

Attitude Dimensions of Safety: 16 Reasons Why Employees Sometimes Ignore Safety Procedures

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1. “It can’t happen.”
 2. “It can’t be prevented.”
 3. “It can’t happen to me.”
 4. “I don’t know how.”
 5. “You can’t scare me.”
 6. “I’m terrified.”
 7. “I know I should but it’s a pain.”
 8. “I’m an exception.”
 9. “This situation is an exception.”
 10. “In the real world it’s flexibility that counts.”
 11. “Okay, we’ll do it by the book.”
 12. “That’s not my culture.”
 13. “My friends would laugh at me.”
 14. “My boss doesn’t mean it about safety.”
 15. “Management is sending a double message.”
 16. “Screw ‘em all.”
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For more about my take on this issue, see:

- Motivated Inattention and Safety Management (Oct 2001) – www.psandman.com/articles/psandman3.pdf
- Workplace safety – how organizational culture affects whether employees take risk seriously (Nov 2001) – www.psandman.com/gst2001.htm#snow
- Beyond Duct Tape (Mar 2003) – www.ishn.com/CDA/ArticleInformation/features/BNP_Features_Item/0,2162,95965,00.html
- Peter Sandman on Safety, Part Two (Aug 2003) – www.psandman.com/articles/ishn2.htm
- Selling Safety: Business Case or Values Case? (Sept 2005) – www.psandman.com/articles/sellsafe.pdf

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