

“What’s wrong with this photo?” – *WorkSafe Magazine*, November/December issue

Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

I have found the following things wrong with this photo:

- First, and most important, PPE or Personal Protective Equipment is not being worn.
- A full face mask is required, not just the one hanging up in the background or the one on the worker. This will protect the respiratory system and one of the points of entry we all tend to forget about — the eyes. The mask hanging by the booth is not a good idea. It should also be stored in a clean, dry area. The worker is basically contaminating it by hanging it there.
- No gloves: the skin is another point of entry that most don’t even consider.
- The worker should have proper CSA-approved steel-toed workboots; 20-litre pails can weigh enough to break a foot or toe.
- Coveralls or paint suits should also be worn to protect the skin from many irritants in the finishing products and the point of entry into the body.
- Hearing protection is not being worn. Finishing booths are loud; people often think they’re not, because they can talk around them. But work in one for eight hours a day and you are sure to cause hearing loss over time.
- The worker is standing on the wrong side, so he is getting all the overspray and breathing it in and contaminating his clothing more than he needs to.
- The finishing booth filter is not properly inserted so all the contaminants are entering the atmosphere.
- The cardboard on the ground should be taped down to prevent a tripping hazard.
- I can’t really see for sure, but I don’t think the booth has sprinklers.
- There should be a chemical fire extinguisher nearby.
- Small containers need to be labeled as per WHMIS (workplace hazardous materials information system) regulations; they have been transferred from 20-litre pails so they require product identification labels.
- Improper storage of material against the wall: all product left out should be for daily use only and all other products should be stored in an approved fire-safe cabinet or room as per NFPA or city bylaw standards.
- Another note on proper storage is that the catalyst should not be stored beside the product; it needs to be stored in a separate location to the product it reacts with. If the catalyst is accidentally spilled, it causes a chemical reaction that could lead to respiratory problems or at worse, a fire. This is in three different locations.
- The sign on the wall says MSDS (material safety data sheets), but I don’t see the book. If there was a book, the worker would be able to read the fact that his mask is not suited for spraying what’s coming out of pails on the floor.
- The electrical cords in the booth should never be in this area; this is a serious fire hazard.

- There are quite a few tripping hazards in this shop: wood strips on the floor, hoses on the ground hooked to the pressure pot, and paint pails. If the pails were tipped over, it would cause the product to spill on the floor and lead to a greater slipping hazard.

Dennis Trill
Production Manager
Towne Millwork Ltd.
Abbotsford, B.C.

Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

Here are the hazards:

- No ventilation fans — negative pressure
- Wrong type of respirator
- No spray booth
- Poor lighting
- Improper storage of WHMIS products
- Work bench unstable
- Slipping hazards for tripping
- No gloves
- No goggles
- No hearing protection
- No protective clothing
- No eyewash station
- Fire extinguisher missing
- Workplace labels missing
- The splice in the electrical cord is a sparking hazard
- Hose hanging on bench
- Can of paint opened
- Clean-up not done
- MSDS into setup not complete
- Sprayer unit on rolling cart unstable
- Electrical cords stored incorrectly
- Cardboard box a flammable object

Diane De Vie, Owner
De Vie Business Solutions
Vancouver, B.C.

Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

Here are the dangerous things I see in your photo:

- Loose boards on floor in booth — a tripping hazard
- Light fixture outside of the booth — not explosion proof
- Electrical cords — exposed and a tripping hazard
- Loose clothing worn by operator
- Baseball cap — could fall off
- Unstable work surface
- Air hose around behind worker — could trip
- Filters in booth not properly installed
- Worker wearing improper mask
- Mask not stored away from fumes when not in use

- Gloves on work platform — should be wearing them
- Worker facing away from booth when spraying
- MSDS Station — no info displayed
- Hoses from the portable pump on floor — a tripping hazard
- Five-gallon paint cans improperly stored — a tripping hazard

Don Edwards, Owner
Taylor Made Wood Products
Chilliwack, B.C.

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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

- Where is the sign indicating there is spraying in progress and that proper PPE must worn?
- No proper ventilation
- PPE?
- Not wearing gloves
- Not wearing proper respirator
- Not wearing proper eye protection
- Not wearing full protection suit
- Not wearing proper footwear
- Hoses a possible trip hazard
- Power cords not rolled properly
- Paint cans are a tripping hazard
- Paint cans not stored properly
- No eyewash/first aid station
- MSDS sheets not stored properly
- Respirators are hanging up
- No fire extinguisher
- Where is the proper storage container for used rags?
- Solvents are not stored properly
- Unorganized shelving

This list was put together by Gord Gunner, Jason, and Vince.

Gord Gunner
Leadhand
CCI Renovations
North Vancouver, B.C.

