



SAFETY CORNER



SAFETY DISCUSSION

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UNSAFE CHOICES



Making the decision to follow every single safety rule or procedure does not come naturally to us. We constantly have to work towards making the right decisions every single day. Many times individuals find ways to rationalize not working safely. It is important for each worker to recognize this error trap and address it when it arises.

For the most part, we all know what the right choice is when it comes to safety during a specific work task. Safety training, policies, procedures, labels, etc. all communicate what needs to be done in order to mitigate hazards and work safely. The problem is there are many factors that affect whether or not we want to make the right decisions in a

given moment. A few of these factors include:

- Time pressure
- Lack of supervision at the site
- Lack of enforcement of rules
- Energy levels
- Mood

Individuals facing one or more of these factors will use them to rationalize to themselves why a certain safety rule does not need to be followed. For example, “I forgot my fall protection, but it will only take a minute to go up and right back down so I will be fine”. We have all rationalized poor choices-whether it was choosing to not wear fall protection or rationalizing hitting snooze seven times before getting out of bed.

When other people are around who are not making the right choices when it comes to safety, it becomes the “normal” thing to do despite not being the correct thing to do. When the norm is working unsafe it makes it difficult for even the individuals who want to work safely to do so. Do not rely on a supervisor or safety person to have to tell you to do the right thing. Make the choice to do what is right despite what others may be doing.



MAKE INFORMED DECISIONS!



WORK SAFETY



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