

POWER GENERATION VPP WORK GROUP

Q1 2025

February 13, 2025

Please check in on the chat function with your name, title and company. Feel free to add email



Safety Moment

Presented By: Dustin Johnson

Onward Energy



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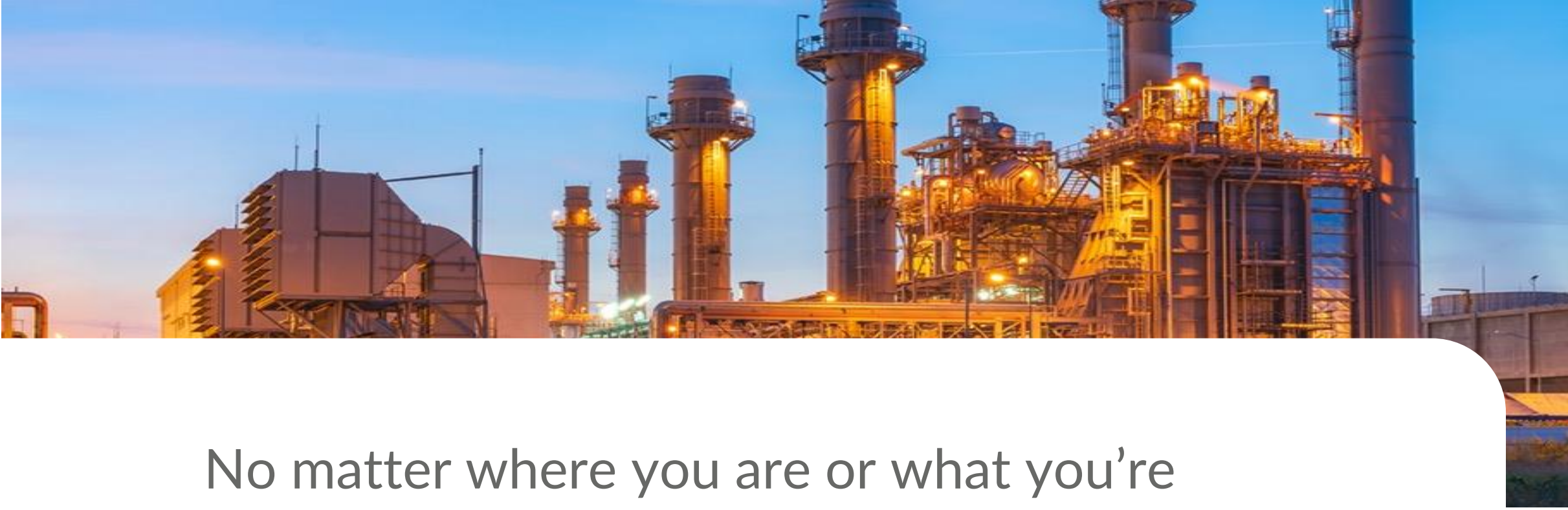




Situational Awareness in the Workplace



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No matter where you are or what you're doing, it pays to be vigilant. The benefit of situational awareness is to be more likely to spot hazards and counteract them.



Walking in a busy parking lot? Be alert for drivers backing out of spots without looking.

Making dinner in the kitchen? Remember which burners are hot so you don't hurt yourself.

Navigating a crowded subway station? Hold on to your valuables and be wary of pickpockets.



Situational awareness positions an individual to make careful, safe decisions when faced with a potentially unsafe scenario.

- Chances are you already employ this skill set on a regular basis—often unconsciously because, as humans, we are naturally wary of our surroundings. These practices are uniquely important in the workplace due to occupational, industry-specific, and locational hazards. Preparing employees with situational awareness skills is integral to safety management and fulfilling your duty to protect you and your coworkers from harm.



Complicacy is the death of safety!

