

## **TOOLBOX TALK #9**

### **NAIL GUNS**



Oregon OSHA has issued a pneumatic nail gun and staple gun hazard alert in response to the thousands of nail gun injuries sustained each year and the recent number of disabling claims attributed to the pneumatic tools.

The alert cites National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and Consumer Product Safety Commission data that states 37,000 people went to emergency rooms each year between 2001 and 2005 because of nail gun injuries. In Oregon, between 1997 and 2006, the state's Department of Consumer Business Services reported 596 disabling claims attributed to nail guns.

Among the alert's safety guidelines and tips are the following:

- Carefully review the owner's manual with all tool operators.
- Observe each employee's safe demonstration of the device.
- Always wear safety glasses.
- Never point the tool at another person.
- Assume that the device is loaded.
- Disconnect the air hose before clearing a jam or making adjustments.