

SMILE AND CARE

(YOUR NEWSLETTER FROM CGAS)

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IMPORTANCE OF NATIONAL SAFETY WEEK

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We are celebrating 50th National Safety Week with the theme "Learn from Disaster and prepare for a safety Future." The National Safety Council understood the importance of safety in the workplace and established 4th March 1972 as National Safety Day to increase awareness on industrial safety among various stakeholders.

It is time to look at how the Industrial safety scenario has changed in the last half century. The time is ripe for introspection on the need to shift from Occupational Health & Safety and Process Safety to Community Safety. Pandemic, Cyclones, Tsunami, Cyber Attacks, Floods and Earthquakes have reinforced the need for industries to work collectively with the community for its own survival and also for the survival of the surrounding community. Similarly, usage of new technology is bringing its own set of challenges and the need for re-training and re-skilling of our workforce to keep the workplaces safe and productive. These changes emphasise the need for

regular review of our commitment to safety, re-align the workforce to emerging risks and repeated communication that risks do not go away, they change their shape and form. Hence, it is important to continue celebrating the days like National Safety Day. National Safety Day has grown into a week-long event during which the National Safety Council ensures safety and health are integrated into the work culture and lifestyle of Indian companies.

Approach in Celebrating National Safety Week

During National Safety Week, participation by maximum number of workers in safety awareness exercises are encouraged. Employers can make workplaces safer by stressing the OHS needs of employees. Based on the theme, various activities like competitions include essay writing, slogans, creating safety posters, suggestions, Safety exhibitions ,emergency drills , safety suggestions from employees about how future accidents can be prevented are organized with proper motivation by giving the rewards and recognition to the participants & winners during the week . During National Safety Week, safety enters the collective conscious of workers allowing them to internalise the importance of safety. The celebrations must be held every year to ingrain in workers principles of workplace safety & to allow them to remain vigilant of possible workplace hazards.

Wishing all a very Happy Safety Week .

Views expressed here are of the Author and do not reflect official opinion and/or endorsement by Corporate Governance Advisory Services. He can be reached for any clarifications at lagadraj@hotmail.com.

"One of the first conditions of happiness is that the link between man and nature shall not be broken."

- Leo Tolstoy, famous Russian Writer

RECENT UPDATES

CGAS has been engaged in multiple assignments in the last few months in EHS Governance domain including Environment and Social Due Diligence, Legal Compliance Support, Integrated Management System support, Responsible Care RC 14001 Audits, etc. It has developed tools to ensure data reliability and retrievability and reduce the multiplicity of efforts for meeting the same requirements with multiple agencies like regulators, corporate auditors, external IMS auditors, etc.

LEARNING OF THE MONTH

AJAY SACHDEVA, CPEA, AcSAP
MANAGING DIRECTOR
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Improving Return on Investment in EHS

The need for judicious investment decisions has never been greater and its importance will keep growing with or without any pandemic disruption. I would like to share some of the areas from our recent experience that indicate potential areas for savings while implementing sound EHS Management Systems. In one case, the company lost its Quality Assurance (QA) personnel who was responsible for its Management System documentation. It also lost the soft copy of its documentation along with that because it was known only to that person. A simple discipline and regular check that documents are available on Shared Drives on Intranet or any other alternate system could have saved this. It led to the next QA professional spending two months in typing this from the hard copy. A simple reading from the hard copy using Microsoft Word in its latest version with "Dictate" feature could have saved at least 50% of the time. Also, other alternatives like scanning and

converting image or pdf document to Word would have saved much more time even if a paid version of Acrobat suite was taken. Similarly, many companies are spending large amount of EHS Software without adequately training the teams on how to use it. The lack of reliability of the data put into the system for compliance tracking and monitoring leads to hundreds of thousands and sometimes millions of rupees going waste and companies still get fined. In one case, the instances of groundwater extraction violation were not captured (intentionally or unintentionally) that led to closure of one of their units for a day. It also had to report this closure incident to Security Exchange Board of India (SEBI) leading to losses that could have been saved by using the tool judiciously.

The third example is that risk assessment is done multiple times in form of HAZOP, HIRA, PHA and Aspect-Impact Analysis for ISO 14001. Despite all these, the companies face a tough time when audits are carried out by investors through Environment and Social Governance (ESG) Assessors, and they start the whole exercise of risk assessment all over again. This leads to the wastage of resources. A cohesive Documentation Management System can help eliminate this multiplicity.

Above instances indicate some areas with a potential for improving results of investments being done on EHS.

Views expressed here are of the Managing Director of Corporate Governance Advisory Services. He can be reached for any clarifications at ajay@corpgov-advisory.com

ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES


EHS PROFESSIONALS

We are looking for part-time engagement of young EHS professionals with 5 to 7 years' experience to work on an entrepreneurial basis. They should have a good knowledge of management systems and legal requirements, comfort level with basic IT applications like Powerpoint, Word, Excel etc and acumen for proposal writing for Business Development.


Smile News

Shashank Moddhia from Mumbai launched offers affordable treatment for patients of kidney disease in Tier II and Tier III cities. Click 
[The Renal Project](#)

Care News

Mangaluru Cardiologist's WhatsApp group takes cardiac expertise to remote villages. Click 
[Cardiology at Doorsteps](#)

EHS News

105-year-old organic farmer from Coimbatore is celebrating her Padma Shri award. Click 
[Papammal runs her own organic farm](#)

EDITORIAL DESK



Ajay Sachdeva

V S Mathur

T S Sriram

Sanket Shah

MESSAGE

As we close the Indian fiscal year 2020-2021 by end of this month, things are looking bright for most of the sectors. We hope that we will also remember to take care of safety of our teams and carry forward the pledges that we take in March during National Safety Day celebrations.



Taking Responsibility with Smile

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE ADVISORY SERVICES

To Make "Smile and Care" a Key Enabler in the global arena of Corporate Governance

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