



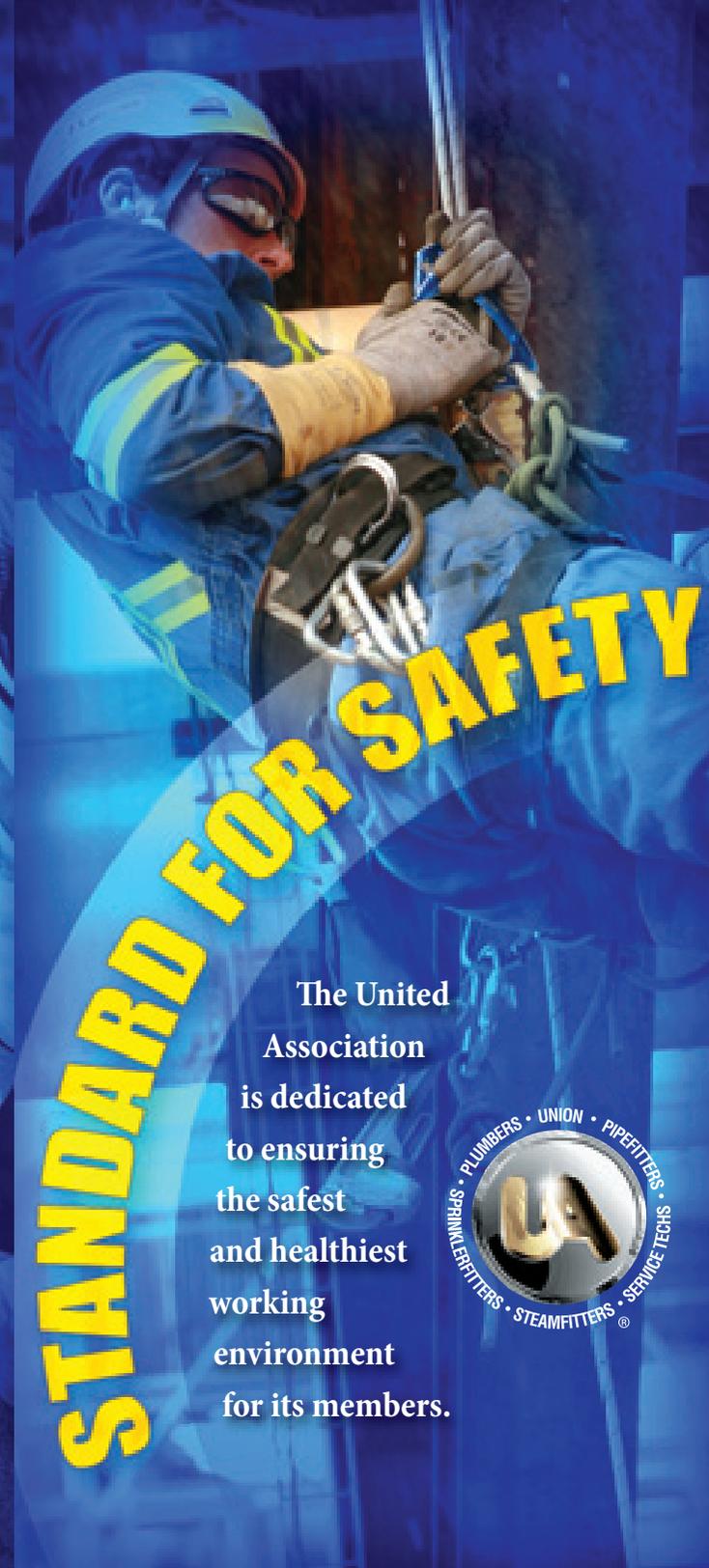
STANDARD FOR SAFETY

“Safe practices should be second nature to every UA member, and all UA members should demand such practices of one another. If you see someone doing something that is unsafe, call them on it. Don’t ignore it. Demand that they do what’s safe, not just what’s convenient at the time.”



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STANDARD FOR SAFETY

The United Association is dedicated to ensuring the safest and healthiest working environment for its members.



BROTHERS AND SISTERS:

As we've said so many times before, every worker has a right to go home from the job in the same shape as when he or she arrived at the workplace. That right can be destroyed in the blink of an eye.

