



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



Five Common Contributing Factors for Workplace Injuries Safety Message

There is a long list of possibilities for what can contribute to or cause a workplace injury. Unsafe conditions and unsafe acts are often the root cause of why injuries occur. Unsafe acts, especially, are a huge factor in the majority of workplace injuries.

An estimated **80 out of 100** people who are involved in an incident are at fault for it. In this safety message, we will look at five common contributing factors to workplace injuries.

The Five Contributing Factors

- * **Distractions-** There are many distractions that can take away focus from the work task at hand.
- * **Complacency-** Many workers do the same tasks over and over for many years. Because of this familiarity with their work, complacency can set in. Complacency leads to taking shortcuts or not following normal work procedures.
- * **Poor Housekeeping-** Housekeeping is a major issue in some workplaces. Poor housekeeping leads to many different hazards.
- * **Poor Preplanning-** The lack of planning leads to a huge number of issues. When the hazards of a new task are not evaluated prior to work beginning, hazards are going to be left uncontrolled. This leaves employees at risk for injury.
- * **Taking Shortcuts-** A major unsafe act that results in many workplace injuries is taking shortcuts. There are various reasons why a worker takes a shortcut, but eventually, enough safety shortcuts will lead to a workplace injury.

These are just five of the more common factors that cause or contribute to workplace injuries. Evaluate your work today and see if any of these five items mentioned are at play. Work to eliminate these factors to ensure you are able to work safely.

Discussion point: How do these factors affect our work here?