

# Safety Partnership



Zero incidents by choice through  
Partnerships for Safety...

Issued March 2008

Safety Partnership Group  
March 2008

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Safety Partnership

## Dates to Remember

March 19<sup>th</sup> Safety Forum

Change Your  
Smoke Detector  
Batteries

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## Safety Partnership Forum

DON'T MISS OUR 8<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL EVENT

**Date: March 19<sup>th</sup> 2008**

**Keynote Speaker: Larry Wilson**  
Author and Manager of Electrolab

**AND**

**Guest Speaker: Brian Callahan**  
ISNetworld

**Location: Village Inn**

**Time: 7:30 – 11:30 Noon**

Larry will entertain and challenge us to  
rejuvenate our Observation Based  
Safety program and provide practical  
tools to achieve great results!



**Larry Wilson**  
Author & Motivational  
Keynote Speaker

### Reserve Your Place:

Call 519 337-7902 or fax at 519 383-1305 or  
e-mail Charlotte at: [charcoop@sarniasafety.com](mailto:charcoop@sarniasafety.com)

**Don't Miss This Safety Event!**

### Contractor Data Management

ISNetworld provides companies with  
easy access to information to make  
decisions on which contractors to hire.

Recent analysis shows that contractors  
using ISNetworld services improved  
safety and insurance statistics over time.

Brian will share case studies and best  
practices for contractor management.

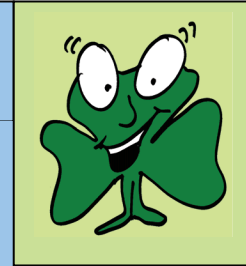
ISNetworld serves as the primary  
information management system for over  
110 Owner Clients across North  
America and contains a global directory  
of over 12,000 contractors.



**Brian Callahan**  
Vice President  
ISNetworld

# SOME SMOKE DETECTORS ARE SAFER

## Photoelectric Units Work Better for Smoldering Fires



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### There are two types of smoke alarms:

1. Photoelectric smoke detectors contain a light source and a light-sensitive electric cell. Smoke entering the detector deflects light onto the light-sensitive cell, tripping an alarm.
2. Ionizing sensors contain a small amount of americium-241, a radioactive material. It is used to set up a small electrical current between two metal plates which, when disrupted by smoke entering the chamber, sounds the alarm.

**NOTE:** There are now combination detectors containing both technologies on the market.

In December 2005, the Ontario Fire Code was amended and now requires homes to have working smoke alarms on every level and outside all sleeping areas. (Ideally smoke detectors should be installed inside the sleeping areas as well)

This amendment covers single family, semi-detached and town homes, whether owner-occupied or rented, and includes cottages.

The National Institute for Standards and Technology (N.I.S.T) tested the two technologies in 2004 and found that ionization smoke detectors sounded in fast, flaming fires an average of 50 seconds earlier than photoelectric detectors. *A fire will double in size every 60 seconds so this time delay critically affects the ability to escape a house fire.*

NIST also found that photoelectric detectors sounded their alarms, on average, 30 minutes earlier than ionization detectors in smoldering fire. Testing by Underwriters Laboratory last year supported results obtained by the N.I.S.T. in 2004 that showed ionization detectors sounded sooner in open, flaming fires and that photoelectric detectors sounded sooner in smoldering fires.

*No one knows in advance which type of fire might strike or which type of detector will work better.*

## FALL PROTECTION

### FALL PROTECTION TRAINING

An employer who cannot establish that workers were trained in the use of fall protection will almost certainly not be successful in establishing a due diligence defense.

The legal threshold generally requires more than a worker simply being trained on fall protection on one occasion.

Employers in the construction industry ought to consider providing training beyond what is included in the general training courses.

Regular refresher training must be conducted and properly documented.

Further, site specific fall protection training should be provided for unique hazards at a particular project or work location.

Courts further expect that fall protection will be consistently emphasized at safety meetings (i.e. toolbox talks) and that supervisors will routinely discuss fall protection issues with workers.

Evidence to support effective training includes:

1. Training records
2. Course materials
3. Competency testing records
4. Toolbox Talk notes
5. Supervisor's log of discussions with workers
6. Safety Committee Minutes
7. Safety Reminder Notices
8. Fall arrest Notices posted at the worksite or project

**You can only prove due diligence if you do the required training and documentation.**

*Contributed by Tom Hennessey*

## Fun Dates in March

- |      |   |
|------|---|
| 9th  | Daylight Savings Begins   |
| 9th  | Change Batteries in Smoke Detector Day                                |
| 13th | National Open an Umbrella Indoors Day                                 |
| 14th | International Ask a Question Day (what's with the umbrella question?) |
| 17th | St. Patrick's Day   |
| 19th | Act Happy Day (Happily attend the Safety Forum this morning!)         |
| 23rd | Near Miss Day (Ask your crew to about any near misses last week)      |

### IMPORTANT DATES

**TASC Review Meeting**  
1:00 Tues Apr 1<sup>st</sup> 2008  
**Extreme Weather Meeting**  
1:00 Thurs April 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008

**Bumper Sticker:**

**CAUTION: I BRAKE FOR STOP SIGNS!**