

“Don’t Be Fooled On Safety”



Fifteen U.S. workers die on the job every day, leaving behind family, friends and co-workers, and an employer who has to explain why. The single most common cause of the problem — complacency.

In the realm of workplace safety, practitioners define complacency as the attitude that “nothing will happen to me.”

And the No. 1 cause of that attitude is managers who are satisfied with mediocre safety performance. They fail to raise safety awareness, which helps to eliminate the potential for injury and improve the overall work environment.

What happens next is inevitable: Employees lose sight of safety’s importance because to them it appears management isn’t terribly concerned, either. They start to think they are not even responsible for their own personal safety at work, which is truly a disastrous transformation.

3 “musts for managers:

1. Take time to walk around and talk with employees
2. Make it a point to review all near-miss and injury reports.
3. Enable employees to get involved in the safety process.

All employees should be encouraged to:

1. Report all unsafe conditions.
2. Attend safety meetings
3. Serve on safety committees
4. Participate in accident/incident investigations.
5. Share safety improvement ideas with managers.