

UNDERSTANDING SAFETY SIGNS

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.

Signs are common in our lives today. Hazard warning signs in the workplace have specific requirements made by Cal/OSHA. This safety meeting will give you an understanding of what the signs are, what they mean, and how to use them.

Danger signs are red and black with a white field. The word **DANGER** is written across the top of the sign. Danger signs indicate an *immediate* hazardous situation which could result in severe injury or death. These signs are found in areas where explosives are stored, where hard hats are required, or to indicate no trespassing.

Warning signs are orange with black lettering. The word **WARNING** is written across the top of the sign. Warning signs indicate a *potentially* hazardous situation which could result in severe injury or death. These signs warn employees of moving machinery, flammable liquid storage, or to indicate that smoking is not allowed.

Caution signs are yellow with black lettering. The word **CAUTION** is written across the top of the sign. Caution signs indicate a *hazardous* situation which may result in a moderate injury. Caution signs warn of hazards such as slippery floors, microwave oven in use, or low overhead clearance.

Notice signs are blue and white. The word **NOTICE** is written across the top of the sign. Notice signs indicate company policies relating to the safety of personnel or protection of property. These signs notify employees to keep a door closed, to keep aisles clear, or to not block a doorway.

Safety First signs are green and white. The words **SAFETY FIRST** are written across the top of the sign. Safety First signs indicate general safety instructions as respects safe working conditions. These signs tell employees to keep an area clean, to walk not run, or to use proper lifting techniques.

Remember, signs are a useful reminder of hazards however, never substitute them for good safety procedures. You can help prevent injuries and save lives if you understand the signs and the hazard they are warning about.

SAFETY REMINDER:

Read the sign and know the hazard.