

Where Injuries Happen “Integrating Safety into the Mundane”



James W. Lang
ESH/QA
Accelerator Systems Division
630-252-7021
jwl@aps.anl.gov

ASD Seminar Series
October 29th 2010



Typical Safety Planning Addresses “WORK”

- Work Planning and Control
- Job Hazard Analysis
- Work Smart Tools
- Procedures
- You Name Your Program



Define the Task, Identify the Hazards, Control the Hazards, Control the Risks, Perform the Work

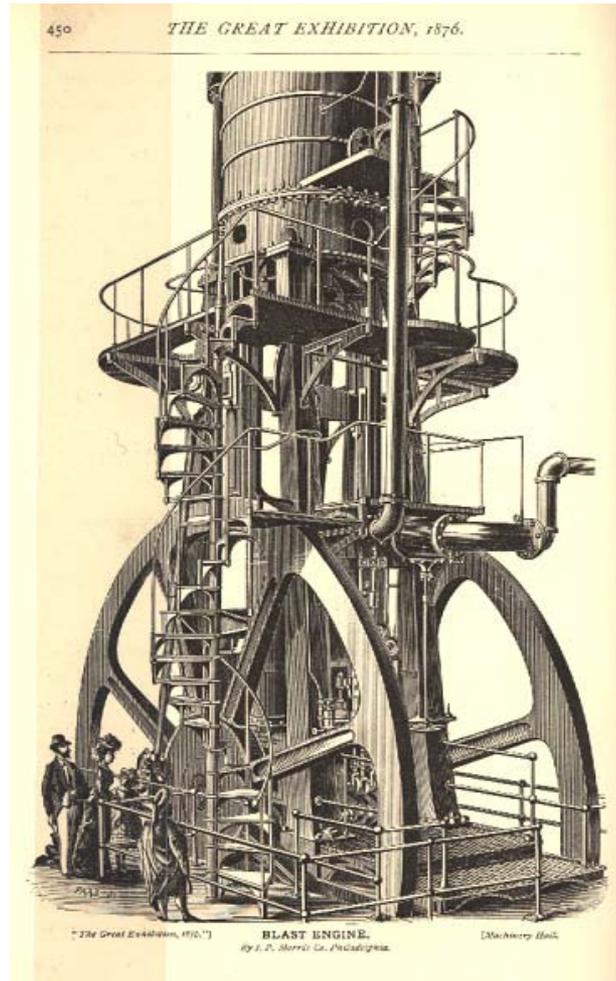
Generally, employees are aware of the hazards and associated risks of their jobs

- Task specific
- Facility specific
- Work planning and task analysis instruct employees



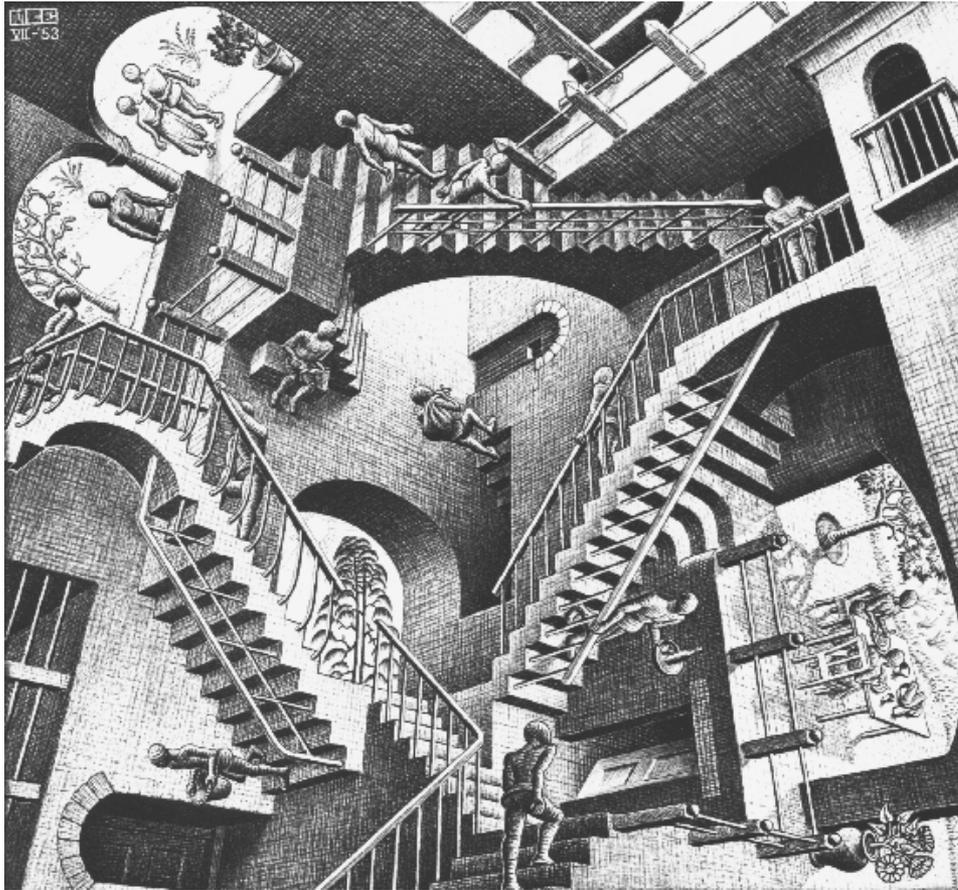
We all worked hard to get a great Job Hazard Analysis!

