



SUMMIT COUNTY
SAFETY COUNCIL

SCSC NEWSLETTER

Improve Your Safety Culture

Unlike the weather, a stormy safety culture can be changed. It happens again and again in all kinds of industries and at all kinds of workplaces."

How do these organizations do it? And how can you change your safety culture? There are nine steps you need to take.

1. Practice What You Preach (and Vice Versa). Safety leaders must remain dedicated to the safety message 100 percent of the time.

2. Meet Regulatory Standards. Be familiar with all of the regulatory requirements and tailor your safety programs accordingly.

3. Build a Base of Support. Enlist the support of like-minded people in your organization—those who understand the concepts of compliance, conditions, risk, reward and behavior.

4. Promote the Company Line. Ask upper management to issue a written statement of support for and commitment to a safe and healthy workplace, and post copies of the statement around the workplace where employees will see them.

5. Train Your Supervisors. Safety isn't an ingrained supervisor responsibility, at least at many or-

ganizations; it's something that requires deliberate training and explanation.

6. Provide Management Meaningful Data. Report to management every day on matters such as critical safety concerns, injuries and near misses. Use your monthly reports to concentrate on long-term matters such as rates and activities like training, inspections and audits.

7. Hold Management and Supervisors Accountable. Make sure that the individuals you count on to perform safety functions—such as employee attendance at training sessions, timely and accurate accident investigations, audits, etc.—are held accountable for the way they carry out those functions.

8. Recognize Safety Achievements. Go out of your way to give credit to those who deserve it. Expressing appreciation is the best way to ensure that you get the same level of effort the next time.

9. Gain Access to Top Management. To succeed, you need the support of top management. To garner support, you need to gain access to management. How? By providing the information management needs to stay informed. The reporting process naturally creates lines of communication, which in turn create opportunity to deepen communication.

Upcoming Events and Reminders



January 15, 2012

Semi-Annual reports for second half of 2011 are due from all members.



January 18, 2012
Regular meeting—

Tangier's
Dr. Abe Tarawneh
Superintendent—BWC
Division of Safety & Hygiene
"Workers' Compensation:
The Occupational Safety and
Health Perspective"



January 23, 2012
Food Service and
Restaurant Safety Seminar
BWC Canton Service Office



February 15, 2012
Regular meeting —
Tangier's
Timothy C. Campbell
Hanna, Campbell & Powell

Mark Your Calendar

Wednesday, January 18,
2012

11:30 a.m.

Regular Meeting —Tangier

Cost—\$15.00

2011 Foodbank Donations

**\$474.00
and 178 lbs of food**

**Enough to provide
more than 1,400
meals to the
Akron / Canton
Communities!**

Thank you!

January's Featured Program

Dr. Abe Tarawneh, Superintendent of BWC's Division of Safety and Hygiene (DSH), will provide an overview of the challenges facing the workers' compensation insurance industry in general and the Ohio Workers' Compensation System, in particular. He will discuss the value of enhanced occupational safety and health and accident and injury prevention in facing these challenges, including:

- **How the demographics, needs, and injuries of the workforce are changing and what the future could bring**
- **Why occupational safety and health is more important today and tomorrow than it has ever been in the past**
- **What can be done right away to face these challenges**

Dr. Tarawneh joined BWC as Superintendent of the Division of Safety and Hygiene in March 2009. Abe has over 17 years of experience in research and consulting in the areas of human factors and ergonomics, occupational safety and health, industrial and management systems engineering, and transportation and traffic safety.

Before joining BWC, Abe led several large consulting projects in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for a Cincinnati-based engineering consulting firm, TEC Engineering, Inc.

Between 2002 and 2006, Abe worked as an engineer/senior engineer at Exponent, Failure Analysis Associates, Inc. in Alexandria, Va. and Philadelphia, Pa. His work at Exponent included the investigation and analysis of industrial, construction, consumer product and vehicular accidents. He also worked on the application of US; European and international regulations and standards (i.e. OSHA, OHSAS, ISO, ANSI) to the design and evaluation of products; machinery; handling of chemicals and hazardous materials; and manufacturing and construction operations.

