



Safety culture essentials: How to create health and safety excellence

Correlation between workers perception of safety and current organizational health

How safe do you *really* feel in your workplace—both physically and psychologically? What’s your day-to-day experience when it comes to health and safety?

What is safety culture?

Safety culture is a part of organizational culture. It is the collection of the beliefs, perceptions, and values that workers have in relation to risks within an organization, such as a workplace or community.

Goal: Workplace health and safety excellence

A high level of safety for all workers is important, of course, and when organizations fall short, they expose themselves to emotional distress, reputational damage, financial liability, and possibly more regulations. So, what’s the difference between a company that does well in safety and one that doesn’t?

Companies with superior organizational health align successfully around a clear strategy, execute it well, and regularly review themselves – and tend to have the best safety records.

Safety Climate Assessment and Audit Tool

A safety Climate Assessment and Audit Tool (CAAT) helps organizations develop a relevant, workable health and safety strategy, with the goal of leading to a safe and healthy workplace.

Best practices guideline

The safety culture tool provides your organization with a best practices guideline along with industry benchmarks. It also measures the six main factors that affect workplace health and safety: leadership, risk management, resources, loss mitigation, training, and competency.

Expert research and industry collaboration

Developed from extensive research and collaboration with academic and industry experts, more than 7,000 people in Ontario workplaces have participated in safety culture assessments to date.

Create and maintain workplace health and safety excellence

Correlation between worker health and organizational health

The safety culture Climate Audit and Assessment Tool (CAAT) correlates the effect of workplace culture on worker health. Companies with strong safety cultures had lower frequencies of compensation claims according to an analysis by the Institute for Work and Health.

Benefits of assessing workplace safety culture

- Healthy organizations are safer places to work
- Building organizational health improves safety standards
- Companies provide supportive leadership and encourage employee ownership of safety
- By promoting safety as a value, leaders' influence in the workplace helps create a true sense of commitment
- Health and safety becomes a recognized strategic priority on the path towards a goal of a thriving and prosperous organization
- Supportive leaders create a learning culture essential for continuous improvement of safety



About Workplace Safety North

An independent not-for-profit, Workplace Safety North is one of four health and safety associations in Ontario, and the only one located in the north. As your local health and safety partner, WSN provides provincially-approved workplace health and safety services for mining and forest products sectors, as well as businesses and communities across northern Ontario.

Assessment report includes action plan to reach goal of workplace health and safety excellence

- Measure current state: Identify how people feel, think, and behave about health and safety issues.
- Realistic report: Measures how people think about safety, and whether those thoughts are the same or different from the company's policies and procedures.
- Complete assessment: Understand the people, practices, and other things that contribute to workplace safety culture.
- Targeted solution: Create an effective action plan unique to your company.
- No right or wrong: Journey through five stages of safety culture starting with basic compliance leading all the way to thriving and prospering.
- Meet your goal of workplace health and safety excellence: Create practices that allow your company to reassess and measure improvements over time.

Related presentations and programs

Understanding workplace culture: Climate Assessment and Audit Tool

Leadership Essentials

Mental Health First Aid training

Mental Health Awareness Workshops

Train-the-trainer - WSN Training Partner Program

For more information or to schedule a consultation

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With health and safety specialists located across the province, WSN and its legacy organizations have been helping make Ontario workplaces safer for more than 100 years. As a leading provider of health and safety services, businesses and communities call upon WSN for expert advice and training.