

Regional Safety Alert

SAFETY



Low Temperature + Wind Speed + Wetness = Injuries & Illness

When the body is unable to warm itself, serious cold-related illnesses and injuries may occur, and permanent tissue damage and death may result.

Cold-related illnesses such as hypothermia and frostbite can slowly overcome a person who has been chilled by low temperatures, brisk winds, or wet clothing. Warning signs of **hypothermia** include shivering, exhaustion, confusion, fumbling hands, memory loss, slurred speech and drowsiness. Signs of **frostbite** include white or grayish-yellow skin, skin that feels firm or waxy and numbness.

How to Protect Yourself:

- Learn the signs and symptoms of cold-induced illnesses/injuries and what to do.
- Select proper clothing for cold, wet, and windy conditions. Layer clothing to adjust to changing environmental temperatures. Wear a hat and gloves, in addition to underwear that will keep water away from the skin (polypropylene).

COMPLIANCE

A ramp agent was working an inbound flight. The clerk stepped over the tongue of a bag cart to get to the cargo bin. The bag cart driver was not aware the clerk was in the vicinity when the driver drove away with the string of carts. The clerk fell to the ground where his leg was

unfortunately run over by the bag cart fracturing his leg in six different locations.

Prevention: NEVER stand or cross between hitched baggage carts; the tug driver may not see you and drive away without warning.

AWARENESS

When operating ground equipment, the driver and any passengers must remain seated at all times while the vehicle is in motion. The driver may stand only if the

equipment is designed to be operated from a standing position. All employees must keep arms, feet and all other body parts within the confines of the ground equipment.



Station Briefing Guide 1-2-17

Stations are urged to use this guide to assist with Station Safety Briefings. This information should be reviewed daily with all employees to ensure understanding and compliance. This may result in employees hearing it more than once but will serve to reinforce the information. The questions at the bottom must be used to ensure understanding.

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Cold Weather

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COMPLIANCE

Employee Injury

- **NEVER** stand or cross between hitched baggage carts; the tug driver may not see you and drive away without warning.

AWARENESS

- When operating ground equipment, the driver and any passengers must remain seated at all times while the vehicle is in motion.
- All employees must keep arms, feet and all other body parts within the confines of the ground equipment.

What are the signs of frostbite?

Why shouldn't you stand or cross between bag carts?

What must you do when riding in a piece of ground equipment that is moving?