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# IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO ME



Have you ever heard someone say "It can't happen to me." Maybe you've said it yourself. If we haven't said it out loud, most of us have at least thought it at sometime or another. Usually we think it just before we do something that is a little unsafe, or maybe quite a bit unsafe. We know better! We know the **SAFE WAY** to do it. But we take that chance. We are in effect saying, "I know this could result in an accident, but IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO ME."

Why can't it happen to you? What makes you so special? Why take a chance in the first place? Sooner or later the person who keeps saying, "IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO ME," will wind up saying, **IF I ONLY WOULD HAVE...**

The next time you find yourself saying, "IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO ME", remember that anything can happen to anybody at anytime if they act in an unsafe manner or are exposed to an unsafe condition. Here are a few samples of actual accidents that resulted in injury and lost time to employees. **THEY THOUGHT IT WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO THEM, BUT IT DID!**

- ➡ An employee frightened by the noise of a ruptured air line, started to run, tripped and fell, spraining her neck, and bruising her head and ankle.
- ➡ A janitor strained his back trying to get a power lawn mower he was operating out of the road in which it was stuck.
- ➡ Highly flammable glue was mistakenly applied by an employee to a work surface. When he started up his drill, the electrical sparks ignited the glue fumes and burned his hands and face.
- ➡ A bookkeeper received burns to her left arm and side when a coffee urn she was disconnecting tipped and spilled hot coffee on her.
- ➡ An employee injured his leg when he fell while running to the first aid room to get help for another employee.
- ➡ A welder suffered a first degree burn when he was welding and a hot spark flew into his left ear canal.

All of us should remember that a person with an "IT CAN'T HAPPEN TO ME" attitude is dangerous. The person may escape injury from unsafe acts or conditions, but they also expose those nearby to injury. If you see someone acting in an unsafe manner, tell that person about it. If you see an unsafe condition, report it. Safety is everybody's business!

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