

International Hazard Datasheet on Occupation

Stevedore

What is a Hazard Datasheet on Occupation?

This datasheet is one of the international Datasheets on Occupations. It is intended for those professionally concerned with health and safety at work: occupational physicians and nurses, safety engineers, hygienists, education and information specialists, inspectors, employers' representatives, workers' representatives, safety officers and other competent persons.

This datasheet lists, in a standard format, different hazards to which stevedore may be exposed in the course of their normal work. This datasheet is a source of information rather than advice. With the knowledge of what causes injuries and diseases, it is easier to design and implement suitable measures towards prevention.






Who is a stevedore

A person who works in shipyards and carries or moves cargo by hand and stacks on pallets or cargo boards, in transit sheds, or ship's hold, as directed.

What is dangerous about this job?

- Unsafe work systems design
- Inadequate safety management
- Operational disturbances
- Deficient warning systems
- Worker overestimation of physical capacity
- Underestimation of weights of loads
- Lack, inadequacy, and incorrect use of manual or mechanical accessories
- Inadequate surfaces
- Continuous contact of workers with loads
- Irregular forms such as boxes, crates, sacks, and bundles
- Poor packaging at the point of origin
- Failure to provide or use personal protection
- Improvised unsafe acts
- Incorrect lifting
- Handling of materials under suspended loads
- Use of damaged receptor containers

Hazards related to this job

Accident Hazards 	Fall from wharf into water (drowning)	1 2
	Slip on floor due to slippery conditions	1
	Struck by falling or moving objects (especially during cargo handling and in stormy weather)	3 4
	Mechanical failure of equipment	3
	Driving accident	3
	Caught in lines during line handling	5
Physical Hazards 	Severe cold injury due to very cold weather	6 7
	Heat stress due to hot weather and overexertion	8
	Loud noise exposure	4 9
	Crushed fingers and toes from dropped or mishandled cargo	4 5 10
	Cuts and abrasions from broken, sharp, or rough material	4 5 10
	Burns from heat sources	4 5 10
	High UV radiation exposure from sun	4 6 7
	Potential electric shock from equipment	5 10 11
	Suffocation in confined spaces	5 12
Chemical Hazards 	Potential poisoning due to hazardous cargo	4 13
	Exposure to hazardous organic or inorganic chemicals being shipped	4 13
Biological Hazards 	Possible disease spread from living organism exposure in cargo	4 13
	Potential exposure to contaminated water	14
Ergonomic, Psychosocial and Organizational Factors 	Lifting too much weight	5
	Strains from improper lifting	5
	Workplace violence	15
	Poor work life balance	15

Preventive measures

1	Handrails, non-slip surfaces and non-slip shoes
2	Personal floatation devices or life saver rings
3	Improved training for handling machines and working around them
4	Wear protective protection equipment (PPE) such as helmets, gloves, glasses, safety boots
5	Rest and water stations
6	Basic worksite safety training program
7	Wear proper clothing for thermal environment
8	Provide a cooling station or heating station, depending on thermal environment
9	Re-engineer equipment to dampen noise surfaces
10	Guard and label machinery and equipment to avoid pinch and other danger areas
11	Implement lockout, tag out program
12	Do work in confined spaces with a permit and a spotter
13	Proper labeling of hazardous materials and education on labeling
14	Provide clean drinking water source
15	Maintain a healthy organizational structure

Specialized Information

Synonyms

Longshoremen, dock worker

Definitions and/or description

Carry or move cargo by hand and stack on pallets or cargo boards, in transit sheds, or ship's hold, as directed. Drive tractor to transfer loaded trailers. May position and fasten hose to cargo tanks when loading or unloading liquid cargo. May lash and shore cargo, attach slings, hooks, and other devices used to lift cargo, and guide loads being lifted to prevent shifting

Related and specific occupations

Construction Laborers, Production Helpers, Material Handlers, Equipment Cleaners, Garbage Collectors, Stock Handlers and Baggers, Machine Feeders and Offbearers, Freight Handlers, Garage and Service Station Related Occupations, Vehicle Washers, Hand Packers and Packers, Laborers, Marine and Cargo Transportation Occupations

Tasks

Lifting, Loading and Unloading, Tying and Untying, Lowering and Raising, Driving, Moving, Carrying, Stacking, Fastening, Lashing, Shoring, Guiding Loads, Securing, Standing Watch

Primary equipment used

Cranes, Forklifts, Booms, Pallets, Cargo, Ropes, Chains, Cables

Workplaces where the occupation is common

Wharves, Piers, Docks, Naval Yards, Ship Yards, Marinas

References

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