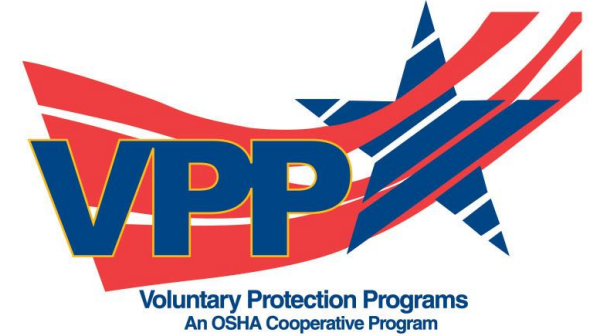
VPP Updates

Since last meeting:

New VPP Applications
Submitted or Accepted

Initial VPP Approvals

VPP Reapprovals



Special Government Employees (SGE)



Notes and Opportunities

- 8 SGE Training classes are scheduled through July of 2025. <https://www.osha.gov/sge/sge-training>
- SGE Opportunities – <https://www.osha.gov/sge/onsite>
- For more SGE Program Information - <https://www.osha.gov/sge>




VPP Element: Communication

Presented By: Michael Circle
Onward Energy



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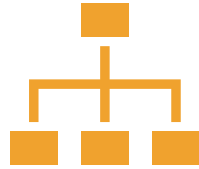
Management
Leadership
Employee Involvement

Four Parts



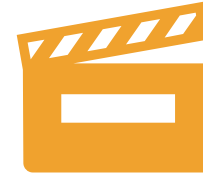
Communication

Communicate
safety up and
down the chain



Plan

Work at all levels
of the organization
to solve the issue.



Action

Put into action the
communication
and the plan



Assessment

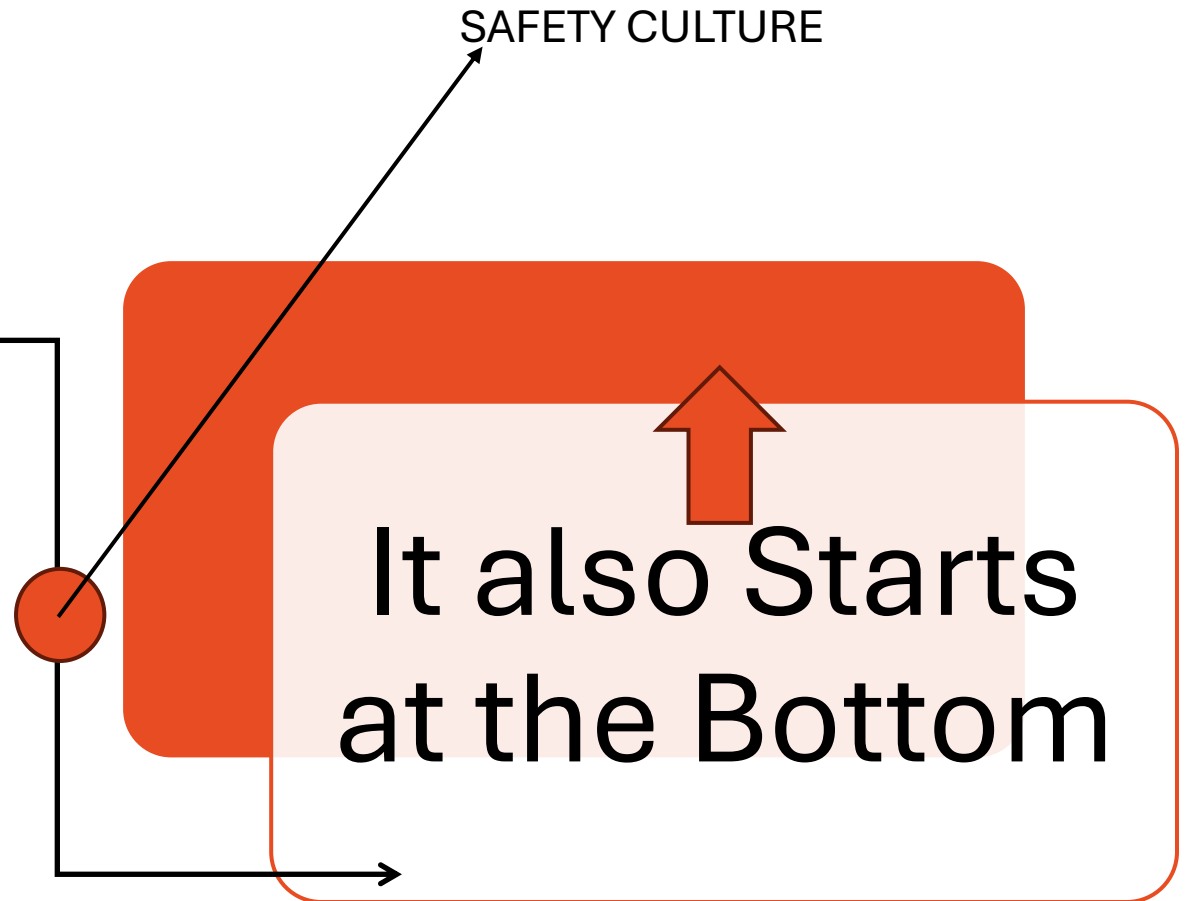
Review the
process and the
end result.

