



# 10 Ways to Communicate Safety Standards Throughout Your Company



Employee safety should be a top priority in any company. Apart from the obvious heartache associated with worker deaths and injuries, workers who are injured on the job could sue the company for financial damages. They may also be less productive when they do return to work. Therefore, it is important that employers effectively communicate safety standards to every employee.

1. **Send an Email or Newsletter** – If your employees have a company email address, make sure that everyone gets an email outlining safety standards at least once a month. Another way is mailing a newsletter to the address of every employee; you can include one with their pay stub as well.
2. **Post Signage Throughout the Workplace** – Place a sign where employees punch in, in break rooms, around equipment and any other high frequent areas. Be creative! Use video and other mediums to help reinforce standards.
3. **Take Pictures of Safe Actions** – A picture is worth a thousand words. Make it perfectly clear what the expectations are by taking pictures of employees demonstrating proper practices. Include these in your newsletters and emails.
4. **Hold Meetings (Toolbox Talks)**- To ensure that everyone is getting the message, hold small-group meetings that are mandatory for all employees. Make Toolbox Talks a part of the daily routine to review and discuss safety standards.
5. **Require Appropriate Training**- If you send people out untrained, you are communicating that safety doesn't matter. People learn more from the workplace culture than from the signs that are posted. Create a culture of safety in the workplace by properly training your employees.
6. **Safety Comment Cards**- Encourage employees to hold each other accountable and spot unexpected hazards by providing safety comment cards. You could also include a form on your company's Intranet to make it easier for people to access.
7. **Make it Part of the Employee Review Process**- Safety policies are not a one-and-done concern. It's important to continually prioritize safety at the workplace and a great way to do that is by including a "refresher course" in an employee review.

8. **Invest in Proper Safety Gear-** Communicate priority in your safety budget. If you are buying the cheapest safety harnesses and glasses, it's not a wonder why people don't want to wear them! Put an emphasis on safety through buying comfortable, quality gear that your employees will want to wear.
9. **Routine Safety Checks-** Supervisors should walk around the premises on a regular basis to do fall safety checks. This will make it more likely to spot unprotected hazards that need to be secured while looking out for employees to make sure they're implementing best practices. If you see unsafe behavior, it needs to be corrected at that very moment. It can't afford to wait.
10. **Share Case Studies or Incident Reports-** Put the reality behind the need for safety by sharing events about real people who have been affected by insufficient safety measures.

These 10 tips can help your company establish a coherent safety message and increase fall safety awareness in your organization. These tips are easy to follow and implement in your company today. While it may take some time for everyone to learn and follow the rules, putting some of these ideas into practice will help to create a safer work environment for everyone.

## Still have questions?



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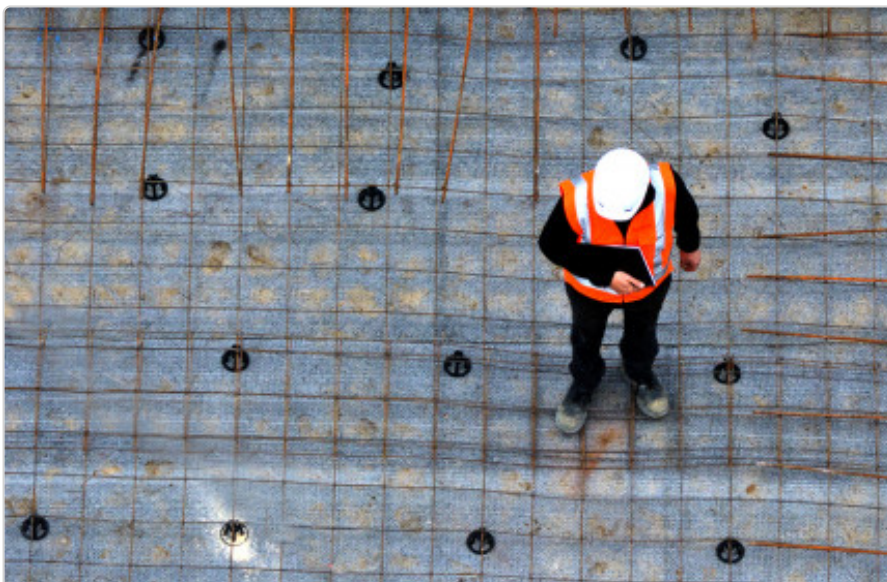


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by *Josh Borowiec*

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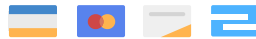
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