

BATTLING COMPLACENCY

Some people remember on the “old days” when production targets were placed higher than workplace safety.

In the past few decades, a greater emphasis on safety has resulted in many changes to the workplace with more focus placed on worker safety. Safety initiatives such as new technologies, regular updates to regulations and legislation, and implementing required safety protocols in the workplace has become the norm.

But those who have been working in the same job for years have had to make the biggest adjustments and adapt their routines and habits with safety top of mind.

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BC Forest Safety

Safety is good business

BATTLING COMPLACENCY

SAFETY CAN BE REDUNDANT



WHY SAFETY CAN BE REDUNDANT

Often, the same work tasks are performed and completed every day. Because of this, the safety issues and focusses are often the same - day in and day out. Discussions on safety will often focus on a handful of hazards for the work tasks scheduled for that day because these same hazards often are the ones that cause most incidents and injuries.

While discussing and focussing on the same hazards can seem redundant, it is important to never get complacent about them.

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We do many of our work tasks in the same way, every day. Yet paperwork is still filled out and safety issues for these tasks are still discussed. One of the most difficult things to avoid is complacency with regularly discussed and noted hazards and going through the motions with safety procedures to avoid them.

As time goes on, individuals become more confident in their abilities and knowledge at work and some people are willing to take more risks. This is a key reason why safety issues need to be constantly reinforced - even if it feels redundant to talk about them and you start feeling like a broken record.

Safety can be redundant at times, but it is important to emphasize with your crew that they need to understand the importance of workplace safety and be reminded to stay focused on making sure they work safely to keep themselves and others safe at work. The same old hazards are often the ones that cause injuries and pose just as much risk as any other.



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