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Horseplay



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Horseplay: Did You Know?

In 2012, a construction worker in South Dakota injured himself while horseplaying with a coworker during a shift, at which time he was waiting on others to complete one phase of the job so that he could begin his task. After being denied workers' compensation due to the reason for the injury, the worker sued the company, and the case eventually went to the state Supreme Court. Ultimately he was awarded the benefits because the "act of horseplay was not a substantial deviation from his employment," meaning that he did not abandon his work to roughhouse or do so outside of the confines of his work environment.

The big takeaway for employers here is that horseplay at work can not only lead to a safety incident, but also impact the financial bottom line. This is not a call to ban all forms of horseplay and joking around at work, but rather that employers take steps

- Horseplay: Did You Know?;
- Safety Talks on Shutdowns, Horseplay, Maintenance Workers, and Eye Hazards;
- Fatality Reports;
- Safety Glasses Protect Against Eye Hazards;
- and more...