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Remembering on Memorial Day "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We did not pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."
Ronald Reagan 40th President of the United States



Safe and Healthy at Work What determines if a Lock Out/Tag Out (LOTO) program is successful? Is it only that there were no significant injuries or fatalities? Nearly 3,000 workers suffer lost time injuries every year. There are approximately 60 fatalities every year resulting from improper actions during servicing or maintaining equipment. It's really more than just Lockout. It is also about human factors, attitudes, and behaviors.



Human factors such as complacency can cause workers to disregard the level of risk associated with the equipment. Workers may think that the job is simple, it will only take a minute. No need to lock out for this. The lock out could have been performed properly, but the worker did not check for de-energization, creating a different level of hazard exposure. Fatigue is another factor to consider. Fatigue effects judgement. Did I or didn't I lock it out? This will only take a minute. I can't wait for breaktime. This will only take a minute...

What is your attitude towards work? How do you carry yourself? How do you present yourself? When I was an apprentice electrician, I soon recognized differences in the journeymen I worked with. There were those that you knew had a higher level of responsibility and concern for the job than others. I felt good about being on that type of crew. Others, with a lesser outlook, made me more concerned about hazard avoidance and risk taking. Both types of persons were qualified to do the job, but there was clearly a preference on who you wanted to work with. Your approach to the work is felt by others. To me, it came down to the question, "Am I safe working with this guy"?

Behavior is how the work is completed. Work that is completed with knowledge and skill is recognizable. Workers that concentrate on getting a good, finished product take the time to and effort to follow all the steps of a job, from safe work practices to quality work completed in a timely manner.

Safety

Accuracy

Productivity

Safety Leadership Team Members

CPHQ Brad Bullard

CPCI Jeff Bastien

CPCI Justin Van Der Woude

CPCI Chad Baese

CPCT Jim Baiardi

CPCT Judie Shupenis

CPPA Mike Onody

CPPA Frank Mifflin

CPNC Jack Moose

CPNC Jeff Harron

CPOP Greg Johnson

CPOP Randy Lewis

CPOS/P Toby Schofield

CPOS Greg Johnson

CPIL Paul Kacmar

CPAL EJ Smith

CPTX Sergio Quiroz

CPTX Deb Nell

CPMR Gerardo Garcia

CPMR Victoria Hernandez

When these human factors, attitudes and behaviors are less than optimal, things can take a wrong turn quickly. Recognizing human factor issues and aligning attitudes and behaviors can position you to succeed safely. Misalignment can have serious consequences. Here are some examples.



The first step in a LOTO procedure is to communicate to all affected employees. Next is shutting down the equipment. Some people have an attitude of complacency where they feel their lengthy experience allows them to bypass the correct procedure because it is a simple job and will shorten the down time. A decision that can be deadly.

Next is isolating energy sources. If you think that simply using the on/off switch is acceptable for protection, think again. The switch can be defective, or a short circuit could occur. There are sometimes other sources of energy for equipment.

The release of stored energy is vital to performing a safe LOTO procedure. Energy is sometimes stored to allow certain machine functions. Stored energy can exist in capacitors in electrical systems, mechanical systems such as springs, hydraulic system pressure, pneumatic systems to move cylinders and gravitational exposure from objects. All forms of energy have to be blocked or released to make the job safe.

The idea that human factors, attitudes, and behaviors can have an effect on safety is clear. Nothing is 100% in the workplace. Safety is doing what we can to minimize or eliminate hazards, thereby decreasing risk. The more workers that recognize human factors, attitudes and behaviors that put others or themselves at risk, the more likely that everyone will go home safe at the end of the shift.

Safe and Healthy at Home When we are a way from work, our minds sometimes take too much of a break. Those concepts of human factors, attitudes and behaviors still have a place though. Weekends are short. Do you try to get too much in over a weekend? Do you try to fit a three-day job into two days? What about the plans for the evening? Weekends are always too short.

Your safety and the safety of others should be the same as during work. Good, strong attitudes and behaviors, a high awareness of human factors, all apply at home. There should be an attitude of safe behaviors and conditions for family, friends, and acquaintances, just as for co-workers. Double check the extension cords to the outdoor entertainment center! Summer is here and we all want to get back to normal. Get back to normal in a safe and healthy way.

Safety Observation from CPMR**Safety Observation Submission**

The following observation has been made and sent to you as the responsible party for the observation service.

Company: Coilplus

Addl Detail:

Date/Time: 05/27/2021 00:00 AM

What was observed: LOTO procedure is properly followed during the Slitter changeover cleaning for prepainted.

Observation Type: Positive

Action Taken: None

Observed By: Gerardo Garcia

Status: Closed

Photo:



Safety Observation Submission

The following observation has been made and sent to you as the responsible party for the observation service.

Company: Coilplus Ohio Springfield

Addl Detail:

Date/Time: 05/27/2021 00:00 AM

What was observed: I observed a coil stored in a rack staged to run on SL01. Flags were used for safety. I measured the coil and it was within the 4 to 1 ratio to sit by itself. The employee chose to use the flags to ensure safety. I think this shows the employee has taken ownership of safety made a good decision.

Observation Type: Positive

Category: Storage

Action Taken: I spoke with the uncoiler operator and pointed out how I thought the extra steps taken by the employee to be safe was positive.

Observed By: Greg Johnson

Status: Closed

Photo:

