Encourage Workers to Participate in the Program

When you set up a safety and health program, your workers can be your most valuable asset.

- Workers often know the most about workplace hazards.
- Workers may be able to recommend simple, effective solutions.

When workers are consulted, they will feel valued and involved. But you might need to encourage them to offer their ideas. You can take several steps to create an environment where workers are comfortable speaking up and contributing their ideas:

- 1. Include worker participation in your safety and health policy (Worksheet 1WP_1a).
- 2. Inform workers of their rights under the OSH Act of 1970 (Worksheet 1WP_1b).
- 3. Give workers opportunities to participate in the program (Worksheet 1WP_1c).
- 4. Give workers the time and resources they need to participate (Worksheet 1WP_1d).

To-Do

□ Make sure your policy highlights the value of worker participation and input.

Include worker participation in your safety and health policy

Work with your team of "safety champions" to review your safety and health policy (see Management Leadership, Worksheet 1ML_1b). Make sure the policy includes at least one positive statement about worker participation, such as:

- "Many of the best ideas come from our workers."
- "We encourage workers to participate in all parts of our safety and health program."
- "Our program will only work if we get everyone's input and experience."

Your statement:

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