

Safety Sense

Safety Tactics



Developing effective safety measures in the workplace ensures compliance, creates a safe and healthy work environment for employees, and enhances productivity. Overall a strong formal safety program will reduce workplace accidents and injuries and promote a positive culture where employees want to stay. In recognition of National Safety Month, let's take a moment to review and remind businesses the steps they can take to create a safe workplace environment.

- Develop a comprehensive safety program that clearly defines protocols, expectations, safety rules, safety roles and responsibilities, emergency procedures and responses, reporting methods, and corrective actions – all focused on safeguarding employees, assets, and the environment.
- Provide new employee training and periodic refresher training (every 6 months) for all employees on safety protocols, emergency procedures, and proper use of equipment.
- Practice your safety plan annually with the entire team. It's imperative to ensure that everyone understands their responsibilities and expected actions when an emergency arises. Review the team's response to adjust education or your safety plan accordingly.
- Conduct an annual workplace hazard analysis to identify potential hazards and environmental risks. Base the analysis on data from incidents, near-misses, and issues with compliance, as well as a thorough walkthrough of the workplace and task observations of the team. If the analysis discovers a potential issue, update your safety plan and education.
- Hold regular inspections and maintenance of all equipment to ensure they're functioning properly.
- Make certain employees have appropriate PPE (personal protective equipment) – gloves, safety goggles, hardhats – and know how to properly wear it. Regularly check that PPE is being used correctly.
- Maintain a clean and neat workplace to reduce the risk of slips, trips, and falls. Organize tools, materials, and hazardous substances, and remove or fix tripping hazards like extension cords or cracked flooring.
- Manage and maintain hazardous substances by storing and labeling them according to national safety standards. Restrict access of these substances to authorized personnel.
- Install a professional security and fire safety system in your workplace. In addition, maintain safety equipment like handheld fire extinguishers.
- Create and promote an employee health and wellness program that reduces workplace stress and fatigue. Provide physical and mental health resources, encourage regular breaks, and assess proper ergonomics like guidance on lifting techniques and workstation setup.

By implementing key safety measures, your workplace will reduce the risk of accidents and injuries and foster a safer and more productive workplace environment.

