

Workplace Safety Group January 2009

Monthly News e-Letter



“The most successful companies recognize that, in any economic environment, worker safety, health and productivity are essential to organizational health and productivity. Healthy employees add value and their workplace contributions are essential to our competitiveness.”

Maureen C. Shaw
President & CEO
IAPA



“Tough Times”

As we begin 2009, many of us are worrying about the future of our companies. Unless you are eligible for a government bailout you must meet client needs, pay your suppliers, look after your workers and still make enough money to take home yourself. For many this means cutting back on overhead and, for many of those, one of the first things to be cut is any investment in health and safety program development. For those, paying attention to business advisors, they are being advised NOT to cut back on advertising because that's what most businesses will do first. By continuing with an advertising plan they develop an economic advantage over their competitors.

The same approach should be taken toward investment in health and safety development. If cutbacks are called for, health and safety should NOT be the first target! “Ninety-five percent of business executives report that workplace safety has a positive impact on a company's financial performance”, according to the findings of The Executive Survey of Workplace Safety announced by the Liberty Mutual Group.

Workplace safety has a ripple effect, either positive or negative, on many aspects of business operations today. The first step for executives is to take defensive measures to prevent employee pain and suffering caused by workplace injuries. Identifying accident causes, that have the greatest impact on their company, and focusing workplace resources on these causes will help a company reduce costs and achieve strategic corporate goals such as shortening production and delivery time, and improving product quality. Safety promotion benefits the employer, with reductions in sickness-related costs, improved productivity and financial performance. This definitely gives a company a competitive edge. Health and safety planning is good for business!

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EMPLOYER ALERT:
HIGH-PRESSURE SALES TACTICS
PROVIDING MISLEADING INFORMATION
ABOUT WORKPLACE NOTICES AND
SAFETY TRAINING



PREVENTING ERGONOMIC INJURIES IN THE
WORKPLACE



GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES NEW WORKPLACE
HEALTH AND SAFETY STRATEGY



SAFETY BLITZES TARGET WORKPLACE HAZARDS



SAFETY BLITZ TARGETS INDUSTRIAL
WORKPLACES



WORKPLACE VIOLENCE PREVENTION:
IT STARTS WITH YOU



CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY TO BENEFIT FROM
STRONGER SAFETY STANDARDS



ONTARIO PROTECTING HEALTH CARE WORKERS



Employers, who invest in workplace health and safety, can expect to reduce fatalities, injuries, and illnesses. This investment results in cost savings in a variety of areas such as lowering workers' compensation costs and medical expenses, avoiding penalties, and reducing costs to train replacement employees and conduct accident investigations.

Yes there is a cost to health and safety program development but, for those companies which are able to navigate through these tough times, maintaining and continued investment in health and safety will result in a safer, healthier and happier workforce, ready to move full throttle ahead when the economy recovers!



*Workplace Safety Group
Wishes One & All
A Safe & Healthy 2009*



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