TOOLBOX TALK

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Stop Work Authority

At Quandel, every employee on-site possesses the authority to initiate a "Stop Work" protocol. This allows them to halt their tasks should they encounter any potential hazards or circumstances that might risk their safety or that of their co-workers.

The ability to stop working when exposed to danger or the inability to perform a task safely is of utmost importance. While many organizations stress the importance of the Stop Work practice, numerous employees may still be weary of following these actions. These reservations can be attributed to various factors:

- Apprehension of retribution from superiors
- A desire to avoid conflicts with colleagues
- Concerns about being labeled a "snitch"
- Concerns about slowing workflow

It can be difficult to stop work for safety reasons. However, it should be communicated that this is acceptable and encouraged. At Quandel, we stress the importance of being able to suspend work.

You have the option to report a safety concern to a superintendent or project manager if you feel unsafe about it. In cases where you believe there may be repercussions, you should be able to approach someone who can address the issue without revealing who originally reported it. Alternatively, you can also reach out to corporate safety.

REASONS TO STOP WORK

- Ensuring personal and co-worker safety
- Preventing equipment or property damage
- Preserving the company's reputation

SITUATIONS IN WHICH STOPPING WORK IS NECESSARY

- Unexpected hazards
- Lacking access to tools or equipment
- Misaligned tools leading to potential accidents
- Lack of understanding task
- Insufficient knowledge or training

These are just a few situations where stopping work is necessary. It is crucial for employees to feel comfortable stopping work in order to complete tasks safely.

Often times, the solution to enhancing safety and efficiency is straightforward. You have the power to make a positive impact and decide to stop work when required, even though it may feel uncomfortable to do so. Keep in mind that it is far more distressing for everyone to deal with an accident rather than a temporary pause.

INJURIES YOU CAN PREVENT WITH STOP WORK AUTHORITY

You can prevent all types of injuries by using the Stop Work Authority. These include:

- · Cuts and lacerations from sharp objects
- Falls from elevated heights
- Hot surfaces and/or chemical burns
- Slips and trips

This list is just a few, as there are various other potential injuries that can be prevented through the implementation of the Stop Work Authority.

Remember. You are responsible for your safety and the safety of others. You also have the right to stop a coworker if you see them working unsafely.

---. "Stopping Work." Safety Talk Ideas, Dec. 2022, www.safetytalkideas.com/safetytalks/stopping-

