

TOOL BOX TALKS

Heinrich's Accident Study

H.W. Heinrich conducted a study which is now famous, that showed that for every accident resulting in a serious injury, there were approximately 30 accidents resulting in minor injuries. Along with the one serious and 30 minor accidents, Heinrich's study said that there were 300 accidents producing no injuries. Should we focus more on the near-misses? Are we paying too much attention to the serious events? Discuss this Tool Box Talk with employees!

WORKSAFE TIPS

ACCIDENT PREVENTION

- Accident rates are usually calculated by using "lost time accidents."
- When nobody is injured, supervisors and safety personnel think they have done a good job.
- Are incidents like minor injuries, property damage or near misses brushed aside or ignored?
- Are these incidents tracked in your organization?
- Heinrich stressed that the same factors that cause a near miss incident at one time, can cause a major injuries the next time.
- Effective hazard control requires that safety personnel & supervisors be alert to the POSSIBILITIES for ALL types of accidents, and knowing how to PREVENT them from occurring.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

- Start recording near miss incidents.
- Your company's incident reporting procedure should include the requirement that employees report ALL incidents no matter what the significance.
- Do you inadvertently penalize employees when they turn in accidents?
- Think about reasons an employee WOULD NOT want to turn in an accident.
- How do you promote non-punitive near-miss incident reporting?
- Have employees been educated as to the REAL importance behind incident reporting?

00.3% OF ALL ACCIDENTS
PRODUCE MAJOR INJURIES

08.8% OF ALL ACCIDENTS
PRODUCE MINOR INJURIES

90.9% OF ALL ACCIDENTS
PRODUCE NO INJURIES



"HEINRICH'S INCIDENT PYRAMID"



These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional.

888.499.SAFE (7233)