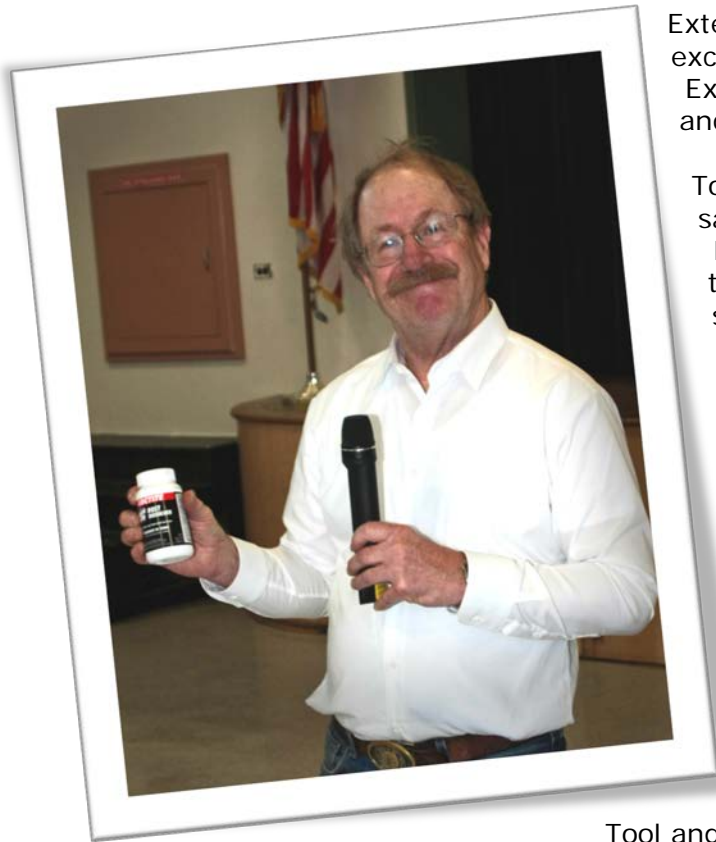


WEDNESDAY, May 08 2013 SAFETY PRESENTATION
Sam Altshuler



Extending our discussion about forces, excessive operator forces can create accidents. Excessive forces can be induced by friction and dull tools.

To reduce friction, have clean tool beds (table saw, band saw, planer, jointer, shaper, etc.). Recall the extra force that it takes when a table saw, planer or jointer surface is not slick. This causes the operator to push harder increasing the risk of an accident.

Remove any surface rust as best as possible. Jeff Traeger recommends using a razor blade. I suggest following that with a chemical treatment; I like products that have phosphoric acid to dissolve the rust (cancer) and chemically treat the surface to inhibit rust formation. This should be followed with coating of a wax applied with 0000 steel wool or 400 wet/dry sandpaper. Surfaces should be cleaned and waxed frequently enough to allow wood to "slip" over the surface easily.

Tool and saw blades should be kept clean and sharp. I like using oven cleaner such as Easy Off which does an amazing job of quickly dissolving pitch on blades. Blades should be kept sharp. This also applies to chisels and hand planes. Sharp hand tools cut easier and safer.

There is any number of ways to sharpen blades from hiring it out, grinding wheels, wet stones, diamond blocks, and/or sand paper using grits up to 2000. Leather with a polishing compound can be used as a final treatment similar to the way that barbers used to sharpen razor blades.

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