Inspection Basics Stats and Facts



FACTS

1. **Missed Equipment Failures:** Failing to detect worn-out, damaged, or malfunctioning tools or machinery can lead to accidents or equipment breakdowns.
2. **Unaddressed Safety Hazards:** Skipping regular area inspections allows tripping hazards, blocked exits, or unsafe storage to go unnoticed.
3. **Regulatory Non-Compliance:** Incomplete or undocumented inspections can result in fines, shutdowns, or citations from safety authorities.
4. **Increased Risk of Fire or Chemical Spills:** Not inspecting electrical systems, storage containers, or ventilation units may allow flammable or hazardous conditions to build up.
5. **Overlooked Wear and Tear:** Frequent-use items like ladders, harnesses, or hoses may degrade slowly, and unchecked wear can cause sudden failure during use.
6. **Delayed Maintenance or Repairs:** Skipping pre-use or scheduled inspections can cause small issues to grow into major equipment failures or injuries.
7. **Inadequate Emergency Preparedness:** Fire extinguishers, alarms, first aid kits, and eyewash stations that are not regularly inspected may be missing or non-functional when needed.

STATS

- OSHA data shows that lack of proper inspections contributed to over 2,600 serious workplace injuries annually from 2019 to 2023.
- The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reports that 21% of machinery-related injuries in 2022 were due to uninspected or poorly maintained equipment.
- A 2021 NSC report noted that workplaces that conduct documented daily inspections reduce injury rates by 37% compared to those that don’t.
- The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) found that equipment not inspected or maintained was involved in 22% of workplace fires.
- WorkSafeBC reported more than 1,000 claims per year involving incidents tied to failure in inspection or maintenance routines.
- A 2020 CCOHS safety review found that inadequate inspection records were a common factor in 16% of investigated workplace injuries.
- Ontario Ministry of Labour inspections in 2022 revealed that 30% of workplaces had non-compliant or missing inspection checklists, especially for PPE and emergency equipment.