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KCA TOOL BOX TALK: Night Shift Safety

Workplace injury records indicate that more injuries occur on night shifts than during day shifts. There are obvious hazards connected with working at night (such as lack of light), but some problems are less obvious. For instance, because changes in weather patterns are difficult to notice at night, rain can quickly cause slick surfaces.

Working at Night:

• Install low level transitional lighting in advanced warning areas and termination areas to ease motorists' adjustment to changing lighting conditions.

• Increase the size of traffic control devices, reflective material, and lettering to improve driver recognition.

• Ensure arrow panels are set at nighttime levels; daytime settings used at night produce blinding light.

• Provide mobile floodlights to give the site visibility.

• Wear reflective vests and clothing. (The amount of reflective surface and type of garment depend on the risk a worker is facing; the amount of traffic, speed of traffic, type of work and time of day all affect the choice of garments.)

For more information visit OSHA REGULATIONS: 1926.56