

WISE Pathways

Women in Sustainable Employment

Building awareness of careers in construction, energy, and manufacturing for women.



Transportation Industry

A background image of a female scientist in a white lab coat and safety glasses, working in a laboratory. She is holding a pipette and looking at a test tube. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

What is the Transportation Industry?

- According to the North American Industry Classification System, which includes “warehousing” along with transportation, this industry includes sectors providing transportation of passengers and cargo, warehousing and storage for goods, scenic and sightseeing transportation, and support activities related to modes of transportation.
- The modes of transportation are air, rail, water, road, and pipeline.

Did you know...

Employment of transportation and material moving occupations is projected to grow 6 percent from 2016 to 2026, about as fast as the average for all occupations, adding 634,300 new jobs. Material moving workers are expected to be needed to move materials in nearly all sectors of the economy. Additionally, the economy depends on truck drivers to transport freight and keep supply chains moving.

*According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics

Transportation Top Five Careers

- Truck Driver (light/delivery median salary \$15.12 hour; heavy/tractor trailer median salary: \$20.42 hour)
- Bus Operator (median salary: \$19.61 hour)
- Transportation Inspector (median salary: \$34.68 hour)
- Materials Moving Machine Operator (median salary: \$16.75 hour)
- Safety Technician (median salary: \$24.02 hour)

*Source: O*NET 2018

Truck Driver: What do you do?

- Drive vehicles following established traffic laws and transportation procedures
- Verify the contents of inventory loads against shipping papers
- Present bills and receipts and collect payments for goods delivered or loaded
- Use and maintain the tools or equipment found on commercial vehicles, such as weighing or measuring devices

Truck Driver: What do you do?

- Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order
- Perform basic vehicle maintenance tasks, such as adding oil, fuel, or radiator fluid or performing minor repairs
- Plan or adjust routes based on changing conditions, using computer equipment, global positioning systems (GPS) equipment, or other navigation devices, to minimize fuel consumption and carbon emissions

Bus Operator: What do you do?

- Drive vehicles over specified routes or to specified destinations according to time schedules, complying with traffic regulations to ensure that passengers have a smooth and safe ride
- Assist passengers, such as elderly or disabled individuals, on and off bus, ensure they are seated properly, help carry baggage, and answer questions about bus schedules or routes

Bus Operator: What do you do?

- Handle passenger emergencies or disruptions
- Report delays or accidents
- Regulate heating, lighting, and ventilating systems for passenger comfort
- Record information, such as cash receipts and ticket fares, and maintain log book
- Read maps to plan bus routes
- Make minor repairs to vehicle and change tires

Transportation Inspector: What

do you do?

- Inspect vehicles or other equipment for evidence of abuse, damage, or mechanical malfunction
- Inspect vehicles or equipment to ensure compliance with rules, standards, or regulations
- Inspect repairs to transportation vehicles or equipment to ensure that repair work was performed properly
- Prepare reports on investigations or inspections and actions taken

Transportation Inspector: What do you do?

- Conduct vehicle or transportation equipment tests, using diagnostic equipment
- Investigate incidents or violations, such as delays, accidents, and equipment failures
- Review commercial vehicle logs, shipping papers, or driver and equipment records to detect any problems or to ensure compliance with regulations
- Investigate complaints regarding safety violations

Materials Moving Machine

Operator: What do you do?

