal protective equipment
- 1910.132 General requirements
 - 1910. 34 Respiratory protection

OSHA does not have specific codes pertaining to asphalt exposure; however, codes for asphalt safety can be found within those dealing with general industry and air quality. Many of the standards in this presentation will be "best practice" standards that are published by nationally-recognized entities like NIOSH.





