

# Team Up for Safety



## You Can Be a Star Player

Teamwork means working together for a common goal. For teamwork to take place on the job, workers have to agree on the goal and on ways to work together to achieve that goal. Take a few minutes now to consider how you and your co-workers can team up to achieve a safer working environment.

### *Agree on the Goal*

When a team goes out on the playing field, they have to agree on the goal to play the game. The same is true in the workplace. You and your co-workers have to agree that safety is a goal. And you must make sure that other goals do not conflict with your safety goal—for example, you don't want to cut corners on safety to meet a tight deadline. Do your part to establish safety as a goal: Talk about safety and its importance with your co-workers, both in safety meetings and on the job. Remember that your attitude and actions tell others how you feel about safety.


### *Work Together*

Think about what could happen if there were a serious accident in your workplace: loss of income, work slowdown, injuries, even death. Each person in the company depends on the others, so everyone needs to work together to create a safe workplace. Communication is the key to work together effectively. Take an interest in your co-workers and get to know their safety needs. What can you do to reinforce the safety of those you work with? What can they do to make your work safer?

### *Your Role*

Unsafe conditions are accidents waiting to happen. When you see a spill, an obstruction, something broken, leaking chemicals or equipment out of order, it's your turn to

carry the ball: Take steps to correct the situation so that your "team" won't suffer a setback. Talk about the problem with your co-workers so it won't happen again. Report hazards you can't fix to your supervisor. And because you're an important player on your team, don't take chances with your own safety: Use correct procedures and equipment at all times.

Teamwork takes practice. But the benefits of safety are well worth the effort. 

**Team up with  
your co-workers  
to achieve a  
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