Communication

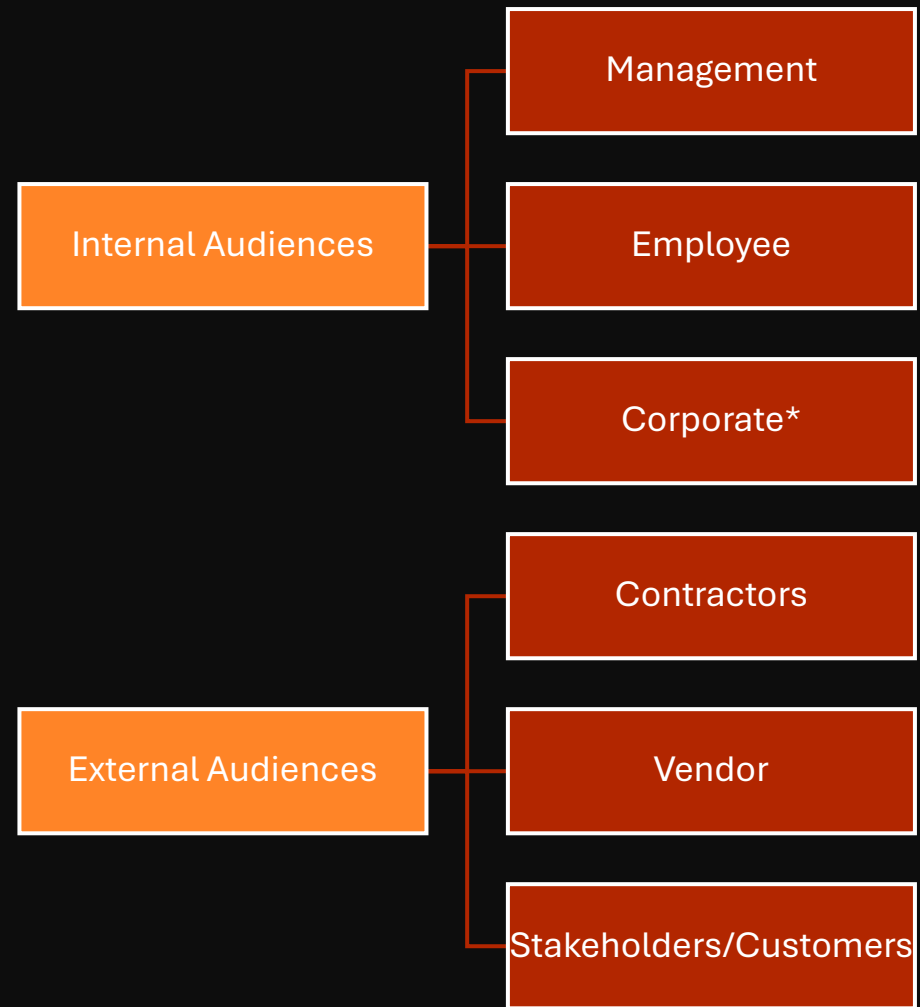
Safety Starts
at the Top

SAFETY CULTURE

It also Starts
at the Bottom



Communication



We're going to focus on the Internal Audiences with Safety

Communication



Communication Styles

Management
Employee



Missteps in Communications

Management only cares about the bottom line
Employees don't care if they get hurt

So, Back to Step One: Communication



Managers

Be ready to hear and accept safety concerns

- Help grow their confidence in being able to speak up
 - Understand Employees don't just complain
- Communicate their concerns back to them

Be proactive in the Planning Phase



Employees

Be confident in speaking up!

