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Does the past predict the future?

Over the last 40 years work place injuries and lost time accident rates have declined.

The rate of Fatal and Life Changing accidents has remained fairly constant.

Multiple Service Locations:

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Fatal and Life Changing injuries result from a group of causes that are different than those for less severe incidents. Research shows that low OSHA rates do not indicate the absence of Fatal and Life Changing exposures.

Studies have identified some 'precursor situations' that increase the likelihood of a Fatal and Life Changing accident:

- Unusual and non-routine work
- Non-production activities
- Work where sources of high energy (electricity for one) are present
- During construction operations

There are also routine work activities that may have higher likelihood to contribute to Fatal and Life Changing accidents:

- Operation of mobile equipment (and interaction with pedestrians)
- Confined space entry
- Jobs that require lock-out tag-out
- Lifting operations with cranes and hoists
- Working at heights
- Manual materials handling

The prevention of Fatal and Life Changing injuries is complex since many such events have multiple causative factors. Building a climate of safety will help reduce the risk of Fatal and Life Changing events in your company.

Safety Climate includes:

- Management Commitment
- Job induced stress
- Management Actions
- Effectiveness of safety communication
- Employee commitment to safety
- Emergency procedures
- Perceived risk levels
- Safety training
- Required work pace
- Status of safety in the organization
- Beliefs about accident cause



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These Climate factors interact to determine what happens when your employees are exposed to precursor situations and work tasks where the likelihood of a Fatal or Life Changing accidents is present.

Some things you can do include:

- Develop policy and procedures to guide the performance of your employees
- Develop employee safety competence, especially for high risk situations
- Conduct pre-job planning and job safety hazard assessments
- Establish a permit system for high risk activities
- Monitor work to ensure that safe practices are followed
- Hold people accountable for activities that help to reduce risk

Your Eastern Alliance Risk Management Consultant is prepared to help you identify and manage your potential exposures. Using a variety of assessment tools and our experience in many industries we will develop a custom plan for your business that supports your efforts to protect your employees.