

## **PHYSICAL HAZARDS INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:**

**Noise** from equipment can lead to hearing loss or accidents if workers cannot hear one another or are distracted by noise work environments.

**Temperature extremes** can lead to hypothermia or heat exhaustion. Surfaces become dangerous in extreme situations resulting from heat-generating or heat-reducing situations using steam, fire, or refrigeration, for example.

**Radiation** from the sun or from radioactive materials can lead to various forms of cancer and other illnesses.

**Vibration** from equipment such as jack hammers or even from driving a vehicle or operating a machine can lead to discomfort and various injuries.

**Pressure** can be extreme in some tools and equipment (air or hydraulic) as well as materials. Atmospheric pressure is also a concern to divers and high altitude workers.

**Mechanical items** are hazards to workers who may be drawn into equipment, pinned between some vehicle and a barrier, crushed beneath some equipment, or injured by even simple tools.

**Electrical items** become hazardous due to inadequate wiring or damaged supply cords, for example. The result may be serious injury or death.

**Gravity** keeps people and objects from floating about in the air. However, gravitation (the tendency to move towards a centre of gravity) becomes a hazard when people or objects could fall from heights, injuring themselves and/or other people and objects.

**Most injuries reported to the Worker's Compensation Board are from physical hazards.**