

## Toolbox Talks

## Weekly Tailgate Topic\_

11-47

Discuss with crews on

[INSERT DATE]

## **HOW MUCH DO ACCIDENTS REALLY COST**

One of the problem areas that a company has been guilty of in the past has been to skip safety precautions in order to save time. However, individuals must get into the mind frame that safety and efficiency go hand in hand. Think about the last time you had an accident...how much did that accident really cost. There are many hidden costs that are often not thought of such as:

- 1. Property damage
- 2. Tool and equipment damage.
- 3. Emergency supplies (first aid kits, spill kits...)
- 4. Repair and replacement costs.
- 5. Accident investigation costs.
- 6. Wages paid for time lost.
- 7. Costs for re-hiring and re-training a new worker

To avoid the costs as well as the pain and discomfort of an injury it is critical that we take a close look at how we view safety. Do we really give 100% to the safety program or do we just pay it lip service. In order for the safety program to be beneficial, all of us must ensure that we contribute in whatever way we can. How can we do this:

- 1. Report all accidents, injuries and close calls to your supervisor. When you experience an accident, close call, or even a perceived hazard that is just waiting to happen, alert your supervisor to the hazard. Your participation in this role is crucial in order to reducing accidents. When an incident occurs, a company conducts accident investigations with the sole intent of preventing accidents in the future.
- 2. Report all hazards you see on the job-site. If you recognize a hazard on a job-site, either fix the problem yourself, or alert your supervisor and fellow work-mates of the hazard. Displaying this type of attitude helps everyone you work with to remember that we are a team who are working together to do a great job and go home safely at the end of the day.
- 3. Work as a team. There is a saying that two heads are better than one, and we can use this to our advantage if we are all watching out for one another on the job-site. Always stay alert, watch out for one another and always have an open line of communication open with everyone so that you can warn them of any foreseeable hazard, it could mean someone's life.
- 4. Talk safety up. When your working on the job, promote safety whenever you get the chance. Working safely has prevented thousands of deaths. It is a fact that if we are all more 400, 625 Agnes Street. New Westminster, BC V3M 5Y4 Office: 604,636.3675 Toll Free: 1.877.860.375 Fax: 604-636-3676 www.bccsa.ca

aware of how to work safely, we will all have a higher chance of going home INJURY FREE at the end of the day. Remember, safety benefits you! CREWMEMBER SAFETY TOPIC