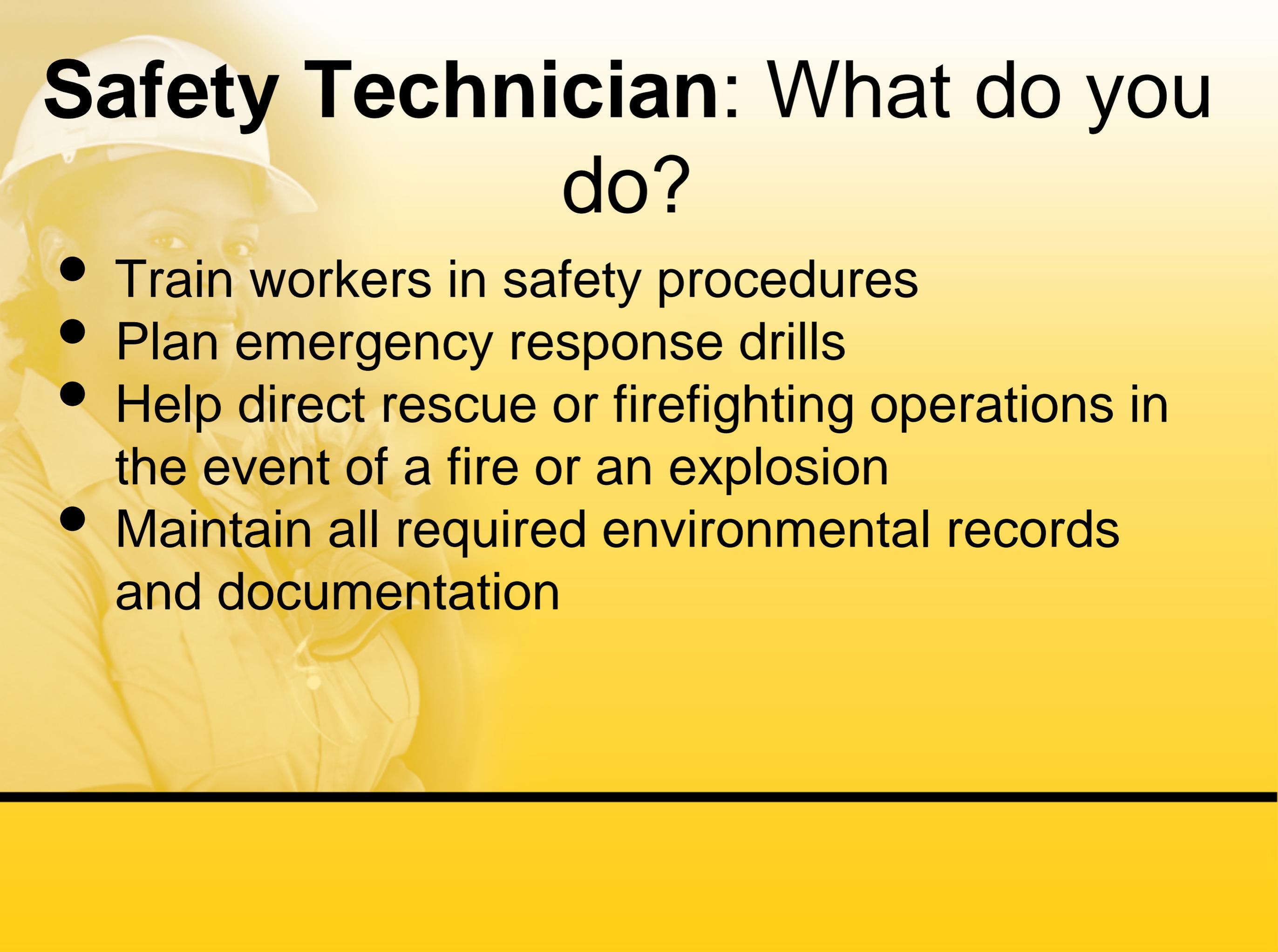
- Move goods around a warehouse or onto container ships using forklift or conveyor belts
- Set up and inspect material moving equipment
- Control equipment with levers, wheels, or foot pedals
- Move material according to a plan or schedule
- Signal and direct workers to load, unload, and position materials

Materials Moving Machine Operator: What do you do?

- Keep a record of the material moved and where they are moved to
- Make minor repairs to their equipment
- Keep track of merchandise using wireless sensors and tags
- Check goods for damage

Safety Technician: What do you do?

- Test workplaces for environmental hazards
- Supply, operate, or maintain personal protective equipment
- Prepare or review specifications or orders for the purchase of safety equipment
- Inspect fire suppression systems or portable fire systems to ensure proper working order
- Maintain logbooks of daily activities, including areas visited or activities performed



Safety Technician: What do you do?

- Train workers in safety procedures
- Plan emergency response drills
- Help direct rescue or firefighting operations in the event of a fire or an explosion
- Maintain all required environmental records and documentation

Transportation Industry

Education/Credential Requirements

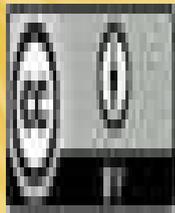
- Truck Driver: Commercial Drivers License (CDL); advanced endorsements from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (heavy trucks and tractor trailers) desirable
- Bus Operator: Commercial Drivers License (CDL); some states require a special bus drivers licensure
- Transportation Inspector: state certifications vary (e.g. emissions inspection certification)
- Materials Moving Machine Operator: on the job training
- Safety Technician: postsecondary certification, associate or bachelor degree

Resources

- Trucking Moves America Forward:
https://www.trucking.org/Trucking_Moves_America_Forward.aspx
- Transportation Learning Center:
<http://www.transportcenter.org/>
- Gateway to Public Transportation Links:
<https://www.apta.com/resources/links/Pages/default.aspx>
- Community Transportation Association of America:
<http://web1.ctaa.org/webmodules/webarticles/anmviewer.asp?a=23&z=2>
- National Institute for Occupational Safety & Health:
<https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/Safe-Skilled-Ready/default.html>

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