Building Blocks of Safety Management Systems

Safety Management System
Session Objectives

- What is a Safety Management System
- “Building Blocks” of a Safety Management System
- Other benefits

Safety Management System
State WC Claim Trend

Safety Management System
Direct costs
WC Benefit Costs:
- $21 Million (FY2008)
- $400,000 / week
- $350/ employee
- $0.23/ hour worked
- 38 claims / week
Managed care fees
Administrative fees

Indirect costs
Up to 5x direct costs
That's over $100 million in losses
Workplace Safety and Health

“It is time to move beyond supporting workplace safety; we must actively ensure a safe workplace for our employees, visitors, and custodial charges.”

Governor Pawlenty
Letter to State Supervisors/Managers
October 2007

Safety Management System

Focused on continuous improvement
Integrated into business model
Tolerated as a necessary evil
Irrelevant
Non-compliant
WHERE IS YOUR ORGANIZATION ???
Safety Management System

So how do we get there?

We accomplish this with a Safety Management System (SMS).

Safety Management System defined (ANSI Z10):
A set of interrelated elements that establish and/or support occupational health and safety policy and objectives, and mechanisms to achieve those objectives in order to continually improve occupational health and safety.
Safety Management System
The guts of your program!

Safety Management System
The continuous improvement process!
Additional benefits of a SMS:
- Lowered Workers’ Compensation costs
- Reduced lost workdays
- Higher morale
- Compliance with laws and regulations
- Increased productivity
- Reduction or elimination of property damage due incidents
- Reduced business interruptions

What can you do?
- Create expectation/vision for safety
- Understand that safe behavior refers to management as well as front line staff
- Provide appropriate resources
- Focus on exposures not injuries
- Hold supervisors and staff accountable
- Recognize you might be asking someone to choose between “getting the job done” and doing the job safely!

Some final thoughts
- Safety is not common sense
- Being safe vs. working safely
- Continuous improvement will be limited without integrated safety!
Safety Management System

Thank you!

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What are you doing to actively ensure a safe workplace?