

Everyday Safety

Tailgate Talks

Safety Awareness

There are many reasons why accidents happen: worker behavior, equipment failure, lack of training, bad work habits, no communication, rush to get the job done. But all of the safety rules, training, and equipment in the world can't protect someone who isn't alert to what's happening around them. The sad fact is that most accidents are someone's fault. They're the result of carelessness, of someone not paying attention, or not thinking that safety is important on the job.

PEOPLE CAN BE THE BIGGEST HAZARDS ON THE JOB When someone gets careless, someone gets hurt - including the careless person and maybe an innocent bystander. The concept of no-fault doesn't apply to on-the-job safety. We're all accountable. Most careless accidents can be pinned down to one of four causes:



COMPLACENCY That's what happens when someone has done the job for so long that they don't have to think about it. But no job is so simple that it doesn't require following all the steps and paying attention. When you go on automatic pilot, you crash.

EMOTIONS We all get angry or upset at things happening at home, an incident with someone on the job, or even at some driver who cut you off on the way to work. These are understandable emotions, but they can distract you and make you careless. You can't afford these emotions when you're working with complex machinery, equipment, power tools, out along a busy highway, or plowing snow. You've got to learn to push emotions back when you're at work because if you let them take over, you're only likely to create new and more serious things to worry about.

TIREDFNESS Whether the cause is too little sleep, too long a shift, or maybe a second job, tiredness is a serious risk on the job. When you're tired, your physical and mental reactions are slower. You have trouble paying attention, remembering what to do, or actually doing it when and how you're supposed to. Don't let too little sleep jeopardize your safety.

Hanover Testing Labs



LACK OF KNOWLEDGE There are a lot of training programs that cover what you need to know and do to run a safe job, but sometimes it doesn't all get through. Maybe the training didn't provide information or procedures in enough detail. Maybe there was so much detail that you couldn't take it all in. Sometimes people think that having been through training means they're expected to remember every single thing, so they're afraid to ask questions.

Resources and References:

OSHA Recommended Practices for Health and Safety Programs

<https://www.osha.gov/shpguidelines/education-training.html#ai1>

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Safety Awareness:

Name:

Signature:
