

Safety Inspections

Prepare: Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready?

Reason: Everyone at work has a moral and legal duty to prevent accidents.

Why: Employees who are aware of unsafe activities can take the necessary reporting actions to prevent accidents occurring

Outline: This talk will cover the benefits of safety inspections and consultation.



Why Have Safety Inspections?

- To reduce accident rates, suffering and the associated direct and indirect costs.
- High accident rates result in higher insurance premiums, increased disruption and therefore, lower profits.

Safety Inspections

- Employers have a legal duty to seek competent health and safety advice.
- Someone with responsibility for health and safety will carry out safety inspections to detect shortcomings in health and safety on site.
- Actions will be taken to put right the shortcomings.
- Safety inspections confirm the employer's commitment to health and safety

Q: How do you think you could be involved in a safety audit?

Consultation

- Employers have a legal duty to consult with employees on matters of health and safety.
- Employers may appoint safety representatives through whom employees can raise matters of concern on health and safety.
- If there are matters of health and safety which concern you, you

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Safety Inspections

should bring them to the attention of your employer.

Q: Has your employer appointed a safety representative? If so, do you know who it is?

Union Safety Representatives

- Recognised trade unions have the right to appoint safety representatives.
- Safety representatives, upon giving notice, can carry out safety inspections.
- Where there are members from more than one trade union working in the same area, a safety representative from each union may carry out inspections of that area.
- If you have a union appointed representative you should know his or her identity.
- If you are in a trade union which has appointed a safety representative you should be able to take any concerns about health and safety to him or her.
- Employers must set up a Safety Committee if it is requested by union appointed safety representatives.

Q: Who is your trade union health and safety representative?

Do you have any questions for me?

- Note to your supervisor: Now inform the workforce of the arrangements for health and safety inspections within your company

Sources

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/pdf/fatalinjuries.pdf>

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/industry/construction.pdf>

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