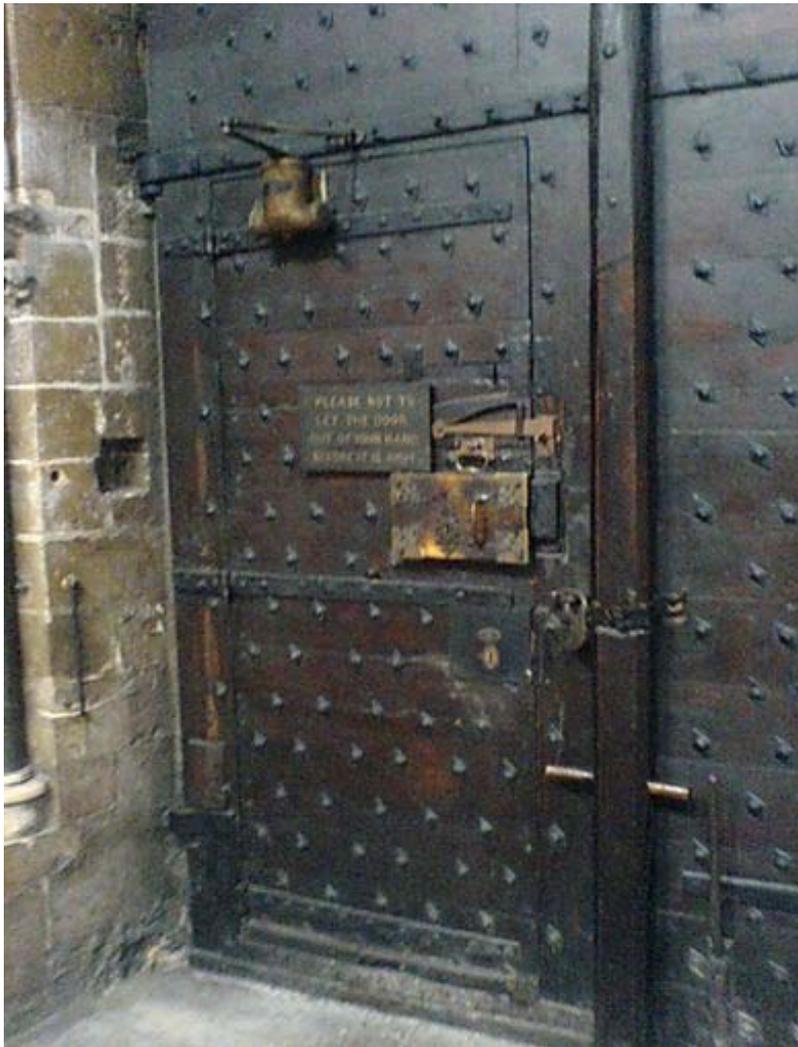
WP&C
JSA
Training
Procedures
Drawings
Assigned tasks
Readiness process
Emergency Response



Daily schedule
Effort allocation
Permits
Dry runs
Walk throughs
Approval
Reviews

Today is the day we do the job!







Zombie Makeup Just in time for Halloween

Where Injuries Happen “Integrating Safety into the Mundane”

There is an entire world of unsafe actions, leading indicators, precursors of injury hiding in plain sight all around us.

These are the unsafe behaviors that happen 24/7 in the mundane.



These injuries occurred outside the scope of normal work planning and controls

Most JSAs training, etc. are too generic to address the mundane

- High end view
- Hazard specific controls
- Task specific scope
- Not emotionally connected



Accidents/Injuries Are Occurring Outside the Realm of Work Planning and Control. Many of these Accidents are Occurring in the Mundane

These “occurrences” tend to be:

- Poorly & Improperly Analyzed
- Thought of as a “personal” issue and not part of the work environment.
- Seldom properly trended
- Inadequately connected to the leading indicators

Accidents/Injuries have 3 Direct Causes

1. Somebody did something to you
 1. The Valve is to high up to turn easily
 2. Company gave you to short of a ladder to reach the valve safely
2. You did something to yourself
 1. You stood on a chair to reach the valve
 2. You didn't follow the valve procedure because you couldn't remember where you left your ladder
3. You 'go away" momentarily
 1. You were thinking about the football game when you missed a step on the ladder
 2. You ,,,,,,fill in the blank,,,,, _____?



What is the Mundane?

