TOOLBOX TALK

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR SAFETY?

Each year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics calculates workplace injuries, illnesses and deaths. They break the information out by the type of injury and industry and several other demographics.

The bottom line is that there are many ways that employees can be harmed on the job. But, the good news is that there are many organizations and people who work together to eliminate or reduce this likelihood.

The responsibility for workplace safety doesn't rest solely on one person's shoulders. Here's a look at the many different people and organizations that help keep you safe.

OSHA

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) is a federal government agency that is tasked with ensuring the safety of U.S. employees. They create and enforce regulations that have been designed to help employers put safeguards in place to protect workers when they are on the job.

Standards Writers

Organizations like the American National Standards Institute, the National Fire Protection Association, American Society of Mechanical Engineers and others create safety consensus standards that make hazardous work processes safer.

Your Employer

OSHA tasks employers with the responsibility for identifying risks in the workplace and taking the necessary steps to reduce hazards so that employees will not be injured or killed on the job.

Your Manager

Managers are responsible for making sure that standard operating procedures and safety procedures are being followed.

The Safety Director or Safety Department

Safety directors and safety departments help identify risks and look for ways to manage or eliminate them. They may also be responsible for providing training to help employees understand what they need to do to work safely.

You

You are responsible for following the procedures that you have been taught and using engineering and administrative controls, as well as any personal protective equipment that has been provided for your protection. You also need to bring new hazards to the attention of those who can correct or eliminate them.

When everyone works together, workplaces operate safely, risks are minimized and everyone goes home at the end of the day.

Discussion Date: _____

Employee Participants:

Continue employee participants on back if needed ▶

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OUR SITE SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS/PROCEDURES ▼

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