



## **EXTENSION CORD SAFETY ----- TAKE NO CHANCES!**

Extension cords are used almost every day both at work and at home. These are very useful devices, but they can present a fire or shock hazard when either worn out or used improperly.

- Extension cords come in either two or three-wire types.
- Two-wire extension cords should only be used to operate one or two small appliances.
- Three-wire cords are used for outdoor appliances and electric power tools. The third wire on this cord is a ground and this type of cord should never be plugged into any ungrounded electrical outlet.
- Only grounded extension cords are to be used with power tools unless the tool is double insulated.
- Extension cords must be treated with care and checked regularly for damage or deterioration.
- The cord itself should *never* be *pulled* to disconnect it from an electrical source; remove it by the plug.
- Extension cords should not be placed under rugs or furniture and should never be strung through doorways, windows, walls, ceilings, or floors.
- Damaged cords present a potential fire or shock hazard and should be destroyed and replaced immediately.

### **An extension cord should never be used as a substitute for permanent wiring.**

- Do not fasten to a building or structure, even though staples are sold for this purpose at hardware stores. Avoid plugging two cords together to make a longer one.
- Extension cords which are either connected together or are too long will reduce operating voltage and may cause motor damage.
- Use good housekeeping practices to keep extension cords from being a tripping hazards or becoming damaged. Inspect them regularly for wear. Replace defective units.

**Prevent potential electrical hazards that may lead to an injury!**