

## Keeping People Safe Within My Sphere of Influence

How many of us, when we are working, go about our business in our own world and focused almost solely on what it is we are or need to be doing? I venture to say that this would be the majority of people. While we certainly must focus on what is we need to be about, I'm here to tell you that everyone can do better when it comes to safety within our sphere of influence.

How often do you just stop, take a deep breath, and simply look around first from a safety standpoint? The fact is not many. During my years as a Project Safety Manager, when I did my daily safety walkabouts, I always looked at a work operation from a distance. Then I would get close and continue to look around to see what all was going on. If I observed a safety issue I would ask the foreman to step back with me and observe the work and see if he or she could spot what I saw? Sometimes they did and sometimes there did not. Whereby I would point out the safety issue, instruct the foreman to fix it, and then say this, "Now and then I suggest that you step back from your operation and look at it first from a safety standpoint in order to verify that your crew and the operation is being safe." You've heard the expression, "You can't see the forest for the trees when you're right in the middle of it."

My question to you today, and it's one used as my favorite Safety Mantra, is this, "Have I done all that I can, today, to keep people safe within my sphere of influence?" It's a simple question that should be asked of oneself daily. The challenge will come in the doing.

This isn't some kind of contest. We have to make real changes in work environments if we are going to stop the horrendous number of people who are injured or killed on a daily basis. A challenge I have for you is that you commit today to become a premiere safety leader and do all that you can each and every day to help keep people safe wherever you are. Step on that path and others will follow your lead. Start today!!

For more answers and insight, I invite you to look at our book, *Safety Under Construction—A Quest for Safety Perfection Utilizing Inventive Thinking where we discuss in depth the psychological aspects of safety that include how we are affected mentally, emotionally and physically*. It is a must-read for individuals and anyone who wants to dramatically improve the Culture of Safety within your organization and make unlimited strides for safety success.

Go to: <http://www.SafetyUnderConstruction.com> in order to obtain a great sense of this newly published book on safety and risk. There you will see a representative preview and reviews of a book that needs to be read, taken to heart and shared. Lives depend on it.

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