

Safety culture as an important element of ensuring safety in the workplace

Dr Monika Spilka, Silesian University of Technology, Gliwice, Poland (presenter)

Klaudia Zajaczkowska, BSc, Silesian University of Technology, Gliwice, Poland

Abstract

Statement of the Problem: Human health and life are primary values that must be protected during every situation of daily existence. Special attention should be paid to safety in the context of professional work, as it involves a number of threats. Nowadays, monitoring the safety culture is an increasingly and willingly used tool that helps maintain the boundaries between the necessary risk and ensuring safety. Shaping a safety culture is a continuous and multidimensional process. E.S. Geller states that the culture of work safety is shaped by the involvement of each employee, working in groups, a sense of belonging to the company and proper education. The purpose of this study is to assess the level of safety culture in a selected energy sector enterprise using a developed questionnaire consisting of closed and open questions relating to safety issues at workplaces. The survey was conducted among 100 employees at workplaces with an increased level of risk. Among the respondents, the largest group were men, people aged 41-55, with secondary education and persons with 11-15 years of work experience. Results: The research showed that the company's employees are aware of the importance of security and share responsibility for its level. They feel adequately prepared and safe while performing their work, even though it is classified as high-risk. However, the assessment of the level of safety culture in an enterprise should be subject to systematic research, thanks to which it is possible to identify areas requiring improvement and at the same time increase the level of safety culture.

Conclusion & Significance: A properly formed safety culture brings many benefits. Striving to eliminate accidents at work influences the minimization of losses, which in turn increases productivity and quality of work. Safety culture is part of the company's image not only among employees, but also customers, positively influencing its success.

Image

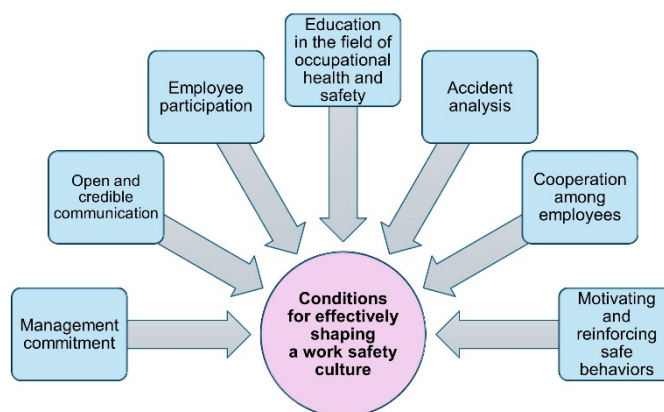


Figure 1: Conditions for effectively shaping a work safety culture

Recent Publications

1. Jaroenroy T, Piromsri S, Haitian P, Boonkhao L, Rattanachaiakunsopon P (2024) Employees' perceptions of workplace safety culture: a case study of a polyester company. *Emerging Science Journal* 8:239-250.
2. Wen M, Gou Z, Xiong C, Wang Y, Cheng D (2024) Research status and trends of enterprise safety culture: a knowledge graph analysis based on Cite Space. *Frontiers in Public Health* 12:1362830.
3. Asamani L (2020) Promote safety culture and enhance safety performance through safety behaviour. *European Journal of Business and Management Research* 5:1-11.
4. Bisbey TM, Kilcullen MP, Thomas EJ, Ottosen MJ, Tsao KJ, Salas E (2021) Safety culture: an integration of existing models and a framework for understanding its development. *The Journal of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society* 63:88-110.
5. Claxton G, Hosie P, Sharma P (2022) Toward an effective occupational health and safety culture: a multiple stakeholder perspective. *Journal of Safety Research* 82:57-67.

Photograph



Biography

Dr Monika Spilka has expertise in ensuring safe and hygienic working conditions, as well as ergonomics in production companies. Scientific interests also include issues of the environmental impact of technological processes and their modernization in order to search for sustainable material technological processes, using sustainable development tools, including cleaner production and product life cycle assessment. Another area of scientific interest is the design, production and testing of multilayer systems, as well as research of the properties of amorphous and nanocrystalline aluminum-based alloys and high-entropy alloys.

Email: monika.spilka@polsl.pl