

Your Safety Attitude

Avoiding accidents begins with the right attitude. When everyone at work cares about themselves and others--and they take safety seriously--they tend to have fewer injuries and equipment damage.

A good safety attitude means taking responsibility for everyone's well being. You see a hazard like a loose electrical cord or a flammable, oily rag near a heat source? Take steps to remove the hazard. Set an example for others to follow. A safety attitude is contagious!

TRUE STORY

An avocado picker was told to sit in the middle seat of a pickup truck's bed as his supervisor drove him from the grove to the farm office. But he ignored his supervisor's instruction and sat on the edge of the pickup bed. The supervisor, driving at a high speed through the grove, repeatedly shouted to the employee to sit in the middle seat. But the employee kept ignoring the supervisor's request.

To avoid hitting a ladder, the supervisor stopped abruptly. The employee was thrown to the ground and suffered multiple knee and head injuries. Rushed to the hospital, he endured a lengthy stay to recover from his injuries.

What could have prevented this accident?

- Follow a supervisor's instructions.
- Operate vehicles at a safe speed.
- Maintain a positive attitude about job safety and understand the rules and regulations.

How Can You Adopt A Safety Attitude?

- Focus on the present task. Clear your mind of thoughts unrelated to the job or other things going on around you.
- Resist distractions. Arrive at work rested and ready to concentrate on the job.
- Take the time to do the job right.
- Invest a few extra seconds to wear the right safety equipment and use tools, equipment, and machinery in the safest manner.
- Avoid short cuts and don't fool around on the job.
- Make the best choices relating to your job safety.

- See yourself as part of a team. Everyone helps create a winning team.
- Work smart and avoid unnecessary risks.

EMPLOYER/EMPLOYEE RESPONSIBILITIES

Employer:

- Train supervisors to instill a safety attitude with all their employees.
- Involve employees in the development and implementation of your farm safety program.
- Enforce safety rules and regulations with an employee disciplinary program.
- Assign key employees to serve as experts on all safety rules and regulations.

Employee:

- Take responsibility for your safety and the safety of your co-workers.
- Follow safety rules and regulations.
- Follow your supervisor's instructions.
- Put the team first. Look for ways to increase everyone's safety at work.

Zenith provides workplace safety resources at: **TheZenith.com**[®]