

VOLTS News

Valuing Our Lives
Through Safety

March 2023—Volume 112

VOLTS Data Report for February

Total Observations:	369
IPSC Emp. Contact Rate:	1.15
Total Safe Behaviors:	2,779
Total At-Risk Behaviors:	39

Protected Exposures

- Focus on Task
- Eyes on Path
- Required PPE

At-Risk Exposures

- Walking/Working Surfaces
- Required PPE
- Lifting/Lowering Help

VOLTS Steering Committee Members

Casey Draper, Facilitator

Amy White, Secretary/Editor

Alan Wood

Brandon Webb

Bryan Chapman

Dusty Smith

Joe Pruitt

Rod Moore

T.J. Taylor

Van Beckstrom, Jr.

Mark Shipley, Sponsor

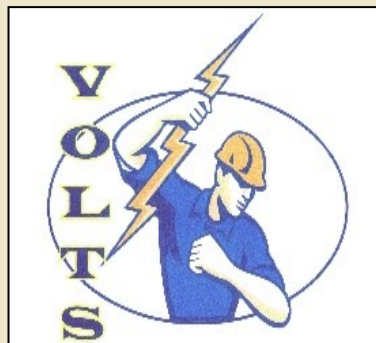


Protective Behaviors and Exposure Focus by Casey Draper

When dealing with preventable injuries in the workplace, there are often specific causes of the problem that can be identified through different types of analyses. These analyses can be utilized to dig deeper into the problem and help answer the question: Why did this problem occur? Once the problem is identified, a plan of action can be put into place that can influence the behavior to reduce the chance of the problem or event from happening again. Analyzing the *desired* behavior first can lead to understanding what contributing factors drive the positive or negative consequence.

Why focus on behavior?

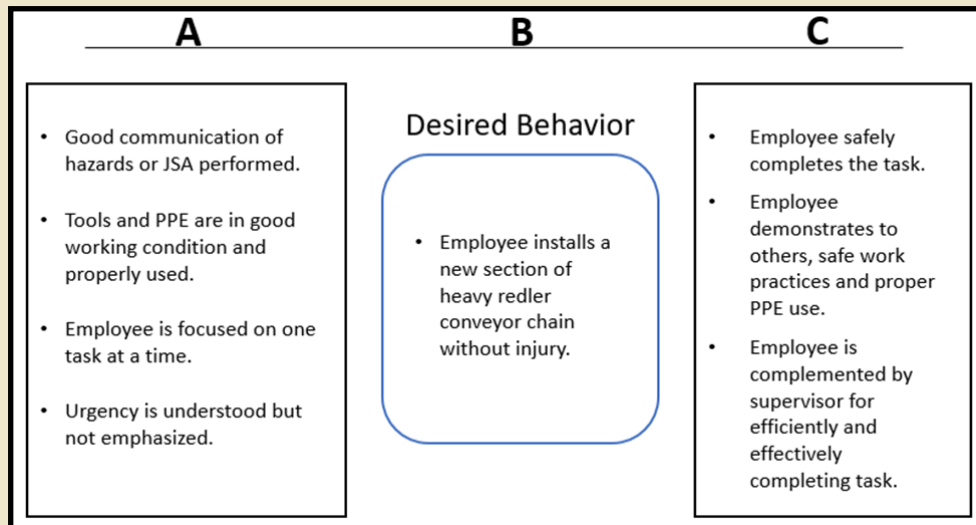
- Behavior is observable, visible to others, and can be reliably measured.
- Behavior is relevant to exposure and injury.
 - ⇒ A definition of safety is controlling exposure for yourself and others.
 - ⇒ Exposures consist of conditions, systems, procedures, and at-risk behaviors.
- Behavior can be described in very specific terms such as, “the employee made eye contact with the equipment operator.”
- Being specific allows behavior to be observable and measurable.
- Behavior is influenced by the preceding events and the positive or negative consequences that reinforce the behavior.



What's your why?
Do an observation today!

Protective Behaviors and Exposure Focus by Casey Draper (cont.)

Learning Activity: A B C Analysis (Analyze the **desired** behavior)



By trying to identify and understand the driving factors that influence the consequences, we can better understand how to influence the desired work behaviors that help keep ourselves and others injury free.

VOLTS Critical Exposure Identification Activity: Pinch-Point/Caught-Between Exposures



1. What is the danger with this exposure? _____

- Minor: cut, bruises, blisters, contusions
- Serious: lacerations, broken bones, amputations, and even death

2. Where do we see examples of this exposure? _____

- Rotating mechanical parts, gears, sprockets, chain drives, and pulley drives

3. What protective behaviors can we apply to control this exposure? _____

- Properly use Lock-out/Tag-out or energy isolation
- Do not operate equipment or machinery without required guards or shields
- Keep all body parts out of the path of moving objects
- Keep hands, fingers, and feet away from the area between parts that are closing or may close together on the body
- Avoid reaching into blind areas

- Use leather work gloves when needed along with all other appropriate PPE

We can better protect ourselves and others by having a better understanding of what drives protective behaviors and having exposure focus in mind. Although it may not be possible to completely remove every exposure we encounter, we can help mitigate the results and protect ourselves by wearing and using the proper PPE.

Historically, pinch-point and caught-between injuries have been some of the most documented injuries at IPSC. With the upcoming spring outage, the likelihood of increased exposure or potential injury is certain.

Helping others to prevent injuries and return home safely is the **Why** for many of us at IPSC. The VOLTS Steering Committee encourages you to work safely this outage.