Understand bottom line is at the very least a problem to consider

Everyone wants safety

Plan



Build the meeting out of people from all levels of the organization

Money Matters

Safety Matters More

Consider those who purchase, build, design, and write for the issue to be resolved

Consider those who's life and health are at risk from the work being performed



All these groups are important to solving the safety concern in the most efficient and effective way.



Plan

- Research the Issue together
- Brainstorm (Again with all levels)
- Ensure proper communication of the finished plan among every one involved
- Brainstorm the right questions:
 - What will keep people safe
 - How will it be taught
 - Who does it affect
 - How much will it cost
 - What else can we ask/need to know?

Action

Get the machine rolling!



Because every level was involved:

Purchases are
smoother

Training is more
efficient

Employees
Involved had a
hand in keeping
their hand out

Engineers
already had
some ideas

Assessment

Go Back and see how the process worked!

Was there a step that could use adjustments?

- Communication needs more/less involvement
- Planning Phase was too chaotic/Needs food (Always, by the way)
- Action got bogged down by miscommunications

Take what worked and enhance!

Take what didn't and repair!

Communication
Plan
Action
Assessment

Benefits

- Action for safety issues
- Cohesion among the organization
- Build a process to handle any and all situations together

Management Leadership

- Learn who your employees are and what they need

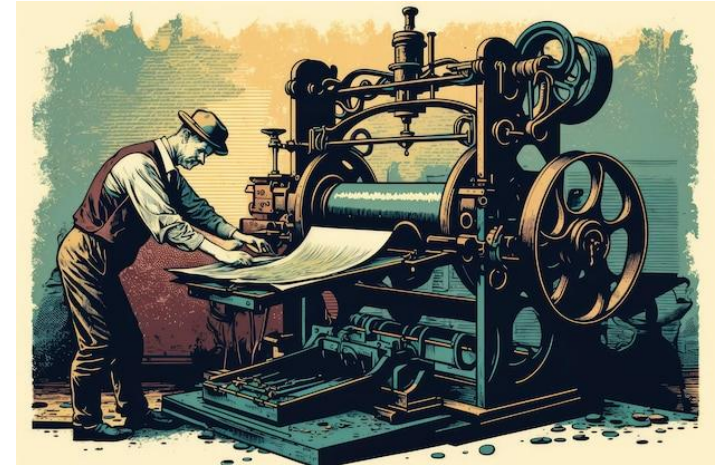
Employee Involvement

- Have a voice in your safety
- Learn your safety is not only your concern



Newsletter Updates

- Newsletter Contributions
 - **Quarterly volunteer opportunities are available**
- Contact:
 - Michael Circle
 - Michael.Circle@OnwardEnergy.com



Open Discussion

Questions?

Suggestions?

Discussion points?



2025 VPPPA Conference Schedule

- Region 1 - May 5-8, Southbridge, MA
- Region 2 – May 20-22, Hershey, PA
- Region 3 – May 20-22, Hershey, PA
- Region 4 – May 6-8, Stone Mountain, GA
- Region 5 – June 9-12, Indianapolis, IN
- Region 6 – May 19-22, Corpus Christi, TX
- Region 7 – TBD
- Region 8 – June 10-14, Salt Lake City, UT
- Region 9 – April 15-17, San Diego, CA
- Region 10 – May 13-15, Portland, OR
- **VPPPA Safety+ - August 11-14, St. Louis, MO**



2025 Meeting Schedule

February 13th

May 15th

August 7th

November 13th

Meetings are scheduled from 1430 – 1600ET
(1230 – 1400MT)

