



Clockwise from above: Kansas state troopers talk about pre-trip inspections. About 80 people attended the meeting. Presentations included electrical safety, fire extinguisher use and general farm safety. TARA HEIL



Colby safety meeting draws about 80 attendees

About 80 people attended the USCHI safety meeting April 26 in Colby, Kansas.

The daylong annual event, which is organized by Jim Deibert of JKD Harvesting Inc. of Colby, started at 9 a.m. with coffee and donuts. Attendees also enjoyed a lunch of pulled pork sandwiches, chips, baked beans, and salads, provided by Vincent, Urban, Walker & Associates.

On the agenda:

- Steve Evert, a farmer and EMT, spoke about risks versus rewards and general farm safety.

- Russ Moellering of the Colby Volunteer Fire Department gave a presentation on fire extinguishers, covering the types of extinguishers and what harvesters should

be carrying, proper use of an extinguisher and maintenance, as well as what to do in case of a field fire.

- Dave Anderson of Vincent, Urban, Walker & Associates spoke briefly about proper procedure in case of an incident.

1. Be sure yourself and other people on the scene of the incident are safe.
2. Call 911.
3. Notify the owner/boss.
4. Call the insurance agent.

He also urged attendees to stay off their cell phones. He suggested all owners consider a no-cell-phone policy — statistics say they work!

- Alex Ryan of Oasis Energy talked about tire safety. He stressed the importance

of checking tires regularly for proper inflation and tracking tire condition with regular checks for wear, cracks and other damage.

- The harvester owners present each gave a tip, ranging from “don’t re-delegate your tasks” to “don’t play

with rattlesnakes.”

- Midwest Energy linemen presented a high-voltage safety demonstration.

- Finally, three Kansas state troopers talked about pre-trip truck inspections and gave some information about electronic logging devices.

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