

# Prevention is Our Intention

Issued February 2004

Safety Partnership Group

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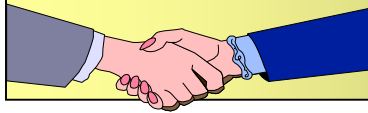
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# Safety Partnership



Zero incidents by choice through  
Partnerships for Safety...

## SAFETY PARTNERSHIP FEBRUARY FORUM



### ROB ELLIS BRINGS WORKPLACE SAFETY MESSAGE TO SARNIA

Rob Ellis, an outspoken advocate for workplace safety, is bringing his message to the Lambton Safety Partnership Forum and St. Christopher Secondary School on February 12th. He'll be available for media interviews and media are invited to attend his presentations.

Mr. Ellis founded Our Youth at Work in February 1999, soon after he lost his 18-year-old son, David, in a workplace accident. Since that time Rob Ellis has sold his business in order to devote his time to educating youth, parents, unions and businesses about the importance of workplace safety and injury prevention. Our Youth at Work has a target of reaching 2400 schools and 60 College and Universities in Ontario.

Mr. Ellis was a key spokesperson for the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board's *Safety Starts With You* workplace safety campaign. His commitment to this cause has him taking his message to receptive audiences across the province.

## ONE DAY AT THE IEC

GREAT HILL...HOW ABOUT  
INSTALLING A CHAIRLIFT?



Many drivers are not cleaning  
the snow off their cars!  
This is an example of  
"At Risk" Behaviour

## Safety Partnership FEBRUARY FORUM

The Safety Partnership Forum is scheduled for Thursday February 12<sup>th</sup> at the Lambton Inn (formerly the Euro-Can Hotel and Convention Centre) starting at 7:30 am.

## ZERO in DECEMBER

There were no Contractor Recordable Injuries in December. And yes there were a significant number of hours worked that month!

Congratulations to ALL workers for achieving this milestone.  
Zero is possible!

# Death of a Safety Initiative

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## Communication – A Key Ingredient in Achieving Outstanding Safety Performance

John Barnfield and Shelley Brown of the IEC recently lead a session on the “Critical Role of Leadership in Achieving Outstanding Safety Performance” for approximately 200 members of the Ontario General Contractors Association at their January Safety Group meeting.

In an interactive exercise, “Death of a Safety Initiative,” participants identified that one of the *key* ingredients to achieving outstanding safety performance is communication, effective, two-way communication between managers/supervisors & workers.

This month we highlight the foundation programs in our Leadership and Workforce Development Series:

- ⇒ **Interaction Management Essentials** (for front-line leaders & supervisors)
- ⇒ **Interaction Skills for Success** (for the general workforce)

These courses focus on the skills needed to be both efficient and effective when communicating, and at the same time maintain strong working relationships.

To assess the effectiveness of communication in your organization, consider the following: Do supervisors have the necessary communication/interaction skills to help achieve outstanding safety performance? Are they “catalyst” leaders – able to spark actions in others? Do they provide effective feedback to workers on safe and at-risk behaviours?

Similarly, do workers have the required communication/interaction skills to work well together, reduce wasted time, misunderstandings, and contribute to achieving outstanding safety performance?

The IEC’s Interaction Management Essentials and Interaction Skills for Success courses can help supervisors & workers improve their communication/interaction skills. Check out the schedule of upcoming courses including course descriptions, pricing, and dates on our website under “Courses Booking Now.” For more in-depth information click on “**Leadership Development.**”

For further information, contact Shelley Brown, People Skills Development Coordinator at 383-7025, e-mail [shelleyb@sarniasafety.com](mailto:shelleyb@sarniasafety.com) or fax 383-1305.

## CONGRATULATIONS TERRA COURTRIGHT 2003 Safety Performance

A note from Alan Nixon to  
Terra Employees

This year 2003 we finished with a recordable injury rate of zero. In other words we have had no lost time incidents or medical treatment injuries through the year.

In addition to this achievement, in late December we surpassed one million hours worked without a lost time injury. This is, by any measure, a world class achievement and with the small work force at Terra, it took three years to achieve this.

This type of performance does not just happen. We have put considerable effort into safety improvement over the last several years and have focused, in particular, on personal behavior and systems and procedures.

It is my belief that this effort is beginning to pay off and I would like to thank you all for your continuing involvement and support - the next milestone will be 2 million hours!

### Editor’s Note:

We want to thank Alan Nixon for sharing this good news from Terra. This proves Zero injuries is possible.

## SUPERVISORY TRAINING

A new supervisory class has been developed to replace the old “green book” test. This class will be offered initially Tuesday afternoon and Thursday morning each week. The course material covers the role of the supervisor with respect to our Best Practices. This class will promote an exchange of ideas between the supervisors and the instructor. There has been keen interest in this class so please book your session early. This class is a requirement even if you have already completed the CSAO Supervisory course.

**Gas Fireplace Safety Bulletin:** With frigid temperatures taking place this week, Safe Kids Canada is reminding parents to protect young children from dangerous sources of heat that can cause severe burns.

Most children burn their hands and fingers from contact with the glass on the front of the fireplace. This happens when toddlers fall towards the gas fireplace and push up against the hot glass for balance or touch the glass out of curiosity. The glass barrier can heat up to over 200°C (400°F) in six minutes and it takes 45 minutes for the fireplace to cool to a safe temperature after the fire has been switched off.

My own child, when learning to walk, touched the glass on our new gas- fireplace, which resulted in a terrible burn to the palm of his hand. We now use a fire screen to protect our young ones from this kind of injury.