

LOSS CONTROL TOOL CHEST

Does Your Company Have Time For An Accident?

If there are ten people in a work area and one is sent to the clinic for a cut finger, the following is an estimate of the time the department would lose:

EVENT	ACTION	TIME	CUMULATIVE TIME
1.	One employee injured	30 minutes	30 minutes
2.	Eight employees quit working while injured employee is in area	8 X 30 minutes	4 hours & 30 minutes
3.	One employee/supervisor to transport injured employee to clinic	2 X 2 hours	8 hours & 30 minutes
4.	Supervisor provides update to employees on condition of injured employee	9 X 15 minutes	10 hours & 45 minutes
5.	The injured employee returns to the work area and discusses the experience	10 X 30 minutes	15 hours & 45 minutes
6.	Supervisor interviews employee and witnesses	10 X 15 minutes	18 hours & 15 minutes
7.	Supervisor completes accident investigation form	30 minutes	18 hours & 45 minutes
8.	Department manager reviews and distributes form	15 minutes	19 hours
9.	Safety manager reviews form	15 minutes	19 hours & 15 minutes

Do you have the time or budget to waste almost 20 hours on an accident?

This does not account for additional departments or people who must become involved in accident reporting and investigation, including Human Resources and the Safety Committee who spend time on evaluating accident causes and corrective action, implementing changes and following up.

In addition, if an employee loses time from work, more costs are incurred such as indemnity payments, replacing that employee and training someone to do that employee's job temporarily while they are off work, inefficiency while the new employee is becoming familiar with the work and environment and other employees getting to know the new employee to be able to work with him or her.

This is a very short list of costs incurred in an accident. Focusing on and controlling your current and historical employee accidents and working closely with your Pacific Comp Loss Control department, are your first steps to improving the productivity of your company. Accidents are worth preventing!