



# MAFES Dawg Tracks

July 13, 2015



## General Working Safety Tips



In the year of 2006, 36% of the world's employment was in agriculture production. Agriculture covers many facets in our great nation. Agriculture is also one of the largest employment industries, if not the largest employer in our great state of Mississippi. With these figures in mind, it is imperative that we strive to keep them as safe as possible.

No one wants to get hurt on or off the job, so it is our responsibility to endeavor to make our workplaces safe as possible.

Our goal is to make it possible for every employee that comes to work each morning to be able to return home at night as sound and injury free as he was when he left in the morning.

Mrs. Pam Walaski, a professional in "Best Health and Safety Practices," wrote in her previous titled bulletin the ten best points of safety and environmental health, which follow below:

### There is no such thing as an "accident"-

- An accident is the failure of the employer's safety program or policies.
- Stop looking for excuses or someone to blame-when we accept the fact that accidents have no cause, or we can't find the cause, don't have the time to figure out the cause, or think that we can't afford to fix the problem financially, when we figure out the cause, we are virtually assuring ourselves that it will happen again.

### Let's have a great big group hug-

- Your co-workers aren't your family, and maybe not even your friends – but that doesn't mean that you don't care if they work safely or not.
- Watching out for each other on projects is critical and especially with new employees.

### WMP-MC-

- Safety culture has gotten a lot of publicity.
- What does having a strong safety culture actually mean?
- **WMP-MC – What management permits-management condones.**
- Other words, an effective safety program has to start at the top level of management in any organization. It involves management commitment and support for the program.

### You're being watched-

- Whether we realize it or not-all supervisors are role models for safe work practices. If management follows their safe work practices, the employees will also follow; if not, well - I believe you know the evident answer to that statement.
- Supervisors, Facility Coordinators and Superintendents have a tough job- total support from all avenues are needed for them to do their jobs.

### Listen up-

- Make sure that the safety communications go both ways.
- Listen to the folks doing their jobs- "**hey**"- they do the work every day and know the hazards and skills that go with the territory. They probably have the ideas to correct the potential hazards. It is beneficial to listen, you might learn some new "wrinkles."

### Failing to plan is planning to fail-

- Planning ahead saves time and normally reduces the potential for mistakes.
- Find the tools that work in your situation, whether it falls in the category of tools, tool box safety talks, etc. - use them regularly.

### Look before you leap-

- Always pay attention to your surroundings.
- More people get hurt at work jobs through slips, trips and falls than any other type of injury.

### Your Momma doesn't work here- neither does your Daddy!-

- Clean up after you finish a work project and if it's critically messy while doing it, you can clean up some of the mess as you are working.
- Clean work areas make a positive impression on visitors and also reduces the potential for injuries.

### Common sense is not so common (Voltaire)-

- Common – "widespread general knowledge falling below ordinary standards."
- Sense – "definite but often vague awareness or past impression."
- Common sense is based on life's experiences and values earned –"my own perception" states Mrs. Walaski.
- These won't be the same as yours – relying on this perception might be a little risky; one that you might not want to base your safety program on.

### Priorities change: Values don't-

- What are the safety values of your organization?
- An old true statement is " "what gets measured gets done" is true.
- Be careful not to buy into the "safety flavor of the month". Everyone is busy.
- Make sure that the important tasks get to the top of someone's list by measuring them.

***DON'T JUST PREACH SAFETY-***  
***\*\*\*PROFIT FROM IT\*\*\****

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***BE A LEADER – FOLLOW THE SAFETY PROCEDURES!!***