



# Everyone Goes Home “SAFE”!

## LOOKING OUT FOR ONE ANOTHER

**Everyone Goes Home Safe** can't be achieved if we simply ask ourselves whether or not we got hurt at the end of the day. Asking, “Did we get hurt?” That is the wrong question! Asking, “Did we accept at-risk behaviors for ourselves and others today?” That is the right question to ask.

To help us ensure that **Everyone Goes Home Safe**, there are three simple questions we need to ask ourselves daily. We must answer honestly yes or no in our heart of hearts, there is no room for sort of, kind of, or almost answers. The three simple questions are:

- (1) Did I put myself or others at risk by the way I worked in the process, in the use of tools, or in the use of equipment?
- (2) Did I see a co-worker at risk or a condition that poses a risk and remain silent when I could have intervened?
- (3) Did I deviate from established procedures or permit requirements while performing my duties?

If you can honestly answer all three of these questions with a “No”, congratulations and thank you! You really are **Going Home Safe** at the end of the day and you are helping others do the same. But, not everyone can say this.

If you honestly answered one or more of the questions with a “Yes”, then you aren't going home safe, and you aren't alone.

All of us struggle with these issues, sometimes without even being aware that we are putting ourselves at risk. When we do accept risk we are **Going Home Lucky** and there is a big

difference. Of course, sooner or later your luck will change and that is what we can't afford.

I'm sure everyone knows at least one person who can't answer these questions with a NO every day. More than likely, it's the person we see when we look in the mirror. Let's focus on that person first. Sometimes it's as basic as making a hurried left turn at a busy intersection when we could have waited an extra 20 seconds for traffic to clear. Perhaps it is using a slightly damaged ladder to access some equipment for a quick visual check. Or, maybe it is being in a hurry and using a modified or the wrong tool for a job. It could be not completing or following the JSA or permit processes for one reason or another.

Whatever it may be, at some point in our lives every single one of us has done something like this before, at work or at home. We all know what the possible outcomes are from these examples and neither of them are SAFE, just lucky or unlucky. When you commit to accepting an unsafe condition, you are no longer in control. Luck takes over and we gamble on the outcome. To overcome luck we must commit ourselves to consistently working to reduce risk and answer the three questions with a firm NO every single day.

Do you look out for your co-worker? Why don't co-workers tell another co-worker he's not wearing specific PPE as required by permit? Example: There were 3 workers observed working in a corrosive identified area, sign posted “Goggles Required in This Area” and the permit requiring goggles to perform the work and yet one person removes his goggles and nothing is mentioned by his co-workers. It's corrected only after the safety person approaches him to don his



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goggles. A true Brother's Keeper would immediately remind his co-worker of the importance of the PPE requirements.