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Creating & Maintaining a Practical Based Safety Culture©

Rave reviews of Alan's new book, "Creating & Maintaining a Practical Based Safety Culture"!

From Dilys Robertson

Corporate Corner

Debunking the Myths and Creating Safety

Author of "The Emperor has No Hard Hat", Alan Quilley, has just come out with another book – Practical Based Safety Culture . The OHS regulations and other safety organizations are constantly talking about the importance of having a 'safety culture' and 'leadership' and 'management commitment' and legal compliance. OHS legislation stresses safety policy statements, health and safety manuals, required procedures and so on. WCBs measure their success by counting lost time injuries and costs. Many organizations, encouraged by assessment rebate incentives, use injuries to measure their safety performance.

But what exactly does 'safety culture' and 'senior management commitment' mean in practice? Do OHS policies statements, rules, lower injury rates and legal compliance actually create safe workplaces? Quilley argues convincingly that, while these things are important, they do not, of themselves create safety in the workplace. His new book provides practical tools for managing safety in a way that will create safety while at the same time, debunking a number of myths about how this can be achieved.



For example, on the question of 'safe behaviours' he notes that: "Much of what has been written and sold as behaviour-based safety is neither practical nor logical. I hesitate to use the term myself, since I've heard such bad delivery

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of the term in a lot of instances.”

In ISMS [Quilley’s ‘Integrated Safety Management System’ well described in his previous book, the Emperor has no Hard Hat] safe behaviour is not a program; it’s not a package of observation cards. It’s not like some consulting companies would have you believe. It was once described to me by one very dissatisfied client of a ‘famous’ BBS provider as the intravenous BBS drip. A better approach, he says, comes from doing ‘safe behaviour management with people and not to them. As he points out, behaviour is influenced by many external factors and it is necessary to manage the factors that will motivate people towards safe behaviour.

On the questions of leadership, Quilley quotes Ralph Waldo Emerson’s famous quote “What You Do Speaks So Loudly I Cannot Hear What You Say”. In other words, it is what is demonstrated that is important. Quilley goes on to suggest that people should be managed the way the manager would like to be managed. An OHS policy statement, however nobly intentioned, will do nothing if it is not demonstrated and supported in practice,

When talking about measures of safety, Quilley argues that using ‘zero injury’ goals will unlikely to be effective in creating safe workplaces. As he says: “If we set the goal of zero injuries and we don’t have any injuries, then we must have reached our safety goal, right? Wait, I can understand being happy about the result, but I know that this is simply not logical, nor is it even wise to say that we have been safe because we’ve had no injuries. We all know by now that not being injured while we do risky work happens a great deal of the time. This is akin to giving someone an annual safety award for being a good ducker and not getting hurt when they have been taking terrible risks. A definition of safe is not the absence of injury. So how can zero be our definition of safe? we have tons of examples where people have worked long periods of time without incident, and then a catastrophic event happens.”

This is a very readable book, written with humour and Quilley’s unique ability to put himself in other’s shoes. We highly recommend it for any manager who is interested in creating a truly safe workplace.



From Mike Allen:

“To all of my fellow Safety Geeks. You need to buy “Creating & Maintaining a Practical Based Safety Culture” by Alan D. Quilley CRSP It is pure greatness and it will make you chuckle and make you re-think your beliefs about Safety”.

Excerpt from Alan’s new book!

Safe Production is #1

How did we do this to ourselves? Somehow we’ve separated working safely from the process of production and/or creating the services we provide to our customers.

Placing safety as your number one policy is not only unwise, it’s not likely to ever be a true statement. Companies are not in the business of safety. They are in the business of making a profit for their investors or to provide a service of value. As soon as stakeholders and/or shareholders believe that the company they have invested in is no longer providing value to them, they will sell their shares and move on. In the worse cases, the company will disappear altogether. Case in point, there aren’t many Beta Video Tape Rental companies around anymore now, are there?

Production and perceived value is always number one, as it should be. Safety is how we do what we do. Safe production is the key to success. So rewrite the policies that say *safety is number one*, and change the statement to *safe production is number one*. Then go about making it true.

CRSP Examination Preparation Workshops Edmonton June 2010

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but you can sure increase your odds
by joining us in...**



Las Vegas for our Spring 2010 CRSP Examination Preparation Workshop!

Last chance to take part in our Las Vegas workshop! Registrations will only be accepted to Friday, May 14th. The dates for this 2 day workshop are May 18 - 19, 2010. Our travel agent, Kathy Wilton, has looked after our travel arrangements, and would be pleased to assist you with yours. She can be reached via phone at 403-777-0719, or toll-free at 1-800-816-6644, extension 719, or via email to kwilton@vision2000travel.ca Click [here](#) to be taken to our CRSP Workshop page to book your spot!



On The Net

Tripping Over Pets Sends Thousands to ER

By Bill Hendrick

WebMD Health News

Reviewed by Laura J. Martin, MD

April 23, 2010 -- Taking your faithful pet dog for a stroll may be good for cardiovascular health, but it can also be dangerous. According to a CDC report, many people get hurt every year when chasing or tripping over their pets -- cats as well as dogs. The study, published in the Journal of Safety Research, shows that dogs and cats contribute to injuries that send an estimated 87,000 people to emergency rooms every year. The study also shows that:

- Dogs are more dangerous to their owners than cats, associated with 7.5 times as many injuries as felines.
- Women are 2.1 times more likely to be injured by pets than men.
- Injury rates are highest among people age 75 and over, but pets are a hazard for people of all ages.
- Fractures and contusions or abrasions are the most common pet-related injuries.
- 66.4% of falls associated with cats and 31.3% associated with dogs are caused by falling or tripping over the animal.
- 21.2% of falls linked to dogs were caused by being pushed or pulled.

The statistics come from a study of nonfatal injuries in the U.S. that examined 66 emergency departments between Jan. 1, 2001, and Dec. 31, 2006.

Falls and ER visits suggest the need for more pet-obedience training for dogs, but basic prevention strategies should be implemented to help people reduce their risk of injury when walking Rover or reaching for the cat, says Judy A. Stevens, PhD, a senior epidemiologist for the CDC's National Center for Injury Prevention and Control.

For more on this article, please click [here](#).

The advertisement features a large graphic with the text 'See & Order' in a stylized font. Below it, the title 'The Emperor Has No Hard Hat' is prominently displayed, followed by the subtitle 'Achieving Real Workplace Safety Results'. To the right, there is a red and black graphic with the text 'THE EMPEROR HAS NO HARD HAT' and 'Achieving REAL Workplace Safety Results'. At the bottom right, the author's name 'Alan D. Quilley CRSP' is listed.