



AMERICAN SOCIETY OF
SAFETY PROFESSIONALS

Enhancing Workplace Safety Through Observations

An Interactive Session for ASSP Chapter Members

Agenda Overview

- Safety Observations
 - What are Safety Observations?
 - Effective Safety Observation Practices
 - Role-Playing Scenarios
 - Common Challenges & Solutions
 - Call to Action & Wrap-up
- State of the Chapter
- Chapter Board Nominations



Safety Observations



What is a Safety Observation?

- Safety observations involve identifying and addressing workplace hazards before incidents occur.
- What is your company/organization's goal with safety observations?
- What type of observations?
 - Formal – Checklist/App/Forms
 - Informal – Gemba Walks/Peer-to-Peer
- Do you see benefits from safety observations?



Effective Safety Observation Practices?

- Be Specific – Describe what you see (unsafe act vs. unsafe condition)
- Engage Workers – Ask for their perspective rather than just pointing out issues
- Use Positive Reinforcement – Recognize safe behaviors as much as unsafe ones
- Follow Up – Ensure corrective actions are implemented



Safety Observation Scenarios

■ Scenario 1: Improper PPE

■ Key Takeaways:

- Empathy First
- Reinforce Safety
- Positive Framing
- Lead by Example

■ Scenario 2: Blocked Emergency Exits

■ Key Takeaways:

- Safety Over Convenience
- Immediate Action
- Teamwork & Solutions
- Accountability Without Blame



Safety Observation Scenarios

■ Scenario 3: Unsafe Ladder Use

■ Key Takeaways:

- Time vs. Safety
- Provide Alternatives
- Encourage Reporting
- Build a Safety Habit

■ Chapter Reflection:

- What was most surprising or eye-opening part of these scenarios?
- What's one thing you will do differently in your own safety observations?



What Challenges Have You Encountered?

- **Challenges:**

- Resistance to Feedback
- Inconsistent Reporting
- Fear of Retaliation

- **Solutions:**

- Encourage Open Communication
- Use Mobile Apps or Simple Forms
- Leaders Should Lead by Example



What's One Thing You'll Do Differently After Today's Meeting?

- **Commit to conducting at least one safety observation per week?**
 - Informal or Formal
- **Network within the Chapter Membership to learn from other companies' programs?**
- **Start Simple?**



State of the Chapter



Current State of the Chapter

- Inactive; Excited for the Future
 - TN BWC REWARD; April 11th
 - TOSHA – Top 10; May 16th
 - Looking for Topics of Interest
 - Tours?
 - Survey?
- Meeting Location
 - SCT is happy to host; Should we go back to a restaurant or move around?
 - Virtual Option



Current State of the Chapter

- Leadership
 - Missed 2024 Annual Elections
 - By default, John Arnold - President; John Barlew – VP/Treasurer
- Off-Cycle Election 2025
 - Elected Officers:
 - President
 - Vice President
 - Secretary
 - Treasurer
 - Additional Positions:
 - Membership Chair
 - Public Relations

