Planning: Key to Preparedness

Your business will play a key role in protecting employees' health and safety in the event of an avian flu outbreak. “Plan as if a blizzard were coming — a blizzard that could last up to 18 months instead of a few days...” says the Deloitte Center for Health Solutions (part of Deloitte & Touche USA LLP, an association of businesses that provide audit, tax, consulting, and financial advisory services). The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have developed a checklist that specifies activities for small and large companies. Start planning now if you haven’t already— September is national preparedness month!

HHS/CDC (Business Pandemic Influenza Planning Checklist) - www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/businesschecklist.html
Deloitte Center - www.deloitte.com/dtt/article/0,1002,sid%3D51457%26cid%3D118260,00.html

Vibration Workshop Heads-up

Human exposure to mechanical vibration is harmful. Whole-body vibration can lead to low back problems, and hand-arm vibrations can produce an irreversible disease of the fingers and hands called “Vibration Syndrome.” On November 6-7, 2006, a workshop at Alegent Health Mercy Hospital in Council Bluffs will cover “The Ergonomics of Hand-Arm and Whole-Body Vibration.” Participants will learn how to measure and control vibration’s effects and identify cost reduction strategies associated with vibration injuries. Presenters will be Donald Wasserman, biomedical engineer and former NIOSH Chief of Occupational Vibration, and David Wilder, University of Iowa Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering.

For information, contact Kimberly Gordon at 319/335-4423 or kimberly-gordon@uiowa.edu (workshop brochure in preparation)

What Happened? How Do We Fix it?

Effective accident investigations and the resulting corrective plans will be most effective if made by supervisory employees with the right skills, says Earl DelGrosso, a safety expert with 28 years of safety experience in manufacturing settings. His brief article is accompanied by a training outline.

SafetyXchange (“How to Train Your Accident Investigators”) - www.safetyxchange.org/article.php?id=42

It Just Makes Sense...

…to approach our work as if it were an athletic event. After all, we’re expected to give peak performances at our office for hours, similar to a marathon. In his book, “The Corporate Athlete,” Jack Groppel, business speaker/consultant, presents a multi-faceted process of “preparing for the big game.” Unlike business theorists who equate work performance only with mental activity, Groppel proposes a total program of nutrition, exercise, and spiritual fitness with short-and long-term guidelines.

“The Corporate Athlete” - www.amazon.com/gp/product/0471409782/