

Tool Box Talk

Seven Common Accident Causes

March 14th, 2023

Consider this statistic: 80 out of every 100 accidents are the fault of the person involved in the incident. Unsafe acts cause four times as many accidents and injuries as unsafe conditions.

Incidents occur for many reasons. People tend to look for "things" to blame when an incident happens, because it's easier than looking for "root causes," such as those listed below.

- 1.) **Taking Shortcuts:** We've discussed this over the years and agree that shortcuts are nothing but an increased chance for an injury to yourself or co-workers and the time you might save does not compare to the time spent recovering from an incident.
- 2.) **Being Over-Confident:** Confidence is a good thing. Overconfidence is too much of a good thing. "It'll never happen to me" is an attitude that can lead to improper procedures, tools, or methods in your work. Any of these can lead to an injury.
- 3.) **Starting a Task with Incomplete Instructions:** To do the job safely and right the first time you need complete information. Have you ever been sent to do a job, having been given only a part of the job's instructions? Don't be shy about asking for explanations about work procedures and safety precautions. It isn't dumb to ask questions; it's dumb not to.
- 4.) **Poor Housekeeping:** Whenever you walk through a jobsite, housekeeping is a key indicator of everyone's attitude about quality, production, and safety. Poor housekeeping creates hazards of all types. Good housekeeping involves both pride and safety.
- 5.) **Ignoring Safety Procedures:** Purposely failing to observe safety procedures can endanger you and your co-workers. You are being paid to follow our company safety policies; not to make your own rules. Being "casual" about safety can lead to a casualty!
- 6.) **Mental Distractions from Work:** Having a bad day at home and worrying about it at work is a hazardous combination. Dropping your 'mental' guard can pull your focus away from safe work procedures.
- 7.) **Failure to Pre-Plan the Work:** There is a lot of talk today about Job Hazard Analysis and Pre-Task Plans. They are an effective way to figure out the smartest ways to work safely and effectively. Being hasty in starting a task, or not thinking through the process can put you in harm's way. Plan Your Work and then Work Your Plan.

Remember This!

"It is better to be careful 100 times than to get killed once." - Mark Twain



Energy Efficiency Specialists™

Tool Box Talk/Safety Meeting Sign In Sheet

Email to chris@hudsonbayins.com or safety@hudsonbayins.com or text to (206) 730-6273

Topic: _____ Date: _____

Discussion Leader: _____ Job Name: _____

Employee Name

Employee Signature

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Employee Comments, Concerns, Suggestions or Recommendations to improve workplace safety & health:

Please submit this document immediately upon completion of the meeting to the safety department and retain the original copy of this document in the Safety & Risk Management Plan.