

MAKE SAFETY YOUR BUSINESS

This topic was created to aid you with your regular scheduled safety meetings. This topic was designed to be presented in 5 to 10 minutes with a minimum of preparation. Remember to fill in the documentation section on the reverse side.

Every employee, from the most recently hired to the most senior has a role in the safety program. Cal/OSHA places the responsibility to provide a safe workplace on the employer's shoulders, but for the effort to be successful all of us must get involved.

Our safety-related well being at work is something many of us take for granted. We rarely think about it or the possibility (much less the implication) of getting seriously hurt on the job. It's when we're sick or hurt that we realize how valuable our good health is.

You can help us achieve success in safety by getting involved. Keep your eyes open in your areas and identify any unsafe conditions that may exist. Look at how you and your co-workers perform their tasks and identify actions that seem likely to lead to injury or property loss. Talk to people involved and let them know of your concern. Advise your supervisor of potential hazards and corrective actions you recommend. If that makes you uncomfortable then pass your findings or concerns on to a member of the safety committee. Don't wait for someone else to identify the problem; someone—perhaps you—may be injured first.

Make sure you understand how to do a task before you begin. Know what hazards and hazardous materials are involved and how to perform the work safely. Read warning labels and use materials within recommended levels. Keep an eye on other workers and operations around you and be sure their actions do not put you in harm's way.

Injuries and property loss are damaging to our program. They can lead to a shortage of manpower. They are expensive. They can hurt our ability to meet demands when good, trained employees are taken off the job because of injury or illness. We all suffer, the employee and the company.

Each of you is knowledgeable in your work and has the right to a safe and healthful place to do your jobs. The nature of some jobs makes them more dangerous than others but all of them can be done safely. **BE PART OF THE EFFORT!**

SAFETY REMINDER:

If a job can not be done safely, it is not worth doing.