

Thinking Differently About Health & Safety: Successful Partnerships That Make A Difference

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An effective approach towards eliminating and controlling occupational safety and health hazards within the workplace demands a cooperative approach through the engagement of various partners that exist within any jurisdiction. Although enforcement is positioned as an important motivator, sustainable success is exhibited through the successful integration of prevention resources.

Applied prevention resource intervention strategies, such as: injury/illnesses information, general and task specific training strategies, safety and health management consultation, and technical evaluations act as informational tools and methodologies that guide workplace parties towards solutions. These resources must reflect a comprehensive approach whereby the traditional physical work environment is of equal importance to the psychosocial work environment and health practices. A continuous improvement managed system approach will assist workplaces to integrate this prevention information into their business strategies.

The Ontario Canada model of a cooperative effort is a successful example of various key jurisdictional partners working together towards a common goal. For Example: Standard setting, communication, and enforcement; compensation, return to work and disability management; and injury / illness prevention resource agencies working together with labour and employers to create healthier workplaces.