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## *Weekly Safety Tip*

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August 31, 2015

### SCI Safety: The 5 Es of Safety: Implement These Strategies Today

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

Date: August 28, 2015



Construction of the first new refinery built in the United States in nearly 40 years was completed with no recordable incidents, which owners hope will bode well for the plant's future operation. How did they do it? Keep reading to learn about the company's *5 Es of Safe Growth and Development*.

Dakota Prairie Refining processes about 20,000 barrels per day of Bakken crude oil. The work is done by approximately 80 employees on a 300-acre site west of Dickinson, North Dakota. Jeff Rust is vice president of operations for WBI Energy, which owns and operates the plant in partnership with Calumet Specialty Products Partners. At the time of the refinery construction, 2013 to 2015, he was employed by Billfinger Westcon, the prime construction contractor.

The “soup-to-nuts” buildout featured a number of operational and safety challenges, according to Rust. Among these was the need to build roads, a bridge, sewer systems, and other elements of infrastructure in addition to the refinery itself.

### **SCI Safety Slogan**



**James Lehrke-SCI**

The project's safety profile—more than 800 workers worked safely for more than 2.5 million hours—was no accident. Rust is an experienced corporate safety director who has created The Five Es of Safe Growth and Development, a system he used on the Prairie project. The Es are as follows:

- **Expectations.** A safe project starts before any boots are on the ground, with leaders setting the tone and vision. “It’s about how we expect the safety portion of the project to be executed and how we manage the hazards,” says Rust. Establishing expectations means developing everything from emergency procedures and job safety analyses to toolbox meetings, reporting procedures, and stop work authority. On the Prairie job, one member of every eight-person crew was specially trained as a crew safety representative.
- **Education.** Education and training are critical to contractor safety. On the refinery project, all personnel were required to have an OSHA 10-hour card or its equivalent. Rust says this helped ensure that crewmembers shared basic safety principles and terminology. Leaders built on that common knowledge with specific training in aerial lifts, scaffold use, excavation, supervisor safety, and other areas.
- **Empowerment.** Engaging and empowering employees is the third “E” in Rust’s system. This means making sure employees have the right tools for the job, providing effective and ongoing safety leadership, establishing effective safety communication, and encouraging employees to share ideas about safer ways to perform their jobs.
- **Evaluation.** Techniques including behavioral observations provide safety leaders with important data for evaluating the safety process and its effectiveness. During construction of the Prairie refinery, safety team members and senior managers conducted regular safety observations. When they saw a noteworthy safe behavior, they would enter the employee’s name into a weekly cash drawing. Risky behaviors were corrected on the spot. All incidents, including near misses, were investigated.
- **Enforcement.** The final “E” in the system is enforcement (and reinforcement). Rust emphasizes that discipline is essential but is not necessarily negative and should not involve blame.

Reflecting on the safety success of the refinery build Rust notes, “We wanted to put our employees, contractors, and subcontractors in the best position to ensure their success in terms of safety and health, and financially.”

## SCI OSHA Compliance: Pit Falls of Noncompliance

Source: [www.blr.com](http://www.blr.com) (Part 1)

Date: August 26, 2015

Following safety regulations isn’t just the right thing to do—it keeps employers on the right side of OSHA enforcement and saves money by avoiding fines, legal fees, and more. Keep reading to learn about six companies that ran afoul of OSHA regulations and paid the price.

### Workers exposed to chemical, fire, explosion hazards

Heat treatment plant

Connecticut OSHA Region 1

**Serious violations:** Employee complaints led to an OSHA inspection of a facility that performs heat treatment on metal parts. The inspection resulted in 24 serious violations for the company after OSHA found workers exposed to a variety of fire, explosion, chemical, and mechanical hazards. The violations include not training and providing protective clothing and tools to employees who performed live electrical work, not inspecting a piping system carrying anhydrous ammonia, lack of a pressure relief valve on a nitrogen tank, and improper storage of incompatible chemicals and combustible materials. The company also lacked an adequate program for confined space work and adequate safeguards for employees required to wear respirators.

