



Train. Protect. Prevent.

## Firework Safety

Worker Fatality—UTICA, New York November 24, 2010 -- Utica Police recently finished their primary investigation into the fireworks accident that took a worker's life Saturday night. "It doesn't appear to be anything other than an industrial accident," said Utica Police. "We took the primary lead to the investigation to determine whether or not it was criminal in nature, and it was not." The worker was an employee of the Utica-based American Fireworks Manufacturing company, and was setting off fireworks for the Christmas on Main Street celebration around 5:45 p.m. November 20. It appears he was part of a fatal mishap. "For some reason or another, he leaned over the tube, that sets off the fireworks. "We can only speculate why he would have done something like that. At that same time, the tube discharged and struck him in the face."



**Handling Fireworks Safely** Always read and follow label directions. Buy from reliable sellers. Use outdoors only. Always have water handy (a garden hose and a bucket). Never experiment or make your own fireworks. Light only one firework at a time. Never re-light a "dud" firework (wait 15 to 20 minutes and then soak it in a bucket of water). Never give fireworks to small children. If necessary, store fireworks in a cool, dry place. Dispose of fireworks properly by soaking them in water and then disposing of them in your trashcan. Never throw or point fireworks at other people. Never carry fireworks in your pocket. Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers. The shooter should always wear eye protection and never have any part of the body over the firework. Stay away from illegal explosives. Never use any type of firework inside a building or structure.

**Fireworks Can be Deadly** Stay away from illegal explosives. Illegal explosive devices continue to cause serious injuries around the Fourth of July holiday. These devices are commonly known as M-80s, M-100s, blockbusters or quarterpounders. Federally banned since 1966, these items will not contain the manufacturer's name and are usually totally unlabeled. Don't purchase or use unlabeled fireworks.

Work Site Review: Hazards/Safety Suggestions

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Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Site Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start Time: \_\_\_\_\_ Finish Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Foreman/Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Signatures: (continue on back of sheet if necessary)

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(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness)

**Manager/Supervisor's Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

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