Safety Advantages of Manhole Repair Tools

"The operation of removing covers from utility holes has been identified as having cases of severe back injuries for the utility and telecommunications companies."

--- Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety 2003

Recent advances in manhole chimney repair and frame leveling tools and methods have greatly affected worker safety. Before these tools were invented, workers would use air hammers and concrete saws to remove the manhole frame from the road. The advent of the Mr. Manhole Six Shooter (www.mrmanhole.com) has replaced the saw and air hammer with a tool that requires no hands on worker involvement.

OSHA says: [it is the duty of] "... an employer to furnish to its employees: employment and a place of employment which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm to his employees..."

The machine is mounted on a skid steer and is powered by a hydraulic auger. The Six Shooter cuts a circular groove around the manhole frame and pulls it vertically from the road in just minutes. This process completely eliminates the dangerous labor and exposure to traffic hazards that were a by product of manhole repair. The Mr. Manhole chimney section rebuild system uses a lifting device for handling the heavy manhole frames. Manhole frames can weigh in excess of 250 lbs. The device allows the weight of the frame to be shared by two workers in a way that is not harmful to the workers backs. The lifting device is also used to lift the heavy manhole lid by way of a magnet. The old way of building Manhole chimneys involved heavy precast concrete rings. Lifting 200lb. concrete Rings was a strain on the back. The Mr. Manhole system employs a light weight plastic insert liner to position the frame at the proper height and slope to match the road. Ready mix concrete than forms the adjusting ring/ collar combination. The New manhole repair method will significantly reduce the risk of injury to workers by eliminating the need to lift heavy objects. The method will also cut the workers exposure to traffic hazards as the repair time is short. The average time for this type of repair is less than one hour. One other advantage is the reduction of hazards for drivers as traffic is restored much quicker. If your business is involved in the repair of manholes, consider using these tools to reduce worker injury and speed production.