

# "Saddle Up for Safety: A Cowboy's Expedition into the Frontier of Safety Training"

## Introduction:

If you've ever felt like you've strayed into a wild west rodeo of conferences, full of bucking broncos and sharpshooters, all vying to rope in your attention, then saddle up, partner. We're on the same trail. My latest expedition had me moseying down to the heart of the Lone Star State, San Antonio, for the American Society of Safety Professional (ASSP) conference.

Now imagine this: 5,000 cowpokes and 500 vendors, buzzing like a prairie full of leafhoppers, all immersed in the wild frontier of safety training knowledge. There I was, just another cowboy in the crowd, on a quest to chart the vast canyons and untamed rivers of safety training materials and methodologies under the shade of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) forest.

## Short Tale of the Expedition:

While the answers I found were not the ones I was hoping for, they were the ones I needed. The information I received was like a prick from a desert rose – unexpected and sharp, but with an undeniable beauty to it. The conference was an opportunity to network with like-minded individuals, some of whom had spent the better part of their lives ensuring safety training was not as dull as tumbleweed's journey across an endless prairie.

One particular ray of sunshine was an old hand by the name of Skipper. We were two lone cowboys on the frontier of safety training, sharing a vision and enthusiasm for effective training methods under the vast Texas sky. His insights were as rejuvenating as a cool gust of wind rustling through the Alamo's aged walls on a hot Texan day.

My adventure also led me to regulatory giants like OSHA, plus other big names in safety training like the National Association of Safety Professionals, Industrial Safety Training Council, International Society of Occupational Ergonomics and Safety, and Alliance Safety Council. Just like uncovering a stash of gold nuggets in a forgotten miner's claim, these institutions turned out to be a bonanza of knowledge.

A twist in the tale was my interaction with insurance group, Aon. A proposal floated around the conference like a wild rumor at a high school reunion: Could insurance premiums be lowered for companies adopting Shepherd VR training? The short answer: the entry barrier was as high as the Texas sky is wide. But, like the persistent cowboy who never gives up, we're not cutting the rope on this longhorn just yet.

There was one elusive character, another virtual reality training company. They were a needle in the haystack, the only ones promoting VR as far as my eyes could see. Their scarcity at such a large

conference made me reflect on the acceptance rate of new technology in this market. It was like trying to introduce a horse to a Segway.

# **Conclusions:**

Riding into the ASSP conference like a cowboy in new territory, I found that the land of safety training is as wild and tough as the old West, with OSHA acting as the stern and immovable sheriff. Chasing the dream of improving training materials is like prospecting for gold - you hit a lot of hard rock before you see a glint. New allies showed up in unexpected saloons though, like grizzled safety trainers and council folks who've weathered many a storm.

My journey didn't quite pan out with the nuggets of answers I was hoping for, but it sure gave me a map to the uncharted territories. Seems Shepherd VR's ride to revolutionizing safety training ain't a joyride down a prairie, but a thrilling rodeo, bucking with challenges and opportunities.

# **About Shepherd VR**

#### **Mission Statement:**

Shepherd VR, powered by Clint Kling's innovative methodology, is dedicated to advancing safety training through immersive VR technology. Our mission is to deliver enriched training materials that boost information retention, curtail the cycle of workplace accidents, and ensure everyone returns home safely each day. We are "Safeguarding Reality through Virtual Training."

### **Brief History:**

Shepherd VR, founded by Clint Kling, an expert VR developer with over a decade of industry experience in mining and oil operations, has revolutionized safety training. Clint, holding a master's degree in mining engineering and a graduate certificate in safety management. While pursuing his doctorate degree in mining engineering, Clint formulated a unique process that amalgamates concepts from neuroscience and psychology. This creative fusion was aimed at enhancing retention rates during safety training, leading to the development of the Functional Integral Training (FIT) methodology.

FIT, embedded within his virtual reality modules, employs an integrated approach to safety training, anchoring the process within the human brain's natural cognitive and retention capabilities. This methodology reflects Clint's multidisciplinary approach to safety management, emphasizing not just the acquisition of knowledge but its long-term retention and application. Through Shepherd VR, he is making his vision of enhanced safety training and reduced workplace accidents a reality.

**Get Started Now:** Don't wait for accidents to dictate your safety measures. Partner with Shepherd VR today and let us help you shape a safer future. Reach out to start your journey towards enhanced safety training.

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