

“Managers win the confidence of employees through a variety of means, including walking around and listening to workers’ concerns, conducting periodic audits of both processes and compliance, and undertaking formal training as appropriate.”

-from the Report
“Driving Toward 0”,
The Conference Board

“Safety First or First Aid!”



Individual Highlights:

- Who Moved My Thought? 2/3
- Safety Office Accidents 4
- Daylight Savings Time 4
- Right to Know 5
- What color is Yield Sign? 5
- New Resource! 6

Green Cross for Safety

(A little history lesson, grasshopper-san)

Updated 12 Feb. 2012

'Safety Culture' and 'Safety First'

The term 'Safety Culture' has gained wide acceptance worldwide since the accident of a nuclear power plant in Chernobyl in 1986. We have been really familiar with this term ever since.

However, prior to this term, the slogan 'Safety First' has been well-known to everyone for a century, and in fact it is in the 1910s that this slogan was coined in the United States and it came into fashion in Japan, as well.

Birth of the Green Cross

This slogan came into fashion in Japan, when the Safety Week took place around Tokyo, the capital of the country, in 1919.

The Safety Week aimed to realize both safe workplace and safe city without disasters, accidents, crimes and so on, so that its advocates carried on safety campaigns to protect the vulnerable such as workers, women, children, pedestrians or others.

The logo of the Green Cross (See **Figure 1**) came into use during this Safety Week. And it is Toshibumi Gamo who designed for it and [Soroku Ebara](#) (1842-1922), giving support to him for his design, played an important role in this decision, because of another design proposed by Gentaro Tanahashi, one of the key figures of the Safety Week.

The color of the Cross is green, because of a red-colored cross which was already well-known to the Japanese in those days for the logo of the International Committee of the Red Cross.



Logo now in use for [National Safety Council](#), which was founded in 1913



(Above) Logo for "Universal Safety", which is printed on the front page of a Bulletin published in 1916 by National Safety Council, Chicago, USA

Green Cross in the Safety Flag

Afterwards, the logo of green-colored cross had steadily taken root in the Japanese society in the 1920s to the 1940s (See **Figures 2, 3 and 4**) and in use for Safety Flags (See **Figure 5**).

The emblem of a green cross with arms of equal length on a white background is currently the symbol sign of protection against accidents.

Reference: Gamo, T. 1942. *Anzen Undo Sanju-nen (My Thirty Years of Safety Campaign)*, Shoko Shimbun Sha



Who Moved my Cheese? Thought?

Safety at Work is a Social Program not a Reward Program

by paul hebert



Managing safety within any organization is difficult.

It's difficult because we're fighting human nature. At-risk behaviors are more comfortable, more convenient, more time-efficient and rarely result in the sort of consequences (e.g., injury, discipline) sufficient to discourage their occurrence. In addition, many metrics at work are in direct competition with safe behaviors. Given the choice between a "sure \$100 more this week in income" and a "slim possibility I'll get hurt" – most choose the money.

Safety programs have gone from “be safe to save the company money” to “be safe to protect yourself” to “be safe to earn awards.” Unfortunately, none of these approaches has been proven to really move the needle on safety for any length of time. In many cases improvements can be cited, but only during the program period when the maximum influence is being felt. Once the program is discontinued, old behaviors return and safety once again becomes an issue.

If the issue were simply to educate people to the costs associated with safety and the benefits the individual enjoys by not having accidents then it would be an easy task to increase safety.

However, that approach has been used to influence people to quit smoking or stop eating at McDonalds... yet people continue to do both.

If it were a matter of “rewards” wouldn't **NOT** losing an arm or a finger be a big enough reward? Does a coffee cup with the company logo really influence behavior over being maimed or killed?

It's About Culture

Keeping an organization focused on safety isn't a program. Safety is a culture – and not just part of the culture but **THE** culture.

The definition of culture is:

The totality of socially transmitted behavior patterns, arts, beliefs, institutions, and all other products of human work and thought.

The key words in this definition are “**socially transmitted.**”

What this means is that the individuals in the group need to discuss, model and focus on safe behaviors between themselves. They need to reinforce each other's behaviors – participants are the reinforcers.

Participants own the program – not the company.

Read that again. It's important.

Safety Is Not About the Individual
(continued... page 3)



Who Moved my Cheese? Thought? (continued)

Again - Safety Is Not About the Individual



Most people believe that safety only impacts them, and many safety incentive programs are communicated and designed around this idea. However, safety is a more expansive issue. A good representation of the safety issue can be found in life insurance commercials that put the real benefit of life insurance in a stark light – “Life insurance isn’t about you – it’s about them.”

In other words people don’t buy life insurance for themselves but for the people left behind after a death.



*“Safety is **not** about the Individual”*

What’s missing in most safety programs is this connection between the individual’s behaviors and something **THEY** care about.

People lose weight when it impacts their ability to provide for their families, or they quit smoking when their children’s pleas to “be around for my wedding” become too heart-wrenching to bear.

In other words, the focus for changing behaviors related to safety needs to be redirected from the individual’s benefits or the company’s benefit to the benefit of the participant’s family, friends or other people that have personal significance.

Change the opinion that safety is an individual issue.

It’s the Focus

Your safety program needs to do two things – get the participant to become an active member through rewarding other participants (the social/culture part) **AND** change the conversation from one of safety for the sake of the individual or company to that of a benefit to the individual’s family or other close personal relationships.

