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A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE-PRESIDENT



Hello all,

Another year already started with, let's say it, an early season that took us by surprise by the volume of projects that we have won and that we must now achieve.

Nevertheless, we expected so much this recovery of the market that already all departments are busy with the implementation of our projects and, although it is busy for this time of the year, remember we know that ABF has always been at its best when business volumes are growing.

We are currently in an hiring mode for production plants in Victoriaville and I remind you that we offer a bonus of \$ 250 to employees who refer us someone who is hired and remains employed by ABF for a minimum period of 3 months!

I would also like to congratulate the entire ABF team who participated one way or another in our registration to the new ISO 9001-2015 standard, without forgetting of course Cristiane de Oliveira, our new quality coordinator, who led this very well. I encourage you to contact her for any questions or suggestions related to quality.

Finally, Eric and I personally want to welcome our new General Manager, Marco Fortin, to the ABF family. He will give us a huge helping hand in the daily management of ABF and I already give you the scoop, he will make the front page of our next TAG edition!

Good spring to all!



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GOOD NEWS !

Here are a few of the projects recently obtained by ABF

- ★ La Suite Chemin Ste-Foy, Quebec 3 000 M.T.
- ★ Water filtration plant, St-Hyacinthe, 420 M.T.
- ★ Heron Road, Ottawa, 2 320 M.T.



Upcoming statutory holidays

- Friday, March 30, 2018 (Good Friday)
- Monday, April 2, 2018 (Easter Monday)
- Monday, May 21, 2018 (National Patriots' Day)

ABF BABY

Congratulations to François Lecompte and his spouse for little Charles, born on November 22nd !

A lot of happiness for the whole family!



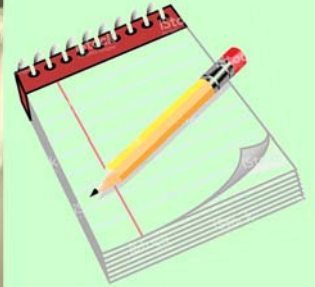
STRATEGIC PLANNING : ESTIMATION DEPARTMENT



On the picture :

Standing: Nadia Gauthier, Any Giguère, Serge Gonthier, Geneviève Beaudoin, Marco Paquet, Mathieu H-Beaudet, Luc Renaud, Stéphane Hamel, André Labrecque.

In front : Robert St-Pierre, Aboubacar Fofana, Éric Delisle, Gabriel B-Lampron, Vincent T-Gilbert.



Following the changes in the management of Armatures Bois-Francis, the estimation department organized a strategic planning day on March 9th to obtain the comments, development ideas, positive and negative points from the team in the purpose of continuing helping the growth of ABF. I was very happy to get the participation of the majority of the department. Another big thank you to all and we'll get back to you shortly with an action plan to implement the improvements.

Stéphane Hamel

Miscellaneous

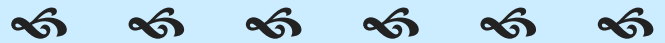


Your thought of the month...

“If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome.”

Anne Bradstreet

FANNY VALLIÈRES – HR



It is with pleasure that I welcome our new Human Resources Coordinator, Fanny Vallières, who is working with us since mid-December 2017, and non, she is not my daughter... Ha! Ha!

Passionate about people and wanting to work in a dynamic and motivating Company, she took steps to strengthen our team and specifically take charge of Human Resources Management; we thank her for it.

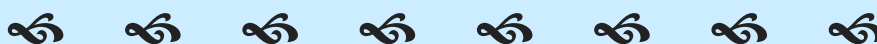
Her rigor and professionalism have allowed her, in recent years, to flourish in the financial field and to obtain various positions within the Desjardins Group. Freshly graduated from a Bachelor of Business Administration - Human Resources Management, she had the desire to orient her young career towards this field that she is passionate about. In addition to her work, she is also pursuing her Masters in Human Resources Management and Organizational Changes at UQTR.

We are proud to encourage the next generation and to participate in Fanny's professional development, and we are confident that she has all the necessary qualifications to meet the challenges of her new position. I am sure that each and every one of you will work to provide her with the necessary support for her integration into ABF.

Good luck, Fanny!