While working on his post-graduate studies, Abe worked as a graduate research/teaching assistant as well as an instructor at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL). His work at UNL covered wide ranging aspects of research and consulting in the areas of industrial and civil engineering, including occupational safety and health, human factors and ergonomics, and transportation and traffic safety.

Abe holds a doctorate and a MS in industrial and management systems engineering; another MS in civil engineering from UNL; and a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Jordan.

Cari's Corner Safety and Hygiene Q & A

During the winter months you need to make provision to have all your emergency exit door pathways cleared for easy access. Most companies contract with a snow removal company for the season. If that is the case, have them include snow removal for all of your egress doors.

29 CFR 1910.36(h)(2) The outdoor exit route must be covered if snow or ice is likely to accumulate along the route, unless the employer can demonstrate that any snow or ice accumulation will be removed before it presents a slipping hazard.

Recommendations: In areas where the weather can cause snow or ice to build up on egress areas, there should be some form of protection for the egress area. A porch or small roof can be used to prevent the buildup of snow or ice.

Winter Storms & Extreme Cold

Executive Committee

Sally Cox
Executive Director
Sallycox5@aol.com (new)
330-806-1676

Mark Schwerdtfeger—President
Mark.Schwerdtfeger@us.
hjheinz.com
330-858-1638

Timothy Eberling—Past
President
roadhouse@wadsnet.com

Greg Newsome—Vice President
gnewsome@neo.rr.com
330-753-5051

Board Members

Paul Alic
palic@goldsmith-eggleton.com
330-335-1053

Robin Clute
Rclute@akronlibrary.org
330-643-9174

Walter Fluharty
Walter.fluharty@norandex.com
330-656-8860

Dianna Kane
affirmed_di_kane@yahoo.com
330-802-1272

Donald Obermeier
Donald.obermeier@us.
bureauveritas.com
330-952-0546

Mark Pry
mark.pry@akronmetro.org
330-762-7267 ext. 3110

William Sanderson
bsanderson@polymericinc.com
330-928-2210 ext. 25

Bill Silver
Billsilver@akrochem.com
330-535-2100

Timothy C. Campbell
tcampbell@hcplaw.net
330-670-7300

BWC Representative

Cari Gray
Cari.G.1@bwc.state.oh.us
330-904-4475

While the danger from winter weather varies across the country, nearly all Americans, regardless of where they live, are likely to face some type of severe winter weather at some point in their lives. Winter storms can range from a moderate snow over a few hours to a blizzard with blinding, wind-driven snow that lasts for several days. Many winter storms are accompanied by dangerously low temperatures and sometimes by strong winds, icing, sleet and freezing rain.

One of the primary concerns is the winter weather's ability to knock out heat, power and communications services to your home or office, sometimes for days at a time. Heavy snowfall and extreme cold can immobilize an entire region.

The National Weather Service refers to winter storms as the "Deceptive Killers" because most deaths are indirectly related to the storm. Instead, people die in traffic accidents on icy roads and of hypothermia from prolonged exposure to cold. It is important to be prepared for winter weather before it strikes.

Winterize Your Vehicle

Check or have a mechanic check the following items on your car:

- **Antifreeze levels** - ensure they are sufficient to avoid freezing.
- **Battery and ignition system** - should be in top condition and battery terminals should be clean.
- **Brakes** - check for wear and fluid levels.
- **Exhaust system** - check for leaks and crimped pipes and repair or replace as necessary. Carbon monoxide is deadly and usually gives no warning.
- **Fuel and air filters** - replace and keep water out of the system by using additives and maintaining a full tank of gas. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing.
- **Heater and defroster** - ensure they work properly.
- **Lights and flashing hazard lights** - check for serviceability.
- **Oil** - check for level and weight. Heavier oils congeal more at low temperatures and do not lubricate as well.
- **Thermostat** - ensure it works properly.
- **Windshield wiper equipment** - repair any problems and maintain proper washer fluid level.
- **Install good winter tires** - Make sure the tires have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions. However, some jurisdictions require that to drive on their roads, vehicles must be equipped with chains or snow tires with studs.

