

GRAIN FACILITY & CONTRACTOR SAFETY / RESPONSIBILITIES

By Larry Jackson, Adams Building Contractors, Chino Valley, AZ and Roger Dowdy, Consultant, Woodlawn, IL

1. DEVELOP A RELATIONSHIP:

- Facility Safety Requirements
 - Do your homework
 - Contractor used before?
 - References – safety record, accident rating, job quality, equipped for job?
 - Do they have safety program?
 - What are their communications skills like?

2. TRAINING

- Facility Required Training
 - Training of Contractor employees of Plant Safety Program
 - Written record of training
 - Review again of Plant Safety Program
 - Conduct plant and/or job site training
- Contractor Required Training
 - Work closely with facility to ensure contractor employees fully understand the Facility Safety Program
 - Contractor will “meet” or “exceed” facility safety training requirements
 - Contractor employees should be trained also on OSHA regulations as well as contractor safety regulations
 - Contractor Facility Orientation should include: map of facility; design of new construction & location; emergency contact numbers; environmental hazards; underground and overhead utility lines (gas, water, electrical, sewer, etc.); daily communication/discussion; phone/radio contact for emergency situations

3. DEALING WITH EMERGENCY SITUATIONS

- Facility Requirements / Responsibilities
 - Understanding ALL emergency procedures
 - Who is in charge of emergency situation
 - Training responsibilities
- Contractor Requirements / Responsibilities
 - Discuss/understand the Facility Emergency Procedures/Responsibilities
 - Discuss/understand the Contractor Emergency Procedures/Responsibilities

- Know/share through daily discussions what work is being done today – change in conditions can result in what emergency action may require
- All accident, injuries, incidents will be reported and investigated and corrective action taken before continuing work in the area where occurred

4. DEVELOPING/UNDERSTANDING FACILITY SECURITY

- Facility Security Requirements/Responsibilities
 - Share facility plan with contractor
 - Securing of Contractor equipment
 - Control of keys to facility
 - Training of overall Facility Security Plan
- Contractor Security Requirements/Responsibilities
 - Establish restricted work area
 - Follow/understand Facility Security Plan
 - Contractor employees report to designated area before shift & after shift
 - All equipment & personal items should be locked up at end of each shift or Facility Management advised if different

5. APPROPRIATE INSURANCE COVERAGE

- Facility Requirements
 - Check with Risk Management Department to determine proper coverage or check with your insurance carrier
 - Advise contractor what is required
 - Ask contractor if there will be a problem to get the required coverage
 - Check history of Insurance Company & rating
- Contractor Requirements
 - Discuss with Facility Rep as to what is required
 - Review coverage together
 - Determine if Special Coverage will be required, i.e., Builders Risk, Environmental

6. FACILITY / CONTRACTOR MEETINGS

- Facility Requirements
 - Make available cell phone numbers for work & after hours
 - Ask contractor to attend Facility Safety Meetings
 - Conduct daily meetings between Contractor & Facility Management
 - Discuss special work to be performed, i.e.: overhead electrical, etc.
 - Input should be from Facility Rep & Contractor at all meetings – not one sided
- Contractor Requirements
 - Meet, discuss, monitor, record, info from daily/weekly meetings
 - Evaluate current / future plans of project as to how it can effect safety requirements

- Advise facility of any new contractor employees

7. SAFETY OR PRODUCTION?

In closing, as you can see whether you are a Contractor or operate the Facility, safety is required! We need to create a safe working atmosphere for all employees. Our interest should be in making safety financially feasible, because if we do not, safety will not exist.

Production is a very important demand in our industry; however, workers safety, community safety, and facility safety should be given top priority. IN LIFE AS IN BASEBALL...IT IS THE NUMBER OF TIMES YOU REACH HOME SAFELY THAT COUNTS.

There was a time in the not too distant past, when as an industry, we did not feel the two were compatible. This has been proven to be a myth. There have actually been documented situations when Safety “improves” Production.

With this in mind, the Contractor and the Facility can agree to work safely together to satisfy the production demands.