**Welcome to all the new
ABF team employees.**

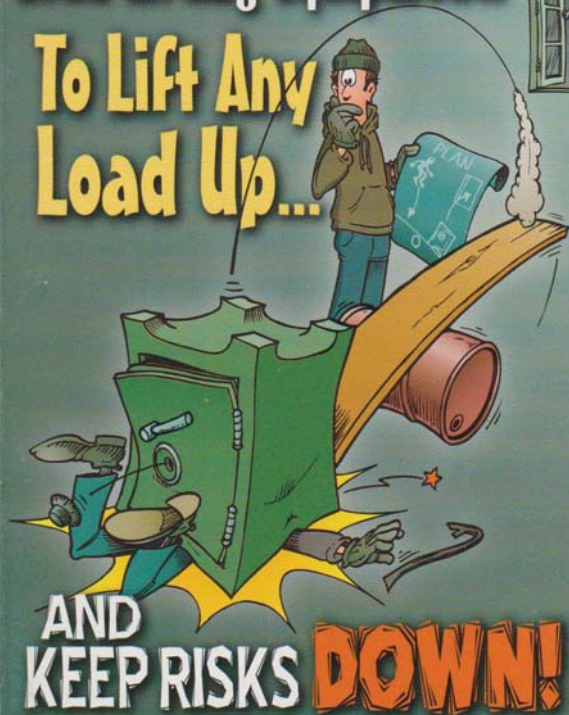


OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

WELLNESS • HEALTH • SAFETY • ENVIRONMENT

Load Lifting Equipment:

To Lift Any Load Up...



AND KEEP RISKS DOWN!

Olympe

olympe educational leaflet 217

With appropriate lifting equipment, one can lift, move and handle almost any kind of load. The use of lifting equipment, however, requires proper skills and knowledge as well as a great deal of caution.

A load of problems

Accidents related to the use of lifting equipment usually have the following causes:

- ✓ Carelessness and/or disregard for safety regulations and procedures.
- ✓ Use of faulty or damage equipment.
- ✓ Inadequate skills or knowledge (choice of equipment, method of employment, etc.).
- ✓ Improper use of equipment (excessive load, incorrect positioning, etc.).

Factors that weigh in your favor

To insure one's safety when working with lifting equipment, one must:

- ✓ See that all lifting equipment undergoes adequate and regular maintenance.
- ✓ Proceed to a visual inspection of the equipment before each use.
- ✓ Put aside and report to the person responsible for it any piece of equipment that is damaged or that raises doubts as to its condition.
- ✓ Follow procedures pertaining to the employment of lifting equipment to the letter.

- ✓ Never exceed the maximum load for which the equipment is rated.
- ✓ Never leave a load attached to a piece of equipment unattended or without a blocking mechanism.

Strength is in wisdom !

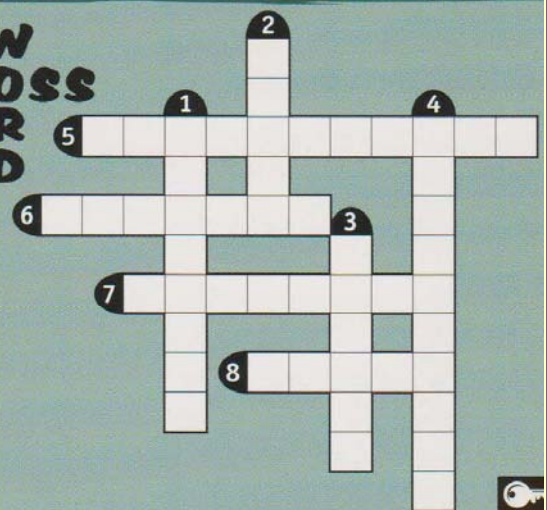
Here are the steps one should follow to safely handle a load using lifting equipment:

1. Determine the weight of the load.
2. Choose the appropriate lifting equipment.
3. Carefully inspect the equipment to be used.
4. Position the equipment properly.
5. Solidly attach the load to the equipment.
6. Make sure that no one or nothing stands in the hazard zone (under the load, in the blind spots, between the load and its destination, etc.).
7. Make one's presence and intentions known.
8. Lift, move and lay the load down slowly.
9. Release the load from the equipment.
10. Put the equipment back in its place.

A rule everyone must abide by

Be it an overhead crane, a hoist, a vehicule lift or even a patient lifter, and regardless of the type of environment it is used in, there is one basic rule that applies to everyone everywhere when using any kind of lifting equipment to lift and handle loads, and that rule is **caution!**

WORD
CROSS
R
D



Down

1. Device hooked to a hoist to provide multiple attachment points.
2. Strap wrapped around the object to be lifted.
3. Maximum load capacity of a lifting device.
4. Examination aimed at determining whether a piece of equipment is suitable for use.

Across

5. The place towards which the load is moved.
6. Place where goods are kept for long periods.
7. Wheeled framed used to move heavy objects.
8. Device used to raise heavy objects.

1. Spreader 2. Sling 3. Rating 4. Inspection 5. Destination 6. Storage 7. Carriage 8. Hoist