



Health and Safety Focus Drives Productivity and Cuts Costs

Thought Leadership Report

If you could save money, improve productivity, and increase employee morale, would you?

Health and Safety Focus Drives Productivity and Cuts Cost

Nearly every organization we have met or worked with has a strategic plan, and many have a focus on the safety and health of their workforce. Few however, have integrated a focus on safety and health into their strategic plans, and fewer still pursue their safety and health endeavors with a full understanding of how to embed those improvements into the culture of the organization. Those that have aligned their safety and health focus strategically and culturally are seeing immediate and sustainable productivity gains and cost reductions by reducing lost time circumstances and improving the insurability of the workplace. MainStream GS aligns strategy with health and culture by implementing a Safety and Health Management System.

Lost productivity from injuries and illnesses costs organizations \$60 billion each year

Injuries and illnesses increase workers' compensation and retraining costs, absenteeism and faulty product, all of which drain productivity, morale and profits. The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) estimates businesses spend \$170 billion a year on costs associated with occupational injuries and illnesses -- expenditures that come straight out of the bottom line. But workplaces that establish safety and health management systems can reduce their injury and illness costs by 20 to 40 percent. In today's business environment, these costs can be the difference between operating in the black and operating in the red. We've seen huge gains in large corporations, complex government industrial environments and small manufacturing and health care organizations by implementing such a system.

Implement Effective Safety and Health Management Systems

OSHA's Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) promote effective worksite-based safety and health. In the VPP, management, labor and OSHA establish cooperative relationships at workplaces that have implemented a comprehensive safety and health management system. Approval into VPP is OSHA's official recognition of the outstanding efforts of employers and employees who have achieved exemplary occupational safety and health.



Helping Your Organization Prepare for VPP

In practice, VPP sets performance-based criteria for a managed safety and health system, invites sites to apply and then assesses applicants against these criteria. OSHA's verification includes an application review and a rigorous onsite evaluation by a team of OSHA safety and health experts. MainStream GS Certified Safety Professionals CSP's can help you prepare for OSHA's VPP Program and pursuing Star Status referenced below:

OSHA Star Status: Recognition for employers and employees who demonstrate exemplary achievement in the prevention and control of occupational safety and health hazards the development, implementation and continuous improvement of their safety and health management system.

MainStream GS is available for a consultation today to help you understand if VPP and Safety and Health Management Systems are right for you. Contact MainStream GS at info@mainstreamgs.com or 877-785-4888.

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