



Lead by Example

John's Story

During the morning huddle in the trailer, the safety guy told us to use lifting equipment or get help from a coworker when we lift and move the wood beams so we don't hurt our backs or shoulders, since they weigh more than 50 pounds. But when we got onto the jobsite and started working, our foreman didn't know where the lifting equipment was and said our number one priority was to get the job done by the end of the day because we had to be on another jobsite tomorrow.

- Have you ever been in a similar situation?
- How do you think this foreman's actions might affect jobsite safety? What about the morale of the crew?
- What could this foreman have done to lead by example?

Frontline safety leaders Lead by Example when they...

- Follow all safety procedures and policies.
- Ensure the equipment or additional labor needed to do a job safely is available and used.
- Always consider the safety implications of the decisions they make on the job site.
- Set clear safety expectations every day for their crew.
- Reinforce the message that everyone owns safety.

Leadership actions we will practice today and every day:

➤ **As your frontline supervisor/foreman and safety leader, I will:**

- "Walk the talk" by always following safety procedures and safety policies.
- Make decisions that demonstrate I value safety and believe it goes hand in hand with productivity and quality of work.
- Make the contractor aware of any safety issues that come up that they need to take care of.

➤ **Crew members are also safety leaders and are expected to:**

- Follow all safe work practices and procedures.
- Immediately tell me if you see hazardous or unsafe conditions and provide suggestions on how to fix the issue.
- Immediately report to me any near miss or injury experienced by you or a coworker.
- Participate in keeping the jobsite safe.

Safety leaders have the courage to demonstrate they value safety by working and communicating with all team members to identify and limit hazardous situations even in the presence of other job pressures such as scheduling and costs.

©2019, CPWR-The Center for Construction Research and Training. All rights reserved. CPWR is the research and training arm of NABTU. Production of this document was supported by cooperative agreement OH 009762 from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH). The contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of NIOSH.



Lead by Example

Scan this QR code to access the FSL Lead by Example refresher video.



Everyone, from the company owner to the foreman to the new employee, should be a safety leader. Effective safety leadership can help prevent jobsite injuries and illnesses.