## GOT YOUR BACK...

RESPONSE®

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# Wonder What Is Next ??

### **BE CAREFUL ON BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN**

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# My goal.

- Describe the problem
- Ask the question
- Discuss the solution
- Show the results
- Convince you to look yourself
- Be the shortest Eagles Presentation on record

#### 10 Most Dangerous Jobs In The U.S.

#### By David Schepp

Posted Sep 24th 2012 @ 10:48AM Filed under: Industry Research, Top 10 Lists, Career Paths, Salary Information, Employment News & Trends





Alamy

What makes a job dangerous and potentially fatal? It can be any number of factors, including the type of work and where it's performed. Last year, as the Labor Department recently reported, 4,609 people lost their lives on the job, a rate equal to 3.5 deaths for every 100,000 full-time workers.

# Describe the problem

#### FATAL AND NONFATAL INJURIES AMONG EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS AND PARAMEDICS

#### Audrey A. Reichard, MPH, OTR, Suzanne M. Marsh, MPA, Paul H. Moore, BSME

#### Abstract

Background. Emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics serve as primary providers of urgent medical care and are integral components in disaster response. They are at risk for fatal and nonfatal injuries during these activities. Objectives. To describe fatal and nonfatal injuries occurring to EMTs and paramedics. Methods. We analyzed data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries (CFOI) and the occupational supplement to the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS-Work) for the period 2003-2007. Results. We identified 99,400 (95% confidence interval [CI], 71,700, 127,100) nonfatal injuries treated in emergency departments and 65 fatal injuries from the period 2003-2007. Most fatalities were related to motor vehicle incidents (45%) and aircraft crashes (31%). Among compensated EMTs and paramedics, the rate of fatal injuries was 6.3 per 100,000 fulltime equivalents. Nonfatal injuries were primarily associated with stress on some part of the body from motion or time equivalents. Nontatal injuries were primarily associparamedics, the rate of fatal injuries was 6.3 per 100,000 fulland aircraft crashes (31%). Among compensated EMTs and

nicians; occupational injuries; occupational exposure; occupational safety

PREHOSPITAL EMERGENCY CARE 2011;15:511–517

#### INTRODUCTION

Emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics perform a variety of job duties that put them at risk for fatal and nonfatal occupational injuries and illnesses. Their regular duties include lifting patients and equipment, treating patients with infectious illnesses, handling hazardous chemical and body substances, and participating in the emergency transport of patients in ground and air vehicles. These activities are essential to fulfilling their roles as primary providers of emergency medical care and are critical components of disaster response.

transport of patients in ground and air vehicles. These activities are essential to fulfilling their roles as primary providers of emergency medical care and are critical components of disaster response.

### Fatal & Non-Fatal Injuries

 Analyzed the Bureau of Labor Statistics Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries and the occupational supplement to the National Electronic Injury Surveillance System

• 2003-2007

- 99,400 nonfatal injuries
- 65 fatalities

### **Non-Fatal Injuries**

 Most common non-fatal injury: <u>
— Stress or overexertion of body part (33%)</u>

Most common diagnosis:
 – Strain / Sprain (38%)

### **Unintentional Non Fatal Injuries**

#### 84% involved sprains and strains

- Majority in the hands and fingers
- 42% affected the lower trunk.
- Half of these involved lifting or moving the patient.
- The second most common injury was exposure to a harmful substance or environment (21%).
- Rate for sprains/strains for EMS workers was 217.8 per 10,000 FTE
  - 47.3 per 10,000 FTEs reported for all private industry workers.

## EMS OJI

Evaluated the prevalence of job-related illness or injury in national EMS Providers
Used NREMT LEADS database
1999-2005

## EMS OJI

- Prevalence of job-related illness / injury = 9.4%
- One year incidence = 8.1% per 100 EMS Providers
- Associated factors increasing risk:
  - Increasing Call Volume
  - Urban Work Environment
  - History of Back Injury

## NFPA Firefighter Injury data 2003

78,750 firefighter injuries
48.3% occurred during fireground operations

Strain / Sprain
Yound / Cut
21.6%
Burn
7.3%
Inhalation
6.1%

15,900 collisions involving FD vehicles

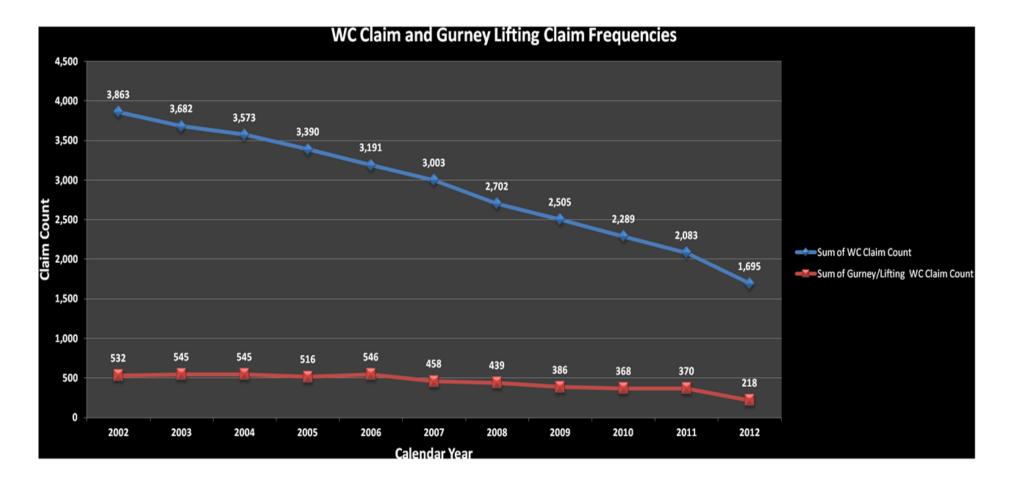
NFPA Journal Nov/Dec 2004MMWR 2/28/2003

# Ask the question

# **Discuss the solution**

# Show the results

## The results...



## The results?

• 41% reduction in stretcher lifting claims in 2012 v. 2011

• 19% reduction in all work comp claims in 2012 v. 2011





## Thanks...

