

## **TOOLBOX TALK #6**

### **HANDLING DRUMS**



Employees working with barrels and drums require special training on how to handle them safely. The National Safety Council recommends the following procedures.

#### ***When two employees are attempting to upend a full drum:***

- Stand on opposite sides and face one another.
- Grasp both edges near their high point and lift one end while pressing down the other.
- Once the drum is balanced on the bottom edge, release your grip on the bottom chime and straighten it up with the drum.

#### ***When two workers are attempting to overturn a drum:***

- Stand near one another, facing the drum. Grip the closest point of the top edge with both hands.
- Rest palms against the side of the drum and push until the drum is balanced on the lower edge.
- Step forward, releasing one hand from the top chime in order to grip the bottom chime.
- Ease the drum down horizontally until it rests solidly on its side.

#### ***If one person is attempting to overturn a drum:***

- Make sure there is enough room.
- Stand in front of the drum, reach over and grasp the far edge of the top chime with both hands.
- Pull the top of the drum toward you until it balances on the edge of the lower chime.
- Transfer both hands to the near side of the top chime.
- Lower the drum, keeping your back straight. Bend at the knees so the leg muscles take the strain.