



We're about service, commitment, results, and accountability!

Our Weekly Safety Tip provides valuable and current safety information relevant for Work, Home & Play.

And, you will be kept current on the latest Safety Compliance issues.



SCI SAFETY NEWS OR TIP



SCI OSHA NEWS OR COMPLIANCE



SCI HEALTHYLIVING and WELLNESS NEWS

We want to hear from you! Send us your feedback and give us ideas for future safety topics.

Let us know how you feel about our new look!

Safety Slogan

**Teamwork makes the Dreamwork,
James Lehrke-SCI**

of the week

SCI Safety Tip: It Takes Teamwork to Prevent Workplace Accidents

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

Date: April 18, 2012

Workplace safety isn't a one-person job. It's a team effort. How's your safety team doing?

- In a safe workplace, there are lots of teams working together.
- There's your safety management team.
- There are employees teaming up with co-workers formally and informally to protect one another.
- There may be a safety committee working as a team to identify and correct hazards.
- And then, if you're doing it right, there's the one big workforce team, composed of all those other teams, working together to prevent accidents, injuries, and illness across your entire workplace.

Keep Teamwork Alive

To keep safety teamwork alive and well in your workplace, consider these fundamentals:

Make safety a priority. Talk about it every day and hold weekly safety meetings to discuss new information, problems, and solutions.

Keep your workforce informed. Make sure employees are up to date on any changes in policies, procedures, materials, hazards, and so on. Ignorance is a dangerous enemy of safety.

Provide excellent training. Demonstrate, discuss, practice, and review. Drills, skill building, and knowledge transfer will mold raw material with potential into a tight-knit

Select the right equipment. This includes both equipment like tools and machines as well as required PPE. Make sure employees know how to use equipment properly—and follow up to make sure they do.

- **Emphasize employee participation.** Get employees involved in hazard detection, problem solving, and decision making. Everybody has something to contribute to a safer workplace.
- **Encourage suggestions.** Employees know a lot about their jobs, and if you've trained them well, they know a lot about safety, too. Listen to their ideas for making the workplace safer.
- **Reinforce safe behavior.** Give positive feedback—and lots of it—for safe performance, and use feedback to correct unsafe behavior and redirect risk taking as well.

5 Characteristics of Effective Teams

All teams share certain essential characteristics that make them effective. These characteristics are:

1. **Focus.** Effective teams are focused on the same safety mission—identifying hazards, working safely, and preventing accidents.
2. **Goals.** Effective teams understand safety goals and commit to achieving them. Everybody on the team works together toward the same goals to achieve success and prevent injuries.
3. **Involvement.** When teams are successful, it's because employees all over the workplace are involved in safety programs and in efforts to improve workplace safety.
4. **Cooperation.** On effective teams members cooperate with one another and depend on each another to identify hazards, follow safety procedures, and prevent accidents.
5. **Communication.** Because team members are interdependent, they must be constantly communicating, sharing information, giving warnings, reinforcing safe behavior, and talking up safety.

SCI OSHA News: New OSHA Directive Explains Communications with Victims' Families Following a Workplace Fatality

Source: <http://www.osha.gov>

Date: April 17, 2012

WASHINGTON – A new Occupational Safety and Health Administration directive guides OSHA representatives in communicating investigation procedures with family members following a workplace fatality. The guidance ensures that OSHA representatives speak to the victim's family early in the inspection process, establish a point of contact, and maintain a working relationship with the family.

"OSHA is committed to working with families to explain the circumstances surrounding the deaths of their loved ones," said Assistant Secretary of Labor for Occupational Safety and Health, Dr. David Michaels. "This directive ensures that OSHA receives the necessary information from the family to assist in the investigation, and keeps the family informed throughout the investigation and settlement processes."

Under the new directive, OSHA representatives will contact the victim's family to explain the investigation process, timeline, and provide the family with updates throughout the investigation. Once the investigation is closed, OSHA will explain findings to the family and address any questions. If an employer has been issued citations, OSHA will provide a copy of the citation(s) to the family.

More information about the new directive is available on OSHA's directive page ([PDF*](#)). Employers must notify OSHA within eight hours of a workplace fatality, including fatal heart attacks that occur at work. These reports may be made by telephone or in person to the nearest area office or by calling

OSHA's toll-free number, 1-800-321-OSHA [6742]. Under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. OSHA's role is to assure these conditions for America's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards, and providing training, education and assistance. For more information, visit <http://www.osha.gov>.

HEALTHY BITES

Quick Tips for Healthy Living

PREVEA
Health & Wellness

Sweets

Many People consume more sugar than they realize. It's important to be aware of how much sugar you consume because our bodies don't need sugar to function properly. Added sugars contribute zero nutrients but many extra calories that can lead to extra pounds.

The American Heart Association notes that one 12 ounce can of cola contains about 8 teaspoons of sugar, or about 130 calories. Just one can contains more than the recommended amount of no more than 100 calories per day from added sugars for women.

Tip: Try fruit instead of sweets. Treat yourself to your favorite fruit you don't buy as often such as blueberries, blackberries, fresh pineapple, mango, etc.

Source:

American Heart Association. Sugars 101 <http://americanheart.org/presenter>.

SCI OSHA Safety: The Sober Reality of Alcohol in the Workplace (Part 1)

Source: www.blr.com

Date: April 18, 2012

Since April is Alcohol Awareness Month, it's a good time to train employees about the danger of alcohol and other substance abuse.

Surveys show that substance abuse is one of the most serious issues currently facing American companies, with over 6 million active alcoholics on the payrolls of American businesses. Some 73 percent of all current illicit drug users aged 18 and older are employed.

Remind employees of the destructive effect alcohol abuse can have on just about every part of life. The alcohol abuser may end up losing everything, including job, home, family, friends, savings, and physical and mental health.

In the workplace, the negative fallout of alcohol abuse includes a steady deterioration of work performance, unreliability, and recklessness that can jeopardize the safety of co-workers, the integrity of company products and services, and the company's reputation.



What do you think?
Send us an email at:
jconnections@aol.com
See our bold new look @
<http://www.safetyconnections.com/>

*In Loving
Memory of Jessica Lefirke*

Ask your employees to consider what kinds of problems alcohol abuse could cause in your workplace. For example, which jobs in your workplace require good judgment, coordination, alertness, and other skills that could be impaired by substance abuse? Workplace alcohol abuse is not only a large and costly problem but also an issue covered by an important federal law, the Drug-Free Workplace Act, to help combat this problem.

The Act requires companies that are federal contractors or grantees to have, and to distribute to all employees, a written policy explaining the rules against drugs in the workplace.

The law also requires an organization have a drug awareness program to warn employees about the dangers of drug use, particularly at work.