



NAC Position Paper No. 7, Mar. 1, 2007

## SAFETY

### ***Success in achieving Zero Injury requires “Safety Education.”***

Through the Position Papers on Safety, The National Academy of Construction (NAC) is recommending American Business investigate the research of the Construction Industry Institute (CII) into how increasing numbers of employers are able to achieve a million work hours and more without an OSHA Recordable injury. The Nine CII Zero Injury safety leadership categories follows: 1. Demonstrated management safety commitment; 2. Staffing for safety; 3. Safe work planning; pre-project and pre-task; 4. Safety education; orientation and specialized training; 5. Employee involvement; behavior safety and safety perception surveys; 6. Evaluation and recognition of safety performance; 7. Contractor selection and management; 8. Accident/incident investigation; including near misses; 9. Drug and alcohol testing.

NAC Safety Paper (SP) (see [www.naocon.org](http://www.naocon.org)) No. 1 emphasizes the importance of proactive attitudes about safety; NAC SP No. 2 reveals that one company by using these CII research findings achieved 4,649,000 continuous work hours without a recordable injury; NAC SP No. 3 lists the Nine CII (see below) critical Zero Injury Safety Management Categories; NAC Safety Paper No. 4 discusses; “demonstrated management safety commitment;” NAC Safety Paper No. 5 discusses Staffing for Safety. NAC Safety Paper No. 6 covers “Safe Work Planning.”

#### SP No. 7 – CII Category 4. Safety Education, Orientation and Specialized Training:

Employee safety education is a critical element in creating a culture of safety where zero injury is the natural result. Safety orientation is given all employees (new employees before they report to their foremen) on site-specific safety considerations which should always include the principles of the zero injury safety leadership process. These sessions (hours in length by many contractors) should never be simply videos alone. It is essential that both project safety leadership and line management take part.

Each and every orientation session should include a presentation by an appointed representative of top project line management who clearly informs the attendees of leadership’s commitment to them as individuals and to an injury free work place and personally ask for each employee’s commitment to avoid all at-risk behavior. The natural result will then be all employees go home at the end of the workday injury free.

Specialized training in pre-task planning and the safe usage of any unique tools (not commonly used) along with the appropriate use of personal protective equipment.

CII research has proven the cost of the utilizing the 9 CII zero injury categories is returned at a rate of 400 to 500% per annum when compared the OSHA/BLS injury rate average for Construction. Information and details on this increasingly popular safety management concept are available from the NAC and the Construction Industry Institute at:

Construction Safety Alliance  
550 Stadium Mall Dr., Room 1223  
West Lafayette, IN 47907-2051  
Ph (765) 494-2244  
e-mail: [halpin@ecn.purdue.edu](mailto:halpin@ecn.purdue.edu)

Construction Industry Institute  
3925 W. Braker Lane (R4500)  
Austin, TX 78759-5316  
Ph (512) 232-3004  
[www.construction-institute.org](http://www.construction-institute.org)

See The NAC website at [www.naocon.org](http://www.naocon.org) for copies of the Safety Whitepaper series.

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