



Preventing Workplace Incidents: A Collective Responsibility

We have all heard, "It was a matter of time." This expression is often associated with both positive and negative events. While it can convey well-deserved promotions, it is also used to describe workplace injuries that could have been avoided. As members of this company, it is crucial to recognize that safety is a shared responsibility. We must work together to prevent accidents and hazards in our workplace. Let us explore ways we can proactively address risky behaviors and existing hazards to provide a safer and healthier work environment.

RISKS AMONG COLLEAGUES

When we notice a colleague taking unnecessary risks, we should consider it our concern as well. A workplace injury not only affects the individual involved but also impacts the entire team and operations. Here is what you can do:

1. **Speak up:** Do not hesitate to address risky behaviors when you witness them. By doing so, you contribute to a culture of safety and accountability within our company.
2. **Communicate with the worker:** Approach your colleague and discuss the importance of following safety protocols. Remind them that working safely not only protects them but also safeguards their family and fellow coworkers.
3. **Involve supervisors:** If your attempts to address the issue directly are not successful, escalate the matter to a safety manager or your immediate supervisor. Bring it to the attention of the right people for timely action.

HANDLING EXISTING HAZARDS

In some instances, the phrase "it was a matter of time" is related to unaddressed hazards in our work areas. As employees, we play a vital role in identifying and mitigating these risks:

1. **Collaborate with management:** Work together with management to identify and eliminate or reduce workplace hazards. If your direct supervisor isn't responsive, reach out to higher levels of management.
2. **Take proactive measures:** While waiting for hazards to be addressed, take action to minimize your exposure to risks. Inform your colleagues about potential hazards and suggest ways to avoid them.

Preventing accidents and maintaining a safe work environment requires a collective effort. By taking proactive steps to address risky behaviors and unaddressed hazards, we can avoid ever having to say, "It was a matter of time" in relation to a workplace injury. Let us remember that injuries affect us all, and as a united team, we can create a safer workplace for ourselves, our families, and our coworkers. Together, we can make a positive impact on the well-being of our company and everyone within it. Stay safe, stay alert, and remember that safety is everyone's responsibility.

---. "It Was a Matter of Time." Safety Talk Ideas, Dec. 2022, www.safetyspeakideas.com/safetytalks/it-was-a-matter-of-time.

QUANDEL IS COMMITTED TO OUR NUMBER ONE CORE VALUE:
SAFETY: FIRST. LAST. ALWAYS!