

August 2015. Five ways to encourage a positive safety culture.

5 Ways to Encourage a Positive Safety Culture

1. View safety as a continuous process of improvement. What plans are you making that will make your workplace even safer 1 year or 5 years from now?
2. Look at injury incidents as a series of connected events rather than one event. What might have been changed to break the chain of events? Encourage workers to analyze, participate in, and contribute to analysis of injuries and near misses.
3. Safety activities should be part of your overall daily operation, not just a periodic topic. Perceiving and treating safety as an integral part of the systems and processes of your workplace will encourage all of your workers to do the same.
4. Acknowledge workers you see following safe practices, e.g. wearing PPE or encouraging co-workers to work safely. Positive words do make an impact.
5. Encourage safety idea submission by workers at all levels. Develop a structure to manage submission, e.g. "safety" box, and let workers know you appreciate their 'thinking safety.' Create communications structures that encourage workers to make suggestions, participate on safety committees, mentor new employees, or otherwise make positive contributions and take ownership of their own safety.

Excerpt from "Five Ways You Can Encourage a Positive Safety Culture" by Jennifer Busick, November 3rd, 2014. <http://safetydailyadvisor.blr.com/2014/11/five-ways-you-can-encourage-a-positive-safety-culture/>