**Penalty:** \$77,000 fine

### Equipment manufacturer cited for 21 safety violations

Agricultural equipment manufacturer

Georgia OSHA Region 4

**Serious violations:** After receiving a complaint, OSHA initiated an inspection of a manufacturing facility and cited the company with 11 serious and 10 other safety violations. The violations included failing to identify permit-required confined spaces, failing to test the air quality of confined spaces before workers were allowed to enter them, failing to develop and implement lockout/tagout procedures, failing to provide PPE to workers who were exposed to welding hazards, and exposing workers to moving parts from a machine that was missing a safety guard. Other violations included failing to conduct fit testing for workers who used respiratory masks and not training workers on the dangers of hexavalent chromium exposure.

**Penalty:** \$44,710 fine



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Quick Tips for Healthy Living

**Prevention**

It is always better to prevent a disease than to treat it after it occurs.

According to the CDC, diseases that used to be common in this country and around the world, including polio, measles, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), rubella (German measles), mumps, tetanus, rotavirus and *Haemophilus influenzae* type b (Hib) can now be prevented by vaccination.

Thanks to a vaccine, one of the most terrible diseases in history – smallpox – no longer exists outside the laboratory. Over the years vaccines have prevented countless cases of disease and saved millions of lives.

Immunity protects us From Disease

Immunity is the body’s way of preventing disease. Children are born with an immune system composed of cells, glands, organs, and fluids located throughout the body. The immune system recognizes germs that enter the body as "foreign invaders" (called *antigens*) and produces proteins called *antibodies* to fight them.

The first time a child is infected with a specific antigen (say measles virus), the immune system produces antibodies designed to fight it. This takes time . . . usually the immune system can’t work fast enough to prevent the antigen from causing disease, so the child still gets sick. However, the immune system “remembers” that antigen. If it ever enters the body again, even after many years, the immune system can produce antibodies fast enough to keep it from causing disease a second time. This protection is called immunity.

It would be nice if there were a way to give children immunity to a disease without their having to get sick first.

In fact there is:

**Vaccines** contain the same antigens (or parts of antigens) that cause diseases. For example, measles vaccine contains measles virus. But the antigens in vaccines are either killed, or weakened to the point that they don’t cause disease. However, they *are* strong enough to make the immune system produce antibodies that lead to immunity. In other words, a *vaccine is a safer substitute for a child’s first exposure to a disease*. The child gets protection without having to get sick. Through vaccination, children can develop immunity without suffering from the actual diseases that vaccines prevent.

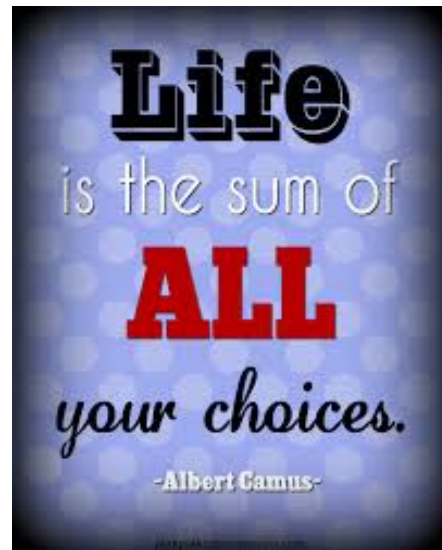
**Teenager suffers hand amputation**

Pallet manufacturer

Ohio OSHA Region 5

**Serious violations:** On March 31, a 14-year-old worker lost his hand through contact with the operating parts of a wood planer while manufacturing pallets. The employer violated the law by allowing an employee under 18 to work on the machine. An OSHA inspection found that the wood planer was one of several machines that lacked required safety guards. OSHA cited the company with 17 serious safety violations, including failing to train worksite staff to provide first aid, failing to establish an exposure control plan for employees exposed to blood during first aid, failing to teach employees about workplace chemical hazards, failing to provide and train workers on the use of PPE, failing to store flammable liquids correctly, failing to use self-closing valves on gasoline drums used to power equipment, and failing to install electrical equipment properly. The Wage and Hour Division is also investigating the company for probable violations of child labor laws.

**Penalty:** \$43,200 fine *Continued next week!*



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