

## KSU FACILITIES



# SAFETY BULLETIN

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## One of the Best Safety Speeches

In October 1987, Paul O'Neill took over as the new CEO of Alcoa Industries a struggling aluminum company. Instead of focusing on the increasing sales, reducing costs and increasing profits, O'Neill focused on worker safety. In his speech to shareholders:

***"I want to talk to you about [worker safety](#)."*** In an instant, shareholders wondered why he had omitted to talk about improving profits. After all, Alcoa was in a mess.

***"Every year, numerous Alcoa workers are injured so badly that they miss a day of work. Our safety record is better than the general workforce, especially considering that our employees work with metals that are 1500 degrees and we have machines that can rip a man's arm off. But it's not good enough. I intend to make Alcoa the safest company in America. I intend to go for zero injuries."***

O'Neill held firm, ***"I'm not certain you heard me. If you want to understand how Alcoa is doing, you need to look at our [workplace safety](#) figures. If we bring our injury rates down, it won't be because of cheerleading or the nonsense you sometimes hear from other [CEOs](#). It will be because the individuals at this company have agreed to become part of something important: They've devoted themselves to creating a habit of excellence. Safety will be an indicator that we're making progress in changing our habits across the entire institution. That's how we should be judged."***

Those who held onto their Alcoa stock were handsomely rewarded. Within a year of O'Neill's speech, Alcoa's profits hit a record high. By the year 2000, when O'Neill retired, Alcoa's market capitalization was 5 times more than what it was in 1987.

Although very successful, O'Neill communicated that he was not there to increase share holder returns, he was there to improve quality of life, to ensure that they would arrive home safety at the end of the day by transforming workplace safety into a daily habit.

ehssafetynews.wordpress.com

## Facilities Safety Program

KSU Division of Facilities has embraced the O'Neill's workplace safety philosophy. Over the past five years the entire Division has embarked on a journey of safety excellence by incorporating OSHA's Four Point Plan. This plan develops the necessary tools to promote a positive safety culture that yields results. Everyone has played a vital part in the success of the health and safety management program. You need to be proud of your accomplishments, you have become part of something very important, creating the habit of excellence.



Happy New Year!  
Sandy, Lynn and Adam



## KDOL Inspections

**Description:** The receptacle at the end of the drop cord was stressed.



**Condition:** *Identification, splices, and terminations.*

- Flexible cords shall be connected to devices and fittings so that strain relief is provided which will prevent pull from being directly transmitted to joints or terminal screws.

## Replace Damaged Cords

**Description:** The area being used by employees for storage is not provided with a rating for the overhead storage is.



**Condition:** (d) Floor loading protection.

(1) In every building or other structure, or part thereof, used for mercantile, business, industrial, or storage purposes, the loads approved by the building official shall be marked on plates of approved design which shall be supplied and securely affixed by the owner of the building, or his duly authorized agent, in a conspicuous place in each space to which they relate. Such plates shall not be removed or defaced but, if lost, removed, or defaced, shall be replaced by the owner or his agent.

**Potential Effects:** Sprains, strains, contusions and fractures, from fall through collapsing floor; contusions, fractures and crushing injuries, from being struck by falling objects during a floor collapse.

## Remove Stored Items