

DE ED C ACC DE A B E
E B E

Working in construction inherently poses a higher risk of on-



C

C

A prevention strategy is important for construction safety. Part of the prevention strategy is constant communication that ensures operations run smoothly from a project's beginning to final inspection. Hosting daily huddles and weekly jobsite meetings help ensure that everything is running on time and to-plan.

During pre-install meetings, the team should address upcoming safety issues or high-risk work activities that are at least six weeks out, providing time to plan for necessary changes. These can include trenching and excavation, steel erection, crane activities, hot work, and helicopter picks. Make sure all necessary materials such as respirators, fall protection equipment, etc., are on hand.

Other important safety activities to include in the communication plan are jobsite safety walks, subcontractor huddles, safety inspection reports, and quarterly safety bulletins.

B

C


Creating a safety culture requires a lot of forethought and buy-in from top leaders to the on-site crew. A safety-first mindset needs to be integrated into the culture from day one and throughout the job — and that takes planning.

A safety culture starts with construction teams actively listening to stakeholders to learn new ways to improve safety protocols. It's also essential to work directly with project owners to ensure safety practices are thoroughly outlined and followed. Creating longstanding relationships of trust with subcontractors also has a major impact on this process.

Create jobsite-specific safety plans during the preconstruction phase of each project. This will help identify potential hazards and safety concerns. Workers who feel like they have had a part in building or improving the safety culture from the beginning will feel more invested and are more likely to take it seriously. Everyone involved in the project should feel empowered to raise concerns and know they will be heard. Make sure safety rules are clearly outlined, and each crew member understands the consequences should someone fail to follow the rules.

Every construction firm's goal should be to ensure that employees, subcontractors, and clients return home to their families safely each evening. To achieve this high standard, organizations need to prioritize training beyond a one-time event. Leaders should track industry trends and thoroughly review any losses to refine safety practices.

Safety incentives can also reward workers for following safe working practices. Reward programs should be simple, reinforce safety protocols, and allow for consistent feedback to employees.

Leaders who integrate safety into every facet of projects, communicate often, and build a safety culture with continuous learning and rewards should see noticeable improvements in their overall safety practices. 



About the Author

Jim Janquart is senior field safety specialist for Riley Construction and can be reached at jimj@rileycon.com. Visit rileycon.com.

About the Article

Republished from [Construction Business Owner](#). Construction Business Owner (CBO) is the leading business magazine for contractors and is designed to help owners of construction firms run successful businesses. Founded in 2004, CBO provides real-world business management education and knowledge that is of real value to the owners of construction companies.

Any views and opinions expressed in this article may or may not reflect the views and opinions of the Construction Management Association of America (CMAA). By publishing this piece, CMAA is not expressing endorsement of the individual, the article, or their association, organization, or company.