

Encourage Workers to Participate in the Program

Step 1. Include worker participation in your safety and health policy **Step 2.** Inform workers of their rights under the OSH Act of 1970

Your workers can be your most valuable asset when setting up your safety and health program:

- Workers often know the most about potential hazards associated with their jobs and in the workplace.

To Do

Make sure your policy highlights the value of worker participation and input to your program

• Workers may also be able to recommend simple, effective solutions.

When workers are consulted, they feel valued and will have a sense of ownership in the program. But you might need to encourage them to offer their input. You can take several steps to create an environment where workers are comfortable speaking up and contributing their ideas:

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

Safety and health programs are a proven way to prevent workplace injuries, illnesses, and deaths. For the program to be effective, everyone in your business should understand why improving safety and health is important.

Review your policy with your team of "safety champions". Make sure the policy includes one or more positive statements about worker participation, such as:

- "Many of the best ideas come from our workers."
- "We encourage workers to participate in all aspects of our safety and health program."
- "Our program will only succeed if it reflects the input and experience of our whole workforce."

Your statement:

www.osha.gov/safeandsound