

## OREGON COMBAT MILITARY DEATHS IN 2006

Army Sgt. Brennan C. Gibson  
Tualatin, Oregon

Cpl. Billy B. Farris  
Student at Chemawa Indian School in Salem

Spc. Douglas C. Desjardins  
Scio, Oregon

U.S. Army Private First Class Dean R. Bright  
Roseburg, Oregon

U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Derek W. Jones  
Salem, Oregon

U.S. Army Corporal Chase A. Haag  
Portland, Oregon

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Nathaniel B. (Brad) Lindsey  
Troutdale, Oregon

U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Robert J. Paul  
The Dalles, Oregon

U.S. Army Sgt. First Class Richard J. Henkes II  
Woodburn, Oregon

U.S. Marine Lance Corporal Randy L. Newman  
Bend, Oregon

U.S. Army Private Joseph R. Blake  
Portland, Oregon

U.S. Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Marc A. Lee  
Hood River, Oregon

U.S. Marine Captain Christopher T. Pate  
Portland, Oregon

U.S. Staff Sergeant Jason M. Evey  
Attended Corvallis High School

U.S. Army Specialist Robert L. Jones  
Milwaukie, Oregon

U.S. Army Private First Class Thomas L. Tucker  
Madras, Oregon

U.S. Army Specialist Jeremy M. Loveless  
Estacada, Oregon

U.S. Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class  
Marques J. Nettles  
Beaverton, Oregon

U.S. Army Specialist Ryan Doran Walker  
Pendleton, Oregon

# Worldwide cancer epidemic being ignored

A worldwide epidemic of occupational cancer is claiming the lives of an estimated 600,000 workers a year, but it's being ignored by regulators and employers.

This stark warning comes from a global union coalition, which last month launched a "Zero Cancer" campaign to address the issue.

At least 1 in every 10 cancers is the result of preventable, predictable workplace exposure, according to the International Labour Organization and the International Metalworkers Federation, which published a new

guide: "Occupational Cancer/Zero Cancer: A Union Guide to Prevention."

"Today, more people face a workplace cancer risk than at any other time in history. It's just that most of them don't know it," said Marcello Malentacchi, general secretary of the IMF. Malentacchi was in Portland last month attending the Machinists Union Aerospace Conference and to launch a global alliance of unions representing workers at Boeing Co.

The guide, which outlines steps unions

can take to protect workers in the workplace, was produced as part of an international campaign involving 11 global trade union organizations representing over 300 million members in more than 150 countries.

"We'll be calling for widespread workplace mapping, inquiries and surveys, and a big drive to get rid of the top killers, such as achieving a global ban on asbestos," Malentacchi said.

The guide can be downloaded from the IMF Web site at: [www.infmetal.org/cancer](http://www.infmetal.org/cancer).

## DOES YOUR JOB PUT YOU AT RISK?

Cancers associated with workplace substances:

**Bladder cancer** Arsenic; solvents; aromatic amines; petrochemicals and combustion products; metalworking fluids and mineral oils; ionising radiation.

**Bone cancer** Ionising radiation.

**Brain and other central nervous system cancers**

Lead; arsenic; mercury; solvents, including benzene, toluene, xylene and methylene chloride; pesticides; n-nitroso compounds.

**Breast cancer** Ionising radiation; endocrine disrupters; solvents; passive smoking; PCBs; pesticides; combustion by-products; reactive chemicals including ethylene oxide; possible links to non-ionising radiation, phthalates.

**Colon cancer** Limited evidence for solvents xylene and toluene and ionising radiation.

**Hodgkin's disease** Solvents; pesticides; woodworking.

**Kidney cancer** Evidence sketchy because of high survival rates, but some links to arsenic, cadmium and lead; solvent exposure; petroleum products; pesticides linked to Wilms' tumour in children, and to the children of fathers employed as mechanics or welders.

**Laryngeal cancer** Metalworking fluids and mineral oils; natural fibres including asbestos; some evidence for wood dust; exposure to reactive chemicals including sulphuric acids. Excesses in rubber workers, nickel refining, and mustard gas and chemical production.

**Leukaemia** Organic solvents and chlorinated solvents, paints and pigments; reactive chemicals; ionising radiation; conflicting evidence on non-ionising radiation; pesticides.

**Liver and biliary cancer** Ionising radiation; vinyl chloride and angiosarcoma of the liver; PCBs. Some evidence for arsenic, chlorinated solvents and reactive chemicals.

**Lung cancer** Arsenic; beryllium; cadmium; chromium; nickel; solvents, particularly aromatics (benzene and toluene); ionising radiation, including radon-exposed uranium, haematite and other ore miners; reactive chemicals including BCME, CCME, mustard gas, plus suggestive evidence for sulphuric acids; passive smoking; petrochemicals and combustion byproducts; asbestos; silica; wood dust; some man-made fibres, including ceramic fibres.

**Mesothelioma** Asbestos; erionite.

# A JOB TO DIE FOR?

Certain jobs have a notorious reputation for causing cancer. Asbestos and lung cancer and mesothelioma, a cruel and invariably fatal cancer. Vinyl chloride exposure and liver cancer. Work in the rubber industry and bladder cancer. And nasal cancer and work with wood or leather dust.

But many other jobs have a risk which is just as real, but which is less commonly known. The man who delivered the milk to an asbestos factory in Canada got cancer as a result. Nurses handling cancer drugs can be at risk. And workers in newer industries, like microelectronics, may have to wait until evidence – a sufficiently high pile of bodies – emerges confirming they were at risk.

Even with "clean" technology and improved, modern, workplace safety practices, the risks can be real.

A 2006 US study using the firm's own 'Corporate Mortality File', found staff employed at IBM computer factories had high rates of a range of cancers linked to exposures to chemicals and electromagnetic fields. Studies have found similar problems in computer factories in other countries.

Office jobs too can have their risks. After Australian media union MEAA raised concerns about apparently high breast cancer risks in the broadcaster's Brisbane studios, the findings were confirmed in a management-commissioned study. The studio was shut down.

Other factors, like shiftwork and passive smoking, have also been linked to occupational cancers.

Occupational Cancer/Zero Cancer