WHY SAFETY PLANS?

The greater the risk of accident and injury and/or the more complex and variable the activity the more essential the need for a safety plan that is detailed, well documented, broadly communicated and closely monitored for compliance. This is well recognized by all experts in safety management as well as the casualty insurance industry (see the Hartford Insurance Group Model Safety Program). The safety programs documented in safety plans include processes to (1) assure and demonstrate Board and executive management commitment to safety; (2) management structure, policies and procedures (including dedicated safety managers, improvement committees and compliance monitoring); (3) operational policies, procedures, practices, methods and materials. **Measurable standards are essential to effective safety plans and programs**

Many high risk industries have in the past resisted the development of detailed safety plans, including aviation, automobile manufacturing, healthcare and construction among others. Safety Planning and documented plans have now become essential components of their safety programs and have contributed to dramatic reductions in the frequency of accidents and injuries.