With 1 in 5 Americans developing skin cancer at some point in their lifetime; those working outside have an even greater risk than the average sun loving individual. Over the past three decades, more people have had skin cancer, melanoma, than all other cancers combined. When was the last time you experienced a sunburn? If you can think of more than five times, your risk of melanoma has already doubled. Melanoma is the most common form of cancer for young adults 25-29 years old. It is also one of only three cancers with an increasing mortality rate for men, along with liver cancer and esophageal cancer. Regular daily use of an SPF 15 or higher sunscreen reduces the risk of developing melanoma by 50 percent. Don’t be fooled by sunscreen labels that boast of high SPF’s. Anything higher than SPF 50+ can tempt you to be in the sun too long, potentially suppressing sunburn but not any other kind of skin damage. The FDA states any SPF rated above 50+ is misleading. For the safest and most effective sunscreen make sure to use nothing lower than SPF 15 and nothing higher than SPF 50+, reapply often and make sure your sunscreen is rated as Broad Spectrum with an 80 minute water resistance duration time.

Not only is skin cancer on the rise but also debilitating diseases such as Lyme disease with 30,000 new cases each year. The increasing number of Lyme disease cases, coupled with the fact that the most common forms of testing only catch 45 to 65 percent of cases, means that this pesky infection will continue to infiltrate the workplace in a big way. Depending on the severity of the infection, ailments with similar symptoms could range from the flu, chronic fatigue syndrome, rheumatoid arthritis, or tinnitus to lupus, depression, anxiety disorders, and MS. These ailments dramatically reduce productivity during work time and usually equate to multiple absences. Many Lyme disease sufferers fear losing their jobs while many do because they are just not capable to complete their tasks at hand. Insect repellent is an absolute must to assist in the prevention of Lyme disease and other insect transmitted diseases such as West Nile virus which continues to have deaths attributed to it each year.

It is time to be proactive instead of reactive and get protected. Per OSHA Rules 1926.28(a) and 1910.132, it is the responsibility of the employer to develop and implement a Skin Protection Wellness Program that provides the employee protection from all known environmental hazards. More and more risk management and human resource team in the American Workforce are exploring ways to develop safe, effective and affordable Skin Wellness Programs. With skin cancer cases on the rise, West Nile virus and Lyme disease prominent, H1N1 still a major concern and poisonous plant rashes causing major work loss; CoreTex Products offers effective and affordable solutions!

CoreTex Products offers a complete line of complementary skin protection products specifically formulated to keep employees protected while working outdoors. This includes everything from sun screen and lip balm to poison ivy barriers & cleansers and insect repellent protection to an antibacterial hand sanitizer. Not only are these products of the highest quality available, they were developed to meet or exceed all government standards including FDA, EPA and O.S.H.A. CoreTex products truly promote skin protection for the outdoors.

Simply put, CoreTex Products understands. We offer effective skin protection products that are easy to use, safe, and cost effective for the employer.

BY: SHANNON BROWN AT