



Environmental, Health and Safety News

January 2013

We're Proud of Our Work

Our Goal For 2013 Must Be.....
Safety Records Clean and Incident Free
A HAPPY NEW YEAR

Thanks go to Mike Evans at our Brazil, IN plant for the Safety Slogan for 2013. Keep up the great work!!

Also submitted for slogans, by John Curtis:
Make 2013 the best we've ever seen!
Lean and Clean in 2013!

Who's Responsible, Anyway?

Part of this is a reprint from my good friend Robert Stone. He offered this up a couple of years ago for this letter. I am reprinting it here because someone recently reported that he observed an unsafe situation. The situation involved another employee and I was asked to look into it and point out the unsafe situation. Read on and at the end I will add my two cents.

"Recently, I was asked on a job-site by a visitor who inquired, 'Who is responsible for safety on this job?' I thought before answering, of a very good series of articles that I'd read in the trade journals and thought of an unwritten rule that Walt and Terry conveyed to me whereby, in the name of safety, it's alright to plunder, steal and plagiarize any safety ideas or concepts. I answered the visitor by pointing to the nearest employee and saying, "He is." I'd point to another and add, "Him too."

I explained to the somewhat confused visitor that I could answer that it was the responsibility of the Safety Director, General Manager, Superintendents, Foremen, Board of Directors or President and would have been correct on all counts. All of these individuals play a very important role in the safety of our company's employees on our job-sites. The regulatory agencies and our company define very specific responsibilities in the

Something to Think About!!

Any fool can criticize, condemn, and complain, and most fools do.
- Benjamin Franklin

areas of safety for these individuals. It is, however, virtually impossible for any of these well-intentioned people to be with every person, every minute of his or her workday. If their role is to simply format, present and enforce a long list of rules and policies without sufficient interaction, even this necessity is compromised by employee resentment and possibly defiance.

Safety on job-sites rests undeniably with each employee. Every person is equally responsible for safety. It takes the participation of every employee contributing as a member of a team to finally have a working safety culture on the job. It requires the everyday commitment of each person to maintain such a safety mind-set. Communication is a key element when discussing in open forums the issues of best practices, safe procedures and the identification of potential hazards. Helpful, in this process, is a review of basic tried and proven principles.

Look for Hazards

While performing routine tasks, look for safety and health hazards. An additional, fresh set of eyes may spot a hazard that isn't obvious to others.

Report Hazards

Take the time to report the hazards that you identify to your supervisor. Correct hazards that you can. If it can't be readily corrected, warn others and barricade or restrict access to the hazard until it can be corrected.

Stop Unsafe Actions

Don't take "short-cuts" where safety is concerned

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Safety is never an accident: it is always the result of high intention, sincere effort, intelligent direction and skilled execution! It represents the wise choice of many alternatives!!

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asking yourself if you would be comfortable letting a close friend or family member do what you're doing. **Don't hesitate to gently remind other employees that you observe them doing something unsafe. It's very important that we all watch out for one another.**

Avoid Horseplay

Most of us relish practical jokes, but we must be very cautious when goofing around diverts someone's attention from a dangerous task at hand. It's no joke if someone gets hurt as a result.

Follow Instructions

Follow safety rules and policies as established by the regulatory agencies and the company. These rules and policies are there to prioritize the employee's safety as the number one issue.

Practice Good Housekeeping

Maintain a safe, organized work area. Poor housekeeping is a powerful indication of larger problems present.

Dress Appropriately

Use the appropriate Personal Protection Equipment for the assigned task. Jewelry, loose clothing and long hair can be

Location: _____

Supervisor: _____

please sign below, confirming the material was reviewed:

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entanglement hazards.

Make Suggestions

Be involved as a member of your safety team. Each person is empowered to make the worksite better, safer, and more productive. Communication implies "two-way" enlightenment. Contribute to the worksite's safety effort by your involvement."

The very well made point of this is that we are all members of the safety team and it is everyone's responsibility to make our operations as safe as possible. If you see an unsafe condition, bring it to light. The other person involved may not even realize the hazard!



I truly appreciate the fact that someone would make me aware of unsafe conditions and I am happy to address those issues. I don't and won't know about those situations unless someone tells me. But no one should be uncomfortable about addressing the issue immediately when it is identified. If an unsafe condition exists it needs to be corrected immediately.

We need every employee for imi to be successful. To do that we need everyone to participate, to be efficient and productive, and to be a part of the team, not just in safety, but in all aspects of the work. It is impossible to separate efficiency and productivity from safety. They go hand in hand.

Please join the team in making 2013 the best ever year!!!