- Those things everybody does all the time everyday without thinking
 - Go/Come
 - Sit/Stand
 - Open/Close
 - Put/Take
- What we do between tasks
 - Reach to pick up a wrench
 - Travel to and from duties
 - Go to get supplies
- Its simply “Going Away”



What is the Mundane?

- We consider time spent in the mundane as our time
- It is when we “think of other things” or “think of nothing”
- It is natural and healthy to be “away”

We consider time spent in the mundane as our time.

- We spend a considerable part of work day in the mundane
- We spend a greater part of our “away from work” time in the mundane
- Every task we do has mundane time associated with it
- Time spent between tasks may occur in the mundane
- Time spent alone is more susceptible to being in the mundane
- Many JSA, SOP, OJT, Task specific analysis programs, are still unaware of the impact of the mundane on
 - Safety
 - Loss management
 - Etc.



A good safety program can control mundane tasks.

You did it to yourself

To A Point

We did it to you



You simply “went away”

TIME TO DO THE DISHES



Integrating Safety into the Mundane Behavioral Safety Now 2010



Pay attention to the leading Indicators

How many times have dishes slipped?

- Almost every time I do the dishes.
- Why did it slip this time?
 - I wasn't paying attention?
- Why wasn't I paying attention?
 - Because I was listening to the radio.

I bet I know what you're thinking!



If you are aware of the leading indicators, You've already collected the data you need. The challenge is, properly interpreting the data.

- Turn off the radio?
 - Makes a boring job more boring
 - Speeds you up to finish the task
 - May result in more “wandering of the mind”
 - May result in focusing the mind completely away from the task.

Properly interpret the data



Be aware of the leading indicators and ACTIVELY ENGAGE

Time to do the dishes!

- Planning before “Going Away” re-engages your safety brain
- Actively engage when you turn on the radio
 - “I know that glasses slip”
- Actively engage when you turn on the water
 - “I know that glasses slip”
- Actively engage when you pick up the dishes
 - “I know that glasses slip”



Reinforce by informing others

- Reinforce good behavior by reminding.
 - **Actively Engage** to remind ourselves
 - **Actively Engage** to reinforce the cultural aspect
 - The more people **Actively Engaged** the more attention is paid to the mundane.



The difficulty is in controlling the mundane BETWEEN tasks.



The difficulty is in controlling the mundane BETWEEN tasks.

- This is when we often “Go Away”
- This is when we tend to pay no attention to leading indicators
- This is when we do tend to ignore minor injuries or losses
- This is when REAL injuries/Lose occurs

Are Safety habits all they are cracked up to be?

Dictionary.com 1st definition of “Habit” noun

1. an acquired behavior pattern regularly followed until it *has become almost involuntary*

Habit vs. Active Awareness

A habitual response to a known hazard prepares us for that particular hazard

- Limited in scope
- Hazard specific
- hazard control are limited to our personal depth of experience
- Limited temporal value (hazard control is specific to “that” hazard at that time)

Active awareness re-engages our safety brain

- Puts us into “What If?” mode
- Not hazard specific
- Expands awareness because we actively re-engaged our safety brain



Habit vs. Active Awareness

Checking for toys on stairs is a habit of parents with young children

They'd be better served by taking time for active awareness & to *Actively Engage*



Habit vs. Active Awareness

- Toys are not the whole issue. STAIRS ARE
 - “TOYS” prepares us for the hazard of toys
 - “Stairs” prepares us of hazards of stairs.
 - “The habit of “toys” does not engage us for “Stairs”
 - Actively engaging for “Stairs” prepares us for safely using the stairs.



Identify the Scope of Work and Actively Engage (STOP & THINK)

If we don't STOP to THINK about WHY we do something we may stop evaluating the hazard and not be prepared for hazard control in all situations.

- Wear your Safety belt OR Actively Engage to consider “Why” we wear safety belts
- Put on PPE or Actively Engage to consider “Why” we put on PPE
- Look both ways before entering traffic or Actively Engage to consider “All” traffic

Actively Engaging Opens our Minds to the Unexpected

- Remembering the Leading Indicators raises our awareness and prepares us for what has occurred in similar situations.
- Reinforcing by reminding embeds the process in our minds and adds societal awareness to our culture



Integrating safety into the mundane

Active awareness re-engages our safety brain

- Remember the leading indicators & *Actively Engage* .
 - How many times has a glass slipped? *Actively Engage*
 - When you turn on the radio, *Actively Engage* .
- Reinforce good behavior by reminding your coworker.
 - *Actively Engage* to remind ourselves
 - *Actively Engage* to reinforce the cultural aspect



Integrating safety into the mundane

- Create awareness of self observation
- Talk about the everyday leading indicators
- Reinforce the 24/7 concerns of “going away”
- Focus observational discussions on “the mundane”
- Continue to direct observations into smaller slices of the pie.
- Look for aspects of the mundane in investigations.
- Reinforce awareness of the leading indicators in the mundane



Work Safe!



OR I'LL TELL YOUR MOTHER