Safety Moment

Characteristics of a Safety Leader

University of Calgary | VP Services | Environment, Health and Safety

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What is Safety Leadership?

Common Descriptions of a Safety Leader

• Somebody who not only exhibits personal safety behaviors, but inspires others to do the same

• A person who demonstrates that s/he values safety by working and communicating with team members to identify and limit hazardous situations even in the presence of other job pressures such as scheduling and costs.

• Somebody who engages in and maintains behaviors that help others achieve our safety goals
Six Characteristics of Safety Leaders

1. Spends Time on Safety
   - do safety moments
   - at your team meetings ask if anyone has any safety concerns
   - report a hazard to Facilities such as an icy patch on a sidewalk and encourage your team to do the same

2. Field Presence
   - step out of your office and talk with your staff about safety where they work; attend their team meetings
   - participate in a safety inspection

3. Notices and Recognizes Contributions to Safety
   - acknowledge staff who make contributions such as:
     - raising a safety concern
     - addressing a safety hazard in the office
     - doing a good investigation into a safety incident
     - participate on a safety team/committee
Six Characteristics of Safety Leaders

4. Holds Themselves and Others Accountable to Meet Safety Standards
   • we have 7 leading indicators that we track on our EHS dashboard; hold yourself and your staff accountable to meet the safety standards that are tracked by the dashboard in the areas of:
     • completion and closing out of incident investigations
     • completion of mandatory EHS training
     • completion of lab self inspections and chemical reconciliations
   • set the expectation that safety procedures and rules are followed all the time

5. Strong Communication—Both Quantity and Quality
   • communicate your safety expectations, goals, how safety issues were resolved
   • open, honest, direct style
   • two way communication—encourage staff to ask questions, raise concerns

6. Proactive
   • the 5 previous characteristics all involve being proactive
   • don’t wait until there is an incident or problem and then jump into action
   • being proactive will help to avoid safety complacency