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Weekly Safety Tip

Life Is All About Choices!®

October 9, 2017

SCI Safety News: Job safety said to give small business a recruiting edge

Source: <http://www.blr.com>

Date: September 18, 2017



Competition for top talent is tough in today's marketplace. And with the U.S. unemployment rate hovering at 4.4 percent, it can be hard for small companies to find individuals to fill open positions. Now, a new survey of small-business employees finds that the safety of the work environment was among top factors for employees considering a new job offer. The survey was conducted by Employers, a leading small-business insurance provider.

According to the research, business owners may be underselling a factor that could give them an edge in recruiting. Employers says the findings were a surprise, noting that safety ranked behind criteria such as compensation, the nature of the work, and proximity to home. But it ranked ahead of factors like the quality of potential coworkers and opportunities for professional growth.

While most employees of small companies believe their employers make workplace safety a high priority, one out of 10 disagreed. Also, people who work at businesses with 86-100 people were more likely to say their employer prioritizes safety, compared with those who work at smaller companies. Those who work at women-owned business were more likely to say their employer places an extremely high priority on job safety.

SCI Safety Slogan

Every accident is a notice that something is wrong with men, methods, or material - investigate - then act.
-Unknown

James Lehrke-SCI

Also of note, the Employers survey found that:

- 17 percent of all small business employees surveyed say they never receive workplace safety training.
- 25 percent of personnel at very small companies (9 or fewer employees) say they never receive safety training.
- 40 percent of small business employees say their employer does not display the required OSHA poster prominently, or they aren't sure if it is displayed.



Employers recommends that small business owners take steps including the following to create a culture of safety:

- Identify and assess potential hazards;
- Lead by example when it comes to working safely;
- Train and educate regularly and effectively; *and*
- Conduct regular audits and safety meetings.

OSHA Compliance: 11 Rules for Safe Handling of Hazardous Materials

Source: <http://www.blr.com>

By: Chris Kilbourne

Date: April 1, 2012

Do your employees know how to handle hazardous materials safely? Here are 11 basic rules all employees who handle hazardous materials should know and follow.

These 11 rules are presented in no particular order. They are all top priorities for chemical handlers. However, feel free to rearrange them in whatever order you think is best for your workplace, your workers, and your material hazards. You'll undoubtedly have other safety rules to add to the list. Better yet, present the list in a safety meeting and get employees involved in helping you add to the list. This will create a sense of ownership over your safe chemical handling rules. To employees, they'll be "our" rules rather than "their" rules. That way, people will be more likely to follow them.

Rule #1. Follow all established procedures and perform job duties as you've been trained.

Rule #2. Be cautious and plan ahead. Think about what could go wrong and pay close attention to what you're doing while you work.

Rule #3. Always use required PPE—and inspect it carefully before each use to make sure it's safe to use. Replace worn out or damage PPE; it won't provide adequate protection.

Rule #4. Make sure all containers are properly labeled and that the material is contained in an appropriate container. Don't use any material not contained or labeled properly. Report any damaged containers or illegible labels to your supervisor right away.

Rule #5. Read labels and the material safety data sheet (MSDS) before using any material to make sure you understand hazards and precautions.





Quick Tips for Healthy Living

5 Secrets: How to Start and Sustain Fitness Habits

The tips from last week are continued below!

3. **Set an Exercise Routine**
 People who are consistent with fitness activities have made a routine of exercising at the same time on the same days of the week. Habits tend to be hard to break. When your habit is good for you, it's even easier to keep it going. When planning an exercise routine, be aware of the recommendations for how many times during the week you should exercise to give you the most benefit.

4. **Use Visual Cues to Remind You to Exercise**
 Studies have found that people who use visual exercise cues are more likely to stick to their exercise plans. A visual cue would be something like putting your walking or running shoes out where you change after work. Seeing your shoes will spark a reminder. Or leave your earbuds on the dresser to remind you to grab them on your way out for a walk or run. The more prominent your cues are, the more likely you'll see them and follow through.

5. **Be Flexible About Exercise Planning**
 It's essential to have a plan for fitting fitness activities into your life. You can boost your chances of accomplishing your exercise goals if you right them down.
 That said, life can throw surprises your way. When that happens, don't view your fitness activities as all or nothing.
 If you plan to workout for 30 minutes but something comes up that causes you to shortcut your time, just roll with it. Workout for 20 minutes. Being active for any period of time is better than zero! Consistent exercisers build flexibility into their planning.

- Rule #6.** Use all materials solely for their intended purpose. Don't, for example, use solvents to clean your hands, or gasoline to wipe down equipment.
- Rule #7.** Never eat or drink while handling any materials, and if your hands are contaminated, don't use cosmetics or handle contact lenses.
- Rule #8.** Read the labels and refer to MSDSs to identify properties and hazards of chemical products and materials.
- Rule #9.** Store all materials properly, separate incompatibles, and store in ventilated, dry, cool areas.
- Rule #10.** Keep you and your work area clean. After handling any material, wash thoroughly with soap and water. Clean work surfaces at least once a shift so that contamination risks are minimized.
- Rule #11.** Learn about emergency procedures and equipment. Understanding emergency procedures means knowing evacuation procedures, emergency reporting procedures, and procedures for dealing with fires and spills. It also means knowing what to do in



We'd always like your feedback. Let us know what articles you'd like to see!

In Loving Memory...
 Jessica, Kristin and Nick

