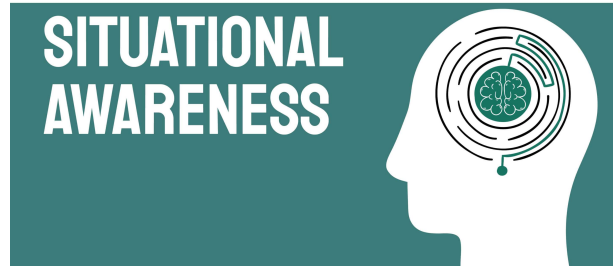




Safety Message of the Day for IMEA Members

The Importance of



Situational Awareness Safety Message

The concept was first introduced in aviation and then in the military. Professionals who were operating in these high-risk environments were taught to be more aware of their surroundings so they could protect themselves and their colleagues.

In the late 1980s, psychologist Mica Endsley developed a model of situational awareness with three primary components: the perception of the elements in an environment within a volume of time and space, the comprehension of their meaning, and the projection of their status shortly after some variable has changed.

Three Levels of Situational Awareness

There are three levels of situational awareness, first is perception, second is comprehension, and third is projection.

1. Perception

The first step is to be simply being aware of your surroundings. It means paying attention to what's happening around you, understanding where you are, and noticing any important details or changes in your environment.

2. Comprehension

The second step is to go beyond simply noticing things. You must try to comprehend the significance of what you've observed. This understanding helps you make sense of the situation, assess any potential risks or opportunities, and decide how to respond effectively. In simple terms, it's about grasping the "big picture" and the implications of what you see and hear.

3. Projection

The third step of situational awareness is being able to predict what might happen next. It's like having a good sense of what could happen in the future based on what you've observed and understood about the current situation.