



Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members



90% of Safety Rules are Written for 10% of the People Safety Message

Now, that is a bold statement, so first, let's take a minute to look at how safety rules have historically been made. Then I will explain my bold statement.

All the rule-making processes' have one thing in common: Some people got hurt and some costly accidents occurred, so rules were created to help ensure the same incidents would never happen again.

And that's why I stated that 90% of safety rules are written for only 10% of employees. So, let's look at that 10%.

Is it always the same people who get hurt?

Q&A

Lets ask ourselves a few questions:

Can you tell me, truthfully, that you were at 100% effectiveness before you walked through the gate and went to work – every time?
Are there job tasks that are so simple to you that you can perform them without thinking too much?

- * Have you ever partied a little too much the night before a shift?
- * Have you ever had to sit up with a sick child the night before a shift and didn't get a lot of sleep?
- * Have you ever had a fight with your spouse and didn't know if you still had a home to go to?
- * Have you ever had elderly loved ones? Have you ever been worried about getting that dreaded phone call?
- * Have you ever had to work overtime most of the night and hurry back to work early the next morning?
- * Have you ever wanted to get off work on time because of an event you wanted to attend? Did this tempt you to take a shortcut?

All these real-life scenarios can interfere with an employee's attention to detail. And anything that will distract your attention from the task at hand can cause you to experience an unplanned event. Whenever anything unanticipated happens, or your mind is focused on any of the items mentioned above, you are in that 10% that the safety rules are designed for.