

Did You Know...

Unsafe Acts Cause Most Harm at Work

Toxic gas leaks, faulty equipment, stormy weather, poor lighting — these are just some of the many conditions that can put your safety at risk on the job. Yet unsafe conditions account for a small minority of workplace incidents resulting in illness, injury or death. Most statistics across North America indicate about 80% — are caused by Unsafe Acts.

Some unsafe behaviors result in Unsafe Conditions. An example, failing to maintain good housekeeping can result in all sorts of hazards.

How a person behaves isn't always related to his or her skill level. In fact, highly skilled employees might actually display some of the most dangerous behaviors.

One reason for that is Complacency. Performing certain tasks for so long without incident that you disregard safe work procedures and become less diligent about potential hazards.

Much like complacency, Overconfidence can come from experience on the job. Overconfidence during a work task, familiar or something new, leads to unsafe acts.

Many incidents happen due to unsafe acts going unreported. We should all have a Questioning Attitude. Report the unsafe act or condition to your supervisor or Health & Safety designate so that it can be investigated to Prevent an incident before it occurs.

In a similar vein, failure to plan the work in advance can also lead to incidents. Being hasty in starting a task or not thinking through the process can put you in harm's way. Instead:

Plan Your Work – Then Work Your Plan!