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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

Here is my submission for spotting the hazards:

- The worker is not wearing gloves (bare skin is exposed to spray and the gloves could get spray inside them by leaving them on the sawhorse next to the spray area. That could contaminate the worker if he puts the gloves on).
- The worker is not wearing proper eye protection.
- The worker's loose shirt could get caught up in equipment and may get covered or saturated in spray material (protective coveralls should be worn).
- There are open containers and loose lids. (The containers should be sealed to avoid spillage and emitting fumes. They should be stood upright so they cannot roll around and become tripping hazards themselves or cause the product to spill out, thus becoming a slip hazard or contaminating the floor, air, or other materials.)
- The loose material on the floor behind the worker is a tripping hazard.
- There is no obvious venting for air circulation in the room being worked on.

- The respirators hanging on the wall should be worn by the worker and stored in a closed/secure area (away from the active spray area) when not in use.
- Spray hoses and nozzles on the front sawhorse and on the cement floor beyond the worker should not be left as is. (They could fall off/get bumped/stepped on/run over/tripped over and nozzles could be activated or hoses/nozzles damaged and the product could leak out.)
- The rails running lengthwise on the two sawhorses supporting the panels/boards being sprayed seem to be close to the edge of the sawhorses. The nearest sawhorse has another short rail running perpendicular to the other rails with a triangular shape (not a stable, secure situation).
- The yellow electrical cords appear to have black electrician's tape on the damaged sections. The cord is hung precariously on a bar/beam in background (it should be unplugged and put out of the way in a secure spot when not in use).
- Sawhorses need to be cleaned of build up or replaced with new ones.
- Wheeled dolly should have wheels blocked so it cannot roll, and the loose plastic container should be secured on the dolly or removed and put on a shelf.
- Some product containers on the shelf should be kept separate from each other.
- The tin container on the shelf appears to have wooden paintbrush handles sticking out of it (leading one to think that they are sitting in a container of paint thinner with no lid).
- The MSDS station paper and other paper on the wall should be laminated and nailed, stapled, or screwed to the wall, not taped to the wall.
- There should be an eyewash station and first aid kit and supplies nearby.

Grant Johannesen, RFT
Forest Tech., Silviculture, Quesnel Field Team
Cariboo-Chilcotin Business Area, British Columbia Timber Sales,
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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

Here's this month's go-around. Hope you enjoy it.

- Lack of proper eye protection
- Lack of approved footwear
- Wrong type of mask — particularly when the approved mask is hanging behind him
- Hand protection is present, hanging over the work area; it's just not being used
- Spray painting OUTSIDE the spray booth. If the unit is operating, then all of the product is being sucked back towards the worker
- Clutter on floor, hoses, empty pails/lids
- Spraying flammable materials without appropriate protection — indoors
- MSDS book missing
- Electrical cords are hanging in an explosive environment
- Possibly overloading the electrical outlet with extension cords
- The worker is exposed to walking on overspray — a slipping hazard
- Poorly designed/constructed workhorses
- Eyewash station not present
- The container containing flammable liquid is sitting on a paint compressor trolley that vibrates
- Poor lighting
- There are unlabelled containers on the workbench
- Questionable storage practices. Do the chemicals under the workbench like to be mixed with chemicals on top of the bench, which could spill?

Ian McGregor
Director of Plant Services
Beckley Farm Lodge
Victoria, B.C.

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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

- That's just a dust mask. He is not even wearing it properly; shouldn't he be using the respirator hanging on the wall?
- Shoddy hay wired sawhorses
- Hoses and cords are a tripping hazard
- No WHMIS or MSDS books
- Open buckets of who-knows-what
- A tipped-over bucket leaking a slip hazard onto the floor
- Drywall looks like it's about ready to fall off the wall onto anyone working on or around the bench
- Are those hard-toed boots? No hard hat required?
- No PPE whatsoever
- No safety glasses
- Loose-fitting clothing
- Poor posture leaning into work and awkward-looking wrist position
- Lots of flammable products there, yet I don't see any fire extinguishers
- Flammables should be stored in a dedicated lock-up room
- I don't see any exhaust fans or fresh air intakes
- If that is a spray booth behind him, why isn't he using it?
- No exit light signs
- No emergency lighting
- No clock on the wall to keep track of exposure time and scheduled breaks
- The extension cord is taped up, indicating a possible spark hazard around ignitable fumes
- No mirror to detect mobile machinery should he walk towards the bench
- There could be a psycho killer behind that shower curtain

Jay Allen
Electrician
Western Forest Products
Chemainus, B.C.

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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

- Work should be done in a paint booth
- The N95 respirator was used instead of the half face respirator
- The N95 respirator was put on incorrectly: one of the straps should be above the ears
- Gloves should be used, but they're on the bench
- His shirt is unbuttoned and loose
- The cartridge of the respirator is white (sulfuric acid); it should be black for organic vapour
- No flammable products should be stored on the floor; it clutters the area and creates a tripping hazard
- The lids of the flammable products are open and release the vapour of volatile organic compounds
- Flammable products should be stored in a flammable cabinet, not in a regular cabinet
- The painting brush is on an open bench, releasing vapour
- The MSDS station has no MSDS binder
- The air compressor should not be placed close to any flammable products
- The cord for the air compressor is very long and may cause a tripping hazard
- There is a tripping hazard behind where the worker is standing
- Electrical cords are taped with black tape; these should be replaced
- There are ergonomic hazards when spraying the product
- Electrical cords are hanging on the beam inside the paint booth, damaging the cords

Jereld Salazr
HSE Associate (Safety Management)
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Vancouver, B.C.