Update the emergency kits in your vehicles with:

- a shovel
- windshield scraper and small broom
- flashlight
- battery powered radio
- extra batteries
- water
- snack food
- matches
- extra hats, socks and mittens
- first aid kit with pocket knife
- necessary medications
- blanket(s)
- tow chain or rope
- road salt and sand
- booster cables
- emergency flares
- fluorescent distress flag

SCSC

PO Box 67
Navarre, OH 44662
330-806-1676
Fax 330-315-2012
Sallycox5@aol.com
thesummitcountysafetycouncil.org

Lynn Borovicka of Leiden Cabinet Co. was the winner of \$50.00 in the December 50/50 Raffle. SCSC's portion was donated to the Akron-Canton Regional Foodbank. Thanks for supporting SCSC!

Mission Statement

To promote safety/accident prevention in the workplace by offering informational and educational opportunities to both the private and public sectors within the community.

Co-sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC)

BWC Reform Efforts—Some 2011 Accomplishments

- Created the Grow Ohio Program to help boost economic development. New employers can save up to 53 percent on workers' compensation premiums by choosing to:
 - Take a 25 percent premium discount for two years, or
 - Waive the waiting period and immediately join a group rating program, which can reduce their premiums up to 53 percent.
- Created *Destination: Excellence*, a new rating plan that aims to improve return-to-work rates by rewarding employers for building a risk management plan that focuses on safety, prevention, and returning those who are injured to their jobs more quickly. The "cafeteria-style" plan offers seven program options.
- As part of the Lt. Governor's Common Sense Initiative, BWC established a one-time forgiveness program that waives penalties and interest for first-time lapsed premium.
 - Waived nearly \$750,000 in premiums and interest for employers in the first 90 days.
- Unveiled the new Wellness Grant Program, a \$4 million, four year program that awards companies up to \$15,000 to start up employee wellness programs. This will help employers meet the challenges related to rising incidences of obesity and chronic disease, as well as an aging workforce—all factors that contribute to workplace injuries and slow the recovery of injured workers.

FY12 BWC Safety Council Rebate Program Requirements

A new safety council program year began 7/1/11. For those members who are eligible to participate in BWC's Safety Council Rebate Program, the following requirements must be met between **7/1/11 and 6/30/12**:

- **Enrollment with safety council by 7/31/11**
- **Attendance at 10 Safety council meetings/events.** At least 8 thru the local safety council. You can get credit for up to two meetings at BWC's safety training courses or other industry-specific training courses. Certificate must be submitted to safety council.
- **CEO attendance at one safety council sponsored meeting.**
- **Submit semi-annual reports for the 2011 calendar year.**

The Safety Council program allows employers to earn rebates on their workers' compensation premiums by participating in their local safety council and reducing the frequency of workplace injuries. Participating employers receive a 2 percent rebate for meeting specific eligibility requirements and an additional 2 percent may be earned for demonstrating a 10% reduction in the frequency and/or severity of workplace incidents.

The safety council program is now expanded to allow those employers participating in the group rating program to participate in the safety council program as well and earn the 2 percent performance rebate for demonstrating improvement to workplace safety by reducing the frequency and/or severity of incidents. This 2 percent performance rebate would be in addition to the employer's group rating discount received.

The rebate offer excludes self-insuring employers, state agencies and employers enrolled in group-retrospective programs. Limitations apply to a professional employer organizations.



Visit us on the web at www.thesummitcountysafetycouncil.org