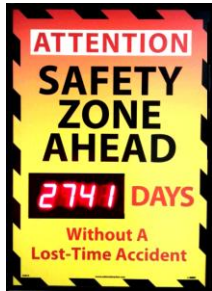


Monthly Messenger

JANUARY | 2017



Make Workplace Safety Your New Year's Resolution

Spee-Dee is approaching 3,000 days without a lost-time accident.

So what does this mean to a Spee-Dee customer? Studies show that improving safety within a facility also improves accuracy and productivity on its production floor. A well executed safety program builds a stronger team, which improves customer service and overall accountability. And finally, improved safety helps companies avoid unexpected costs, which keeps surprise spending under control.

Spee-Dee's safety program is a combination of management, leadership and employee participation. We advocate that every job can be done safely and every safety incident can be avoided. But to make this happen, involvement and communication between employers and employees on workplace safety is essential. Ron Brandt, Production Manager for Spee-Dee, says "Our practices and behaviors are in line with our goal of uninterrupted safety performance. What we do about safety and what we say about safety are exactly the same."

Spee-Dee promotes continuous improvement in production quality and workplace safety through worksite analysis and hazard prevention audits. Ron says this is key to controlling safety incidents. They are managed through best practices in safety and manufacturing. It's also important to make sure employees at all levels know how they are doing through regular feedback.

Safety training and education begins at hiring time, and it's expected that every employee takes an active role in safety activities. With proper training, everyone achieves a thorough understanding of what it takes to run a safe plant. Safe work can also be influenced through positive peer pressure. Ron says that Spee-Dee's buddy system, where an experienced employee instructs and guides a new employee in best safety practices, is one of the contributing factors of the company's impeccable safety record.

Spee-Dee is proof that a well planned safety program can speed delivery, strengthen quality control and expand employee accountability.

GIVE YOURSELF AN "A" FOR WORKPLACE SAFETY

Attitude - Safety is more than a program or a book or procedures. It starts with your company's philosophy and goes from the top down. Management must communicate with employees and explain why the change must occur. Most important, management must promote how the employee will benefit from the change in safety culture.

Awareness - Awareness takes practice. Provide visual information on work hazards so employees have a clear understanding of your safety goals. Provide adequate instruction, training and supervision.

Action - Workplace safety doesn't happen by accident. It's planned. You need to be an active participant in your workplace safety. Identify hazards. Conduct regular inspections and audit with hazard reports.

Accountability - Safety is everyone's responsibility. Involve your employees in policy making on safety issues, and then regularly monitor the work areas and safety habits of your employees. Make it clear that working safely is a condition of employment.

Learn how Spee-Dee can help you maintain a safer facility while helping you achieve your food safety goals. Visit us at PACK EXPO East, booth 1044, February 27-March 1, 2017.