

SAFETY MEETING

Company Name: Superior Waterproofing Tool Talk #9 Date: 3/12/2021

HAPPY ACCIDENTS

We're always "dissing" accidents. Sometimes they have positive outcomes. In fact, every accident, even ones with harmful outcomes, open an opportunity for innovation and invention.

Here are a few accidents that were serendipitous (Serendipity is the name for happy results arising from complete accidents and it seems to be a common characteristic for inventors.):

- Black & Decker Workmate--In 1961, South African Ron Hickman damaged a kitchen chair while using it as a sawhorse. This annoying error made him a multimillionaire because it prompted him to invent a folding workbench. Rejected by eight companies, including Black & Decker, he began producing it himself. It sold so well that, in 1972, Black & Decker bought the manufacturing rights.
- Liquorice Allsorts--In 1899, Charlie Thompson, a salesman for Bassett's candies, spilled his tray of samples over the store counter of a prospective customer in Leicester, England. The customer hadn't been interested in any of the individual candies but, when he saw the colorful assortment, he placed an order for a mixed bag: the first ever Liquorice Allsorts.
- Microwave Oven--When scientist Percy LeBaron Spencer walked past a piece of radar equipment called a magnetron it melted a chocolate bar in his pocket. So he created the world's first microwave oven by cutting a hole in the side of a kettle and directing the microwave beam from the magnetron through the hole.
- Slinky--The Slinky was conceived in 1943, when American Navy engineer Richard James saw an engine spring slide off a table on a rolling ship. He thought that a lightweight version would make a good toy.
- Bubble Gum--Legend has it that bubble gum was invented in 1928 when American Walter Diemer of the Frank H. Fler Company brewed up a batch of chewing gum that went wrong, being less sticky and more stretchy than standard gum.
- Catseyes Roadstuds--One night in 1933, Englishman Percy Shaw was driving home when he saw his headlights reflected in the eyes of a cat, alerting him to the fact that he was veering off the road. He immediately thought that reflectors embedded in the road surface would make night driving much safer and named his invention Catseyes.

WHAT UNSAFE OPERATIONS (OR HAPPY ACCIDENT) DID YOU OBSERVE ON YOUR JOBSITE THIS WEEK?

What Corrective action was taken? _____

Meeting Attended By _____

Supervisor's Signature _____