The United Association has always had a strong safety program, and it continues to be a top priority of my administration. We now have a UA Standard for Safety which is based on common sense issues and is intended to compliment contractor or owner safety programs. This Standard is part of our ongoing commitment to protecting the health and safety of our members. The Standard is intended to help meet the contractor's responsibilities to provide a safe workplace. To me, this Standard for Safety is as critical to our organization as the Standard for Excellence. The very lives of our members depend on it.

In this brochure is an outline of what you can do to keep yourselves safe, to help promote safe jobsite habits, not just in yourselves but in others, and to create a workplace culture that puts safety first.

When I talk about creating a culture of safety, I mean that I want UA worksites throughout the U.S. and Canada to have safety at the forefront at all times. Safe practices should be second nature to every UA member, and all UA members should demand such practices of one another.

A safe workplace is also a productive workplace. Smart contractors know that if they promote a jobsite culture that puts safety first, they will ultimately be more profitable.

Owners today want safe jobsites, and they are demanding that their contractors place a priority on safety. When we tell contractors that we have the best-trained workforce in the world and that's why they should employ UA members, we have to include safety in that equation. Our Standard for Safety will show our contractors and their customers that we are serious about safety, that we are intent on making the best safety practices an inherent part of the craftsmanship that goes with being a UA member.

I ask you to support this effort in the months and years ahead. Your own life may someday depend on it, too.

Fraternally yours,



William P. Hite
General President



MEMBER AND LOCAL UNION RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Take pride in working safely
- Never take shortcuts or chances
- Always wear the proper personal protective equipment
- Pay attention at safety meetings
- Don't try something if you don't know how to do it
- Make sure your work area is clean and well lit
- Keep walkways clear
- Focus on your task at hand
- Know where the exits are
- Lift with your legs and push rather than pull a heavy load
- Inspect all rigging equipment prior to use
- Remove defective equipment from service immediately
- Never work under a suspended load
- Use and place ladders carefully
- Never stand on the top two rungs of a ladder
- Fall protection to be worn when exposed to a fall of 6 feet or more
- Never attempt to move a person who has fallen unless they are in immediate danger
- Learn CPR, first aid and emergency procedures
- Don't overload electrical outlets
- Report near misses
- Keep hazardous substances off of skin and clothing
- Report exposures to your employer
- Know the hazards of the materials you work with
- Never take lunch boxes into work areas where chemicals may contaminate your food
- Carry sharp tools with the points down
- Lock out Tag out machinery before repairing it and prove that it is de-energized
- Inspect tools for damage and repair or remove from service.
- Check for fraying on power cords
- Have properly guarded tools
- Dress right for heat or cold
- Long hair should be tucked away under hard hat or cap, especially when working around moving equipment
- Always wear long sleeved shirts when working with welders or around steam
- If you wear prescription glasses, have your eyes checked annually
- Stay alert and get the proper amount of sleep
- When taking medications, know the side effects such as dizziness, etc.
- When working shift work, never drink alcohol within 8 hours of your shift
- All UA jobs have zero tolerance for drugs and alcohol
- In the hot summer months, drink plenty of water to stay hydrated and avoid heat stroke
- Cell phones are to be used at break and lunch time only
- Always put caps on oxygen and acetylene bottles when transporting them

EMPLOYER AND MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Store flammables correctly
- Lock out Tag out machinery before repairing it
- Check for fraying on power cords
- Remove unsafe tools from service
- Have properly guarded tools
- Provide adequate sanitary facilities
- Supply first aid kits with periodic inspections
- Treat injuries promptly
- Provide safety training
- Require pre-task planning for potentially hazardous tasks
- Provide proper ventilation
- Plan the job before you start
- Provide Material safety data sheets
- Have basic, standard personal protective equipment available for use
- Require fall protection to be worn when exposed to a fall of 6 feet or more
- Maintain rigging equipment in safe operating condition
- Remove defective equipment from service immediately
- Encourage all foremen and general foremen to advance and take OSHA 30 when available. (This will increase their safety awareness, like recognizing if a scaffold is built properly before they ask their UA brothers and sisters to get on a dangerous scaffold.) "UA 10 & UA 30 are available at no charge in many Local Unions."

In Canada the above safety regulations fall under either the Workers Compensation Board or the Provincial Safety Authority.

