SUPERVISOR SAFETY ACCOUNTABILITY

Supervisors and Managers have a lot to take care of, from production quotas and quality issues, to timecard tracking and human resource issues. They have a lot of tasks to accomplish. Is safety one of those tasks? It should be!

WHY SAFETY?
Safety works hand in hand with many quality enhancement programs and production issues. From ISO to Six Sigma, safety is often considered a key ingredient to a successful company. Safety assessments and controls tend to:
• Increase efficiency
• Increase morale
• Increase profit

COSTS OF ACCIDENTS
Sharing data on costs of accidents can assist supervisors in understanding the importance of safety. Costs are typically broken down into INSURED and UNINSURED costs. Insured costs include medical bills, salary replacement and expenses. Uninsured costs can include damaged product, equipment damage, overtime, temporary labor, fines and training time.

Costs vary depending on the severity of the incident. National Safety Council statistics often point to a ratio of $5 - $53 in uninsured costs for every $1 in insured costs.

WHY SUPERVISORS?
Supervisors and Managers are accountable for the actions of the employees in your organization, much like professional coaches. Leaders are necessary in any organization!

ACCOUNTABILITY
Supervisors can accomplish accountability through inspection and observation, as well as taking the time to observe employees for safe behavior. They should watch for the following:
- Use of personal protective equipment
- Proper use of tools and equipment
- Proper position and posture
- Proper procedures

Supervisors should also set aside time to conduct safety inspections for physical issues that address:
- Fire Prevention and Evacuation
- Electrical Safety
- Machine Guarding
- Hazard Communication
- Fall Protection
- Trenching Safety
- Housekeeping and Orderliness

Additional Resources are Available on These Web Sites:
www.beaconmutual.com
www.osha.gov
http://www.dlt.ri.gov/wc/eduinfo.html

Beacon Mutual offers a variety of training opportunities for Supervisors. Please check our seminar schedule for more information.

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