Navajo Engineering & Construction Authority

Volume 4, Issue 4 January 2017

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"Setting small, attainable goals throughout the year, instead of a singular, overwhelming goal on January 1st, can help you reach whatever it is you strive for."

New Year's Safety Resolution

It's that time of the year again. How are you going to make your workplace safer, and what will you do to ensure your resolutions actually sticks.

Majority of us fail to achieve our resolutions, and many of us fail before the end of January. Our reasons for failure vary, but often it comes down to unrealistic goal-setting or trying to do too much at one time.

With that in mind, here are a few tips on setting your New Year's resolutions, and how to apply them to your workplace.

- <u>Start small</u>. Rather than simply trying to make the entire work area safer, focus on one particular hazard of concern.
- <u>Change one behavior</u> <u>at a time</u>. You can't



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change a person's behavior or safety culture overnight. Focus on the actions that most likely contribute to the hazard.

- <u>Talk about it</u>. Any goal set in a vacuum won't be achieved. Effectively communicate both your goal and your plan to achieve it.
- <u>Don't beat yourself up</u>. Mistakes can happen, but that doesn't mean

your resolution is blown. Figure out why an incident occurred and take appropriate steps to fix it.

 <u>Don't be afraid to ask</u> <u>for support</u>. Your safety can't improve without support from your supervisors and management. Sell safety to everyone to get support for your resolutions.

What to Look For

The following trainings and events are scheduled to January 2017.

At this time no trainings have been confirmed. As trainings are set up, a memorandum will be sent through the Foremen Folders.

1/27/2017 - Foremen's Annual Meeting. Place TBA.

All classes start at 8am. Employee times and cards will be charged to your project.

To sign-up, get approval from your supervisor. Call or leave message at (505) 368-3031 for more information.



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Murphy's Law.

If you're not sure what Murphy's Law is, it's simply just this:

"ANYTHING THAT CAN GO WRONG WILL GO WRONG"

How many times at work have you had a Murphy's Law experience? Just when it's important that things go right something goes wrong.

- Your boss will always call you, when you aren't at your desk.
- You will always be caught, usually the first time you do something others have been getting away with.
- Your current boss is the worst you've ever had, until the next one arrives.
- When your coworkers absolutely guarantee they'll take care of your duties while you're on vacation, they won't.
- If you come late to work, the chances are, your boss is already at work.
- When you are convinced everything works just fine, you are overlooking something.
- Left to themselves, things tend to go from bad to worse.
- Whenever you set out to do something, something else must be done first.
- Any time you put an item in a "safe place", it will never be seen again.
- Great ideas are never remembered, while dumb statements are never forgotten.
- Your child's recital or game, same day as your huge presentation at work that you cannot miss.
- People are always available for work in the past tense.

So what can you do about Murphy's Law?

- <u>First</u> Accept that there will be a Murphy's Law moment. It's inevitable. Something will go wrong when you need it to go right. When it does happen, regardless of the situation, look at it in a positive light. Don't throw around blame. See if you can take the situation in a positive direction.
- <u>Second</u> Use the 'ole Boy Scout Motto: **Be Prepared**. If something important is coming up, run through your head all of the things that can go wrong. Trying to understand what can go wrong can help you build contingencies should Murphy's Law strike.

CONGRATULATIONS

NECA would like to recognize the following work crews. These crews have reached their goal of Safe Man-hours worked during the months of November or December. Each member of these work crews will be receiving a Safety Award as a token of appreciation for working safe. NECA thanks you for your dedication and hard work.

Continue to work safe.

- 507 Michael Redhorse
- 602 Mark Nelson
- 607 Andrew Yazzie
- 615 Thomas Tso
- 616 Ray Begay
- 617 Ernest Dan
- 619 Kantor Tso
- 620 Jones John

- 300 Larrison Tom
- 301 Eric Draven
- 302 Fred Hardy
- 303 Randy Begay
- 304 Norman Morgan
 - Terrence Nelson
- 402 Chris Yazzie
- Main Building

305

Cary Patterson

"It is important that you keep yourself safe to prevent injury or illness."

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Facing 2017

As we enter a 2017 we should let go of 2016 by looking forward to a new start by throwing out the old. It is this time of the year many people make New Year Resolutions. People make resolutions to; lose weight, eat less, eat healthier, quit smoking, drink less alcohol, etc... . Most people keep their resolutions for about a week, then return to old habits.

To make the resolution work, one must make resolutions that are attainable. Don't make too many all at once. Start small and simple, and be realistic. Don't make a sudden lifestyle change. Being unrealistic can cause you stress. While considering your resolution, think as why you are making this resolution. Once you have answered this question, then remind yourself of the positive outcome.

Studies show that it takes at least 30 times to form a new habit. So consistency is very important in keeping a resolution. If you resolve to get in better shape, then you need to schedule yourself at the gym or a workout at the same time each day. Getting used to the new routine becomes easier as time passes.

Here are some simple attainable resolutions: be kinder and greet everybody at work with a nice big, "Good Morning", especially to Tabitha; make my boss's work easier by submitting all the required paperwork on time, this'll really Marsha, Vada, Janice, Wendy and Vanessa happy too; and think safety to work safely.

So if you have made your resolution keep up the good work and may you achieve your goal. Now if you've already broken your resolution, pick up the pieces and start over. Get in the habit.

HAVE A HAPPY SAFE NEW YEAR!



"Protect Yourself, Get Educated"

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"Workers have the right to be safe on the job and to speak up if they are concerned about hazardous conditions."

THINKING ABOUT SAFETY

This what a shale material collapse looks like and the damage it can cause.

