

SAFETY RELATED COMMUNICATIONS

Establish strong lines of communication to raise awareness about potential safety hazards.

Effective safety messaging includes:

- Clear topics of awareness that improve overall safety;
- Communicating and promoting trust throughout the railroad to ensure safety when potential hazards exist;
- Establishing a point of contact to call for resolution if a hazardous condition is spotted;
- Offer preventative actions to take if conditions are observed;
- Relate messages back to safety and how to avoid injury or accident;
- May generally relate to previous learning opportunities where a hazard was present and fixed.

The Ten Core Elements of a Strong Safety Culture

The importance of safety related communications in building a strong safety culture is described in several of the SLSI's Ten Core Elements of a Strong Safety Culture. Below is number seven as an example.

7. There is Open and Effective Communication Across the Railroad

Employees must feel comfortable communicating to their supervisors about safety issues and communicating with their peers when they see unsafe behaviors. If the railroad is not communicating the importance of safety and encouraging their employees to speak up about safety then safety risks are more likely to develop and less likely to be addressed before an accident occurs.