



TOP 10 HEALTH AND SAFETY RISKS IN SAWMILLS

As identified by workers, supervisors, and employers in the Ontario sawmill industry through a Ministry of Labour-facilitated risk assessment workshop in partnership with Workplace Safety North



1. Substance use: Under the influence of alcohol, prescription or other drugs.



6. Slips, trips, and falls: Falls on same or lower level, jumps to lower level.



2. Workers taking shortcuts: Gaps in training, coaching, supervision.



7. Occupational disease: Loss of hearing, ringing in the ears.



3. Machine lock out, guarding: Not properly locking out or guarding equipment.



8. Psychosocial: Stress, including job and family pressures.



4. Age: Inexperience of new and young workers who don't see the dangers.



9. Working from heights: Absence of engineered anchor points.



5. Psychosocial: Lack of focus, distraction of worker while performing duties.



10. Machine lock out, guarding: Caught in or crushed by mobile equipment.

The internal responsibility system (IRS) is a system, within a workplace, where everyone shares responsibility for occupational health and safety that is appropriate to their role and function within the workplace. All workplace parties — including employers, managers, supervisors, and workers — need to do their part to raise awareness of risks, and follow and promote safety procedures to help make workplaces safer.

For more information, please contact your WSN Health and Safety Specialist or visit workplacesafetynorth.ca



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