

VOLTS NEWSLETTER

Valuing Our Lives Through Safety

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Safety Leadership is Personal—Casey Draper



As we're submersing ourselves into "full-blown outage mode" and our attention is focused on the immediate tasks at hand, remember...safety is *everyone's* responsibility. For many, the roles, responsibilities, and perspectives may shift during the outage from our typical departmental responsibilities; but for others, it's just business as usual during another spring outage full of long, strenuous days.

No matter your situation or your given role for the 2022 spring outage, you have the opportunity to improve your safety and the safety of those around you! Recently, I participated in an interactive webinar that really drove home the concept that safety is personal. According to Larry Russell, Principal Consultant for DEKRA Organizational Safety and Reliability, "improving safety really comes from the bottom up and the top down within your organization" (2020). He asked "What does safety leadership really look like?" and "What does safety really mean?" He goes on to list some of the possible answers that may be given by employees in any organization. "Safety can be a burden, a requirement, a priority, or a value." Safety leadership "empowers people, inspires people; it can lead the charge to a shared vision."

At IPSC, it's well known that not all "safety leaders" have a title. Some of the most influential safety leaders on site are the men and women who continuously hold safety as one of their core values. These individuals are a driving force for our safety culture at IPSC. And yes, whether intended or not, these individuals are seen as "safety leaders" among their crew members and coworkers. While their opinions on safe work practices and relatable work experiences may differ slightly, their true intentions are to improve safety for themselves and others.

While it's up to you to determine what your personal safety vision is, some key elements described by leading industry safety professionals are listed below:

- Speak up when you see a threat to safety.
 - ⇒ Anyone and everyone has "stop-work authority" when a hazardous situation appears imminent.
 - ⇒ Don't wait to see if "luck" is on their side. Speak up or ask a question if you see a safety concern. Observations are a great way to increase the chances that hazards are identified, mitigated, and/or controlled.
- Actively participate in Tailgate meetings, Pre-Job Safety briefings, and Safety contacts.
 - ⇒ Help conduct or enhance safety meetings by asking the right questions that tap into previous experiences.
 - ⇒ Help communicate, collaborate, and engage in conversations about specific job-related exposures.
 - ⇒ Supervisors, move away from safety sermons and toward safety conversations with those involved.
 - ⇒ Engage in safety contacts before or during tasks that involve critical exposures.
- Incident and Injury Reporting.
 - ⇒ Reporting incidents and injuries are essential to raising an organization's awareness level about unknown exposures.
 - ⇒ Incident and injury reports are great resources to improve communication and ask questions about exposures and threats in the workplace.
 - ⇒ Take action rather than simply mentioning something unusual. An incident report prompts organizations to take immediate action toward resolutions.



Safety Leadership is Personal—Casey Draper (cont.)

Over the past several years, IPSC has seen some great improvements in our overall safety culture. Much of that improvement is credited to the involvement and efforts made by supervisors and employees embracing the *safety -always* mindset of behavior-based safety. Even though our minds and efforts may be focused on the critical and difficult tasks at hand, take the time to perform an observation and contribute to your safety and that of your coworkers.

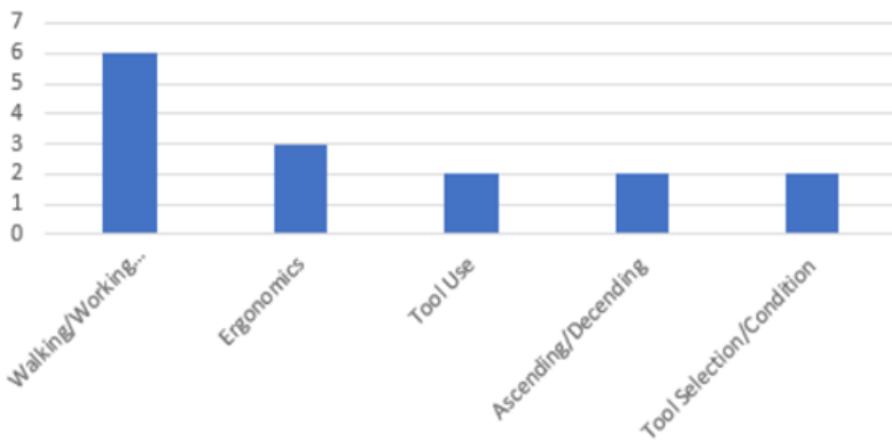
Nominate a safety leader for the 2022 Outage Safety in Action Award.

References

- Russell, L. (2020). *Your personal safety vision*. <https://www.dekra.us/en/organizational-safety-reliability/webinars-archive/#element118609020>
- Wardle, B. (March 2022). *Reporting incidents & injuries*. Supervising Safety Newsletter.

VOLTS Data Report—Casey Draper

February 2022 Top 5 At-Risk Exposures Observed



Total February Observations

316

IPSC Employee Contact Rate

0.94

Safety Performance Measure
Maintain the Contact Rate of 1 on a Monthly Basis

IPSC Employee Observation Quality



2022 Outage Safety in Action Award Nomination Form

(Please detach form and submit it in one of the VOLTS observation card drop boxes or give to a VOLTS Steering Committee member.)

Nominee Name _____

Please give three reasons or examples of how this person is a role model for working safely or helping others to work safely.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Signed (Nominator): _____