Don’t think a scratch off card and a mug will do the trick.

You need to really, really, (one more time) really look at safety in a different light – give away ownership and connect safety to something other than “safety.”

*Originally posted on
Incentive Intelligence*



Oops! 53 Accidents a Year Recorded at Safety Office

They should be among the safest workers in the land.

But staff at the Health and Safety Executive could perhaps do with reading their literature a little more often.

Its employees recorded a total of 53 accidents at work last year, according to figures released after a Freedom of Information request.

Among them was a man who cut his eye on a piece of A3 paper and someone who cut two fingers after putting them into a fan.

Another employee was bruised by a falling toilet roll holder.



READ THE FULL STORY:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2033201/Oops-The-53-accidents-year-elf-n-safety-offices--including-case-worker-fell-Caution-Wet-Floor-sign.html>

Sobering Safety Stats re: Daylight Savings Switchback... Seriously?

Every March, most Americans welcome the switch to daylight saving time because of the longer days, but also dread losing an hour of sleep after they move their clocks forward. Now a new study shows that losing just an hour of sleep could pose some dangerous consequences for those in hazardous work environments.

According to the September 2009 issue of the *Journal of Applied Psychology*, which is published by the American Psychological Association.

"One hour of lost sleep may not seem like a lot. But our findings suggest it could have an impact on people's ability to stay alert on the job and prevent serious injuries." said the article's author,

Christopher Barnes, PhD. Barnes and co-author David Wagner, PhD, were both doctoral students in organizational behaviour at Michigan State University when they conducted this research.

On average, there were 3.6 more injuries on the Mondays following the switch to daylight saving time compared to other days, and 2,649 more days of work were lost as a result of those injuries. That's approximately a 68 percent increase in lost work days.

In their analysis, the researchers controlled for weekends and holidays.

Work experience did not appear to play a role in the number of injuries suffered.

So today as we go out to work, take a moment and realize that statistically you may not be at the top of your game. Your awareness of hazards may be down. Take extra time today in evaluating the tasks to be done prior to doing them.

Take a minute and perform a safety check to ensure you don't become one of these statistics.



<http://www.safetyslogans.info/>



<http://www.slideshare.net/safeindianroads/johnsons-safety-slogans-version-10>

The Right to Know and Understand

"Exposure to hazardous chemicals is one of the most serious threats facing American workers today," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis. "Revising OSHA's Hazard Communication standard will improve the quality and consistency of hazard information, making it safer for workers to do their jobs and easier for employers to stay competitive."

The Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) is now aligned with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). This update to the Hazard Communication Standard (HCS) will provide a common and coherent approach to classifying chemicals and communicating hazard information on labels and safety data sheets.

Once implemented, the revised standard will improve the quality and consistency of hazard information in the workplace, making it safer for workers by providing easily understandable information on appropriate handling and safe use of hazardous chemicals.

This update will also help reduce trade barriers and result in productivity improvements for American businesses that regularly handle, store, and use hazardous chemicals while providing cost savings for American businesses that periodically update safety data sheets and labels for chemicals covered under the hazard communication standard.

Learn more at link below:

<https://www.osha.gov/dsg/hazcom/>



**NOTICE MOVING PARTS
around all machinery –
Be Aware, take Care!**

Quick ! What Color is A Yield Sign?

(not yellow) <http://www.trafficsign.us/yellowyield.html>

Checkout: <http://jamienotter.com/2012/06/trapped-by-our-own-minds/>



From the (trapped by our mind) article above ...

'We need to liberate ourselves from our own minds. We need to allow more direct data into our conversations and we need to develop the discipline to challenge our own assumptions and conclusions about what works and what is. We need to be forgiving, both of ourselves and others, when we get things wrong. We need to try some things that don't feel right at first.'

If we recognize the very real limitations of our own brains, we'll be positioning ourselves better for success.'



Safety Quality Speed

2135 E. La Jolla Dr.
Tempe, AZ 85282

Phone:
(480) 820-0877

E-mail:
jay.watson@freeleansite.com

Employ Improvement Initiatives!

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.freeleansite.com

WiredSafety is the largest and oldest online safety, education, and help group in the world.

Originating in 1995 as a group of volunteers rating websites, it now provides one-to-one help, extensive information, and education to cyberspace users of all ages on a myriad of Internet and interactive technology safety, privacy and security issues. These services are offered through a worldwide organization comprised



entirely of unpaid volunteers who administer specialized websites, resources and programs.

WiredSafety's volunteers range in age from 7 to 96 and run the gamut from TV personalities, teachers, law enforcement officers, PhD's, writers, executives and librarians to stay-at-home moms, retired persons, Wal-Mart greeters and students.

Our founder and Executive Director, cyber lawyer Parry Aftab, is also an unpaid volunteer and devotes a majority of her time to running it and its programs.

With the exception of its TeenAngels, outreach, law enforcement training and speaking programs, all work and help is provided online and free of charge.

Learn more at:

<https://www.wiredsafety.org/about/>

4 Pillars of a Safety Management System

- **Policy**
Doctrines:
 - Practices
- **Risk Assessment**
Proactive Thought:
 - Prevention
- **Assurance**
Reporting:
 - Investigations
 - Audits
- **Promotion**
Learning:
 - Communication
 - Training

About Our Approach ...

Free Lean Enterprise materials on the internet!

Let's band together to make (your organization here) Safer, Better, Faster!



CUSTOMER NAME
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