

How to expand safety when your project is compressed

A new solution to the old problem of safety at short-term work projects

Whether it be a construction project, a turnaround or a cleanup, all short-term work sites suffer from the same problem: a lot of different people from a lot of different companies trying to be safe under tight restrictions. These kind of work sites are a safety leader's nightmare. How do you keep people safe when everyone working on a site has different priorities and different pressures pushing them to meet deadlines?

The key is managing exposures and creating a climate for safety. DEKRA is now offering a solution that addresses both of these issues head-on and with quick, tangible results. By using it, short-term project leaders can affect real safety gains in a narrow timeframe and do so without taxing resources. This is how our unique blend of scientific rigor and people-focused methodology can bring operational reliability to your short-term workforce.



How we do it

Educate Leadership

Leaders lay the foundation for employee ownership of personal safety and the safety of others. They encourage workers to buy in to safety activities and develop a value for doing their work in the right way, at the right time, for the right reason. So, DEKRA's solution starts with educating the project's leaders on what kind of exposures exist on the site and how to manage them.

Identify Critical Exposures

Exposure often leads to incidents. Moving without looking, using irregular paths of travel, and walking under a suspended load are just a few of the exposures that often lead to problems on short term work projects. Identifying these exposures is critical to ensuring safer outcomes and fewer incidents. In this solution, DEKRA targets the high-frequency exposures with severe-injury potential at your work site and educates your leaders and workers on what they can do to eliminate them.

Create an Engagement Team to Gather Data

In a short amount of time (as little as a week), project leaders can train a cadre of individuals to go into the field with the purpose of observing for and mitigating exposures that put people at risk. This group can be responsible for engaging with employees and contractors, communicating safe practices, behaviors and procedures, and monitoring high-risk activities to ensure reliability and employee safety.

Foster a Safety-First Mindset

Identifying exposures and providing feedback on behavior gets people focused on safety and cultivates an informed and adaptive workforce. A recent study of our process out of the University of Cambridge Judge Business School found that a dedicated group of observers familiar with the work being done is the best tool for improving frontline response to exposure. Once trained, the engagement team is ideally suited to perform this role as they go about capturing data on the exposures that are being encountered by the workforce. This data is invaluable. It allows you, on a daily basis, to make changes in the way your work is done and to focus on hot spots. It gives leadership a view into the true safety on the project.

Furthermore, when employees see leaders supporting this effort – removing hazards, identifying risks, listening to employee safety concerns, and holding daily meetings to address exposure – they know the organization is putting their wellbeing above everything else. Displaying this type of leadership can have a transformative impact on the climate and retain safety-conscious workers who want to continue working for a company committed to zero injuries. This is how organizations develop a safety culture across projects.

We can do it together.

With this approach, we can help you clear the safety hurdles present in these work sites and expand your safety even when your project is compressed.



About Us

We are consultants and business partners to many of the world's largest chemical, oil and gas, transportation, utility, pharmaceutical, and agriculture companies. Through a transformational approach, we guide clients in evolving both their organizational culture and their operational environment, enabling them to reduce exposures and injuries, save lives, protect assets—and in the process, achieve higher performance. DEKRA represents the collective expertise of our legacy businesses, each an institution in safety.