

Safety Culture & Maintaining Culture

We can be very proud of the safety improvements made in the forest industry. In general, safety data (including ACC claims data) points to fewer and less severe injuries. Loosing focus or undermining the hard work that everyone has shared in is not really an option.

Recently, we asked for a response on the following questions: Are there areas of safety culture that need to be highlighted and have you seen a breach of safety that reveals a lack of Leadership and Safety Culture?

Here are some of the responses...

- Safety is a team effort – some show leadership yet everyone needs to.
- Standards drop with lowered (or perceived lowered) levels of monitoring.
- Some do not consider others – creating hazard and risk e.g. poor road signage and irresponsible use of the RT.
- Supervisors (and their visitors) do not wear the PPE they should.
- Basic non-compliance is not dealt with.
- Mixed messages – e.g. ‘we do not care how (production) ...just get it!
- The emphasis is on ‘paper-work’ not on the things that make people safe.
- Auditing is not completed to the right standard and consistently.
- Training is necessary but often neglected.

What can you personally do to improve Safety Culture?