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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

- Inadequate respiratory protection
- Inadequately built sawhorses
- Tripping hazards
- Inadequate fire protection
- Inadequate storage of flammable products
- Inadequate eye protection
- Inadequate hearing protection
- Gloves not being worn
- Baggy shirt
- Sleeves not rolled down
- Ergonomic hazard with wrist extension so extreme
- Electrical cord wrapped around the metal support behind the worker
- Not wearing a hard hat
- Paint hoses not grounded
- Open cans of paint
- Inadequate housekeeping
- Lack of explosion-proof lighting
- Lack of fire suppression equipment
- Lack of no-smoking signage
- Inadequately sealed paint booth

Jim Jackson
Safety Coordinator
Habitat for Humanity Edmonton Society
Edmonton, AB

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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

What's not right with this picture? I'd say virtually everything.

- At first glance, the MSDS station looks as if it lacks data sheets
- PPE is lacking for ventilation, eye protection, and skin protection
- Tripping hazards are everywhere: pails, lids, hoses, etc.
- Ergonomics could be improved immensely
- Workplace ventilation is questionable
- Unmarked containers on the bench
- Fire extinguishers of the proper type are not visible with flammables liquids in the workplace
- Worker is using inadequate dust mask and eye and skin protection with use of chemical spray
- Proper masks hanging within reach of the worker not used
- Have to question the employer/worker responsibilities in terms of compliance with WorkSafeBC requirements for maintaining a safe work environment
- I do not see a spill kit or smoke detectors
- Generally the shop area is a disorderly mess
- I would question whether the employee has had any formal training to prepare him for the hazards of this type of work.

David Kayorie, RFT
Forest Technician
Ministry of Forests
Campbell River, B.C.

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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

I would like to submit what I see wrong with this photo. It's a bit hard to see in some areas, but here is what I have found:

- No eye protection
- Not wearing the right respirator for the application (I believe the respirator that he should be wearing is hanging up to his left)
- Flammables stored inside
- Flammables tipped over
- Flammables stored near heat source
- No gloves
- Ventilation??
- MSDS's?
- No Protective clothing (painsuit)
- Spraying in an open area creating hazards for others, no caution tape or barricade
- Working surface is unsafe, it is crooked, placed improperly, not centered and unstable, seems corroded on the bottom left of the picture
- Tripping hazards
- Cords incorrectly placed
- If that's a safety shower behind him, its blocked!
- High risk of back injury due to his body positioning; feet are pointing left and he's twisting forward to paint
- Is he standing over top of a rail to paint?
- Is there a free-standing air line sitting to his right?
- Many unlabeled containers on the counter by the wall

Kalina Le Goff
Canadian Health and Safety Manager
Brock White Canada Company
Rockyview, AB

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Editor, *WorkSafe Magazine*:

- He is not wearing the proper respirator. The one he should be using is hanging up on the side of the painting enclosure. He has no protection from the paint fumes.
- He is not doing his painting in the painting enclosure.
- The painting enclosure does not have any ventilation. Well, it does. But a curtain with holes does not cut it.
- There is an extension cord hanging from the cross beam in the painting enclosure; this could cause a spark which could lead to a fire or explosion. That same extension has also been repaired with electrician's tape, another place where a spark could happen.
- There are large white drums with "flammable" tags on them; one is tipped over while another has the lid removed. If there was a spark, these could start a fire or explosion.
- The gentleman is wearing glasses, but they are not proper safety glasses. What he is wearing would not protect him from the paint or paint fumes from getting in his eyes.
- The flammable containers are not stored in a closed metal cabinet.
- There is a large cardboard box stored next to flammable products, a fire hazard.
- There is what looks like an air pressure hose stored on the floor. This could cause a fall if someone were to trip over it, or stepping on it could cause you to twist or break an ankle.
- Paint brushes are being cleaned in a paint can, instead of the proper brush-cleaning containers.
- A white, five-gallon water jug is being balanced on a box over flammable containers.
- The white flammable container in the cupboard below the water jug appears to be leaking a black liquid (running down the side).
- The gentleman is not wearing protective clothing or proper work shoes.
- The wall that holds the MSDS station sign appears to be unfinished gyprock, a fire hazard.
- The gentleman is not wearing his orange gloves; they are laying on the workhorse.

- There seems to be a gas generator on the floor by the corner of the painting enclosure near the respirators he is not wearing. If this is a generator, it should not be in an enclosed room, let alone in a room with flammable containers.
- There is some form of cover, carpet, or cardboard on the floor in the paint enclosure, soaking up the excess paint spray. This could become slippery, retain fumes, or cause a fire by soaking up flammable solutions. It also has a raised edge with wrinkles, which you could catch a toe on and fall.

I hope that I have found all the hazards,

Allane Brine
Head Cashier
Home Depot
Prince George, B.C.
