

The theme this month is: FIGHT COMPLACENCY - KEEP YOUR FOCUS ON THE TASK AT HAND!

COMPLACENCY CAN KILL

Complacency can be defined as “a self-satisfied mindset accompanied by a lowered awareness of actual dangers or deficiencies.”

Complacency can cause or contribute to critical errors which increase the probability of injury due to not having your eyes or mind on the task, walking into the line of fire, or losing your balance, traction, or grip.

Working on routine or repetitive tasks can tempt you to become very comfortable and go on “auto-pilot.” You get so used to things being done the same way that you become numb to the hazards in your surroundings and underestimate the risk of tasks that you perform regularly.

The following video describes one person’s experience with the dangers of complacency:

[Just a second ago - The Brad Livingston Story](#)



WHAT YOU CAN DO ABOUT IT

All too often you do not realize how complacent you have become until you have a near miss or close call. The event may help you refocus proper attention the importance of tasks at hand for a little while. However, combating complacency in the workplace requires Front Line

Supervisor involvement. Front Line Supervisors must stay alert for small mistakes and judgement lapses in small issues and raise awareness when the early signs of complacency occur.

4 Ways to Stop Safety Complacency Creep

4 WAYS TO BEAT COMPLACENCY

- 1. Get everyone on it**
- 2. Communication**
- 3. Supervisors must be plugged in**
- 4. Set achievable targets**

- Get everyone on it – everyone has to be on the lookout for the warning signs.
- Communication – when it comes to complacency the message has to be “our greatest threat is ourselves.”
- Supervisors must pay attention to worker attitudes – looks for signs that workers are distracted, or their minds are wandering while work is being done.
- Set achievable targets for continuously improving existing practices and procedures.

DARN GOOD QUESTIONS

- When are you most at risk for complacency?
- How would you recognize complacency in your own behavior? In your co-workers?

Message for the Moment: Even if your current safety record is good, you can never let your guard down. Act early when the initial signs of distracted or unfocused workers appear!

Reminder - Recordable Tracking and Sharing of Corrective Actions:

PPI is encouraging your company to participate in this monthly report. The Injury Reporting Process and Template are available in the PPI Member's Only section or simply email David Fink at dfink@plasticpipe.org. We look forward to your company's participation so that together we can support each other in continuous improvement of our safety performance.