

Seven Core Elements of CONSTRUCTION SAFETY MANAGEMENT

OSHA has identified the following seven core elements of an effective safety management program in construction.

1 MANAGEMENT LEADERSHIP

Top management demonstrates commitment to hazard elimination and continuously improving safety and health at the workplace, communicates that commitment to workers, and sets the expectations and responsibilities of your safety and health management program. In addition, managers at all levels make safety and health a core value, establish safety and health goals, provide adequate resources and support for the program, and set good examples for safety and health.



2 WORKER PARTICIPATION

Workers and their representatives are involved in all aspects of the program; all workers, including contractors and temporary workers, understand their roles and responsibilities and how to carry those out; and all obstacles to employee participation are removed.



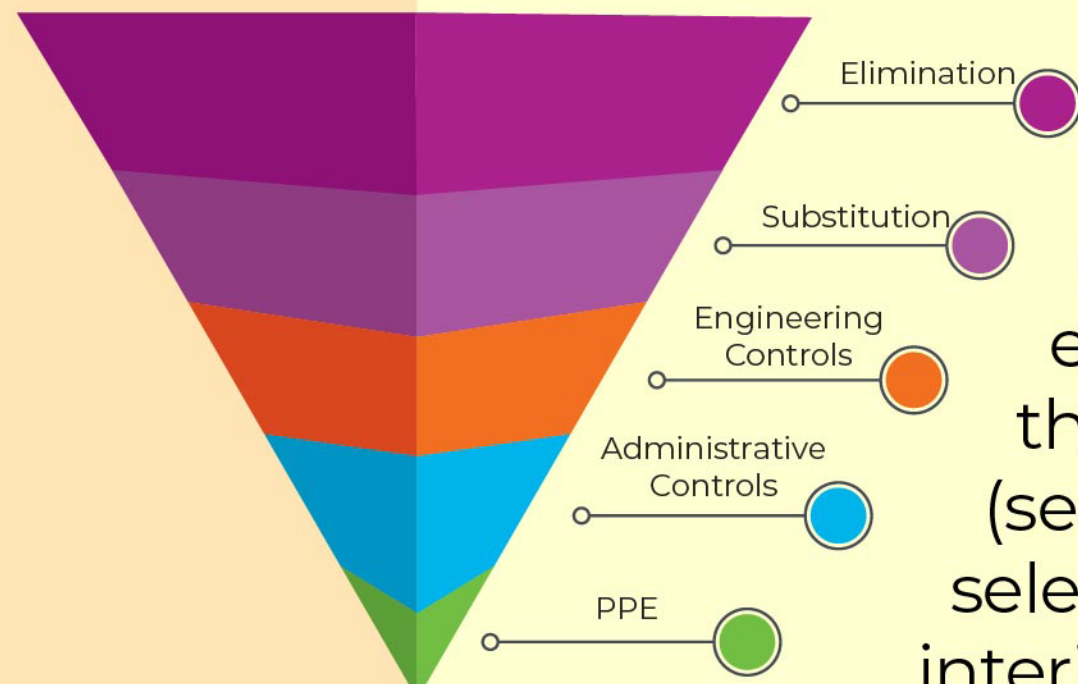
3 HAZARD ID & ASSESSMENT

Put procedures in place to constantly identify hazards and evaluate risks; identify and assess safety and health hazards from routine, non-routine, and emergency situations; follow initial assessment of existing hazards, exposures, and control measures with periodic inspections and reassessments to identify new hazards; investigate any incidents with goal of identifying root cause; prioritize identified hazards for control.



4 HAZARD PREVENTION & CONTROL

Employers and workers cooperate to identify and select methods for hazard elimination, prevention, or control; use the hierarchy of controls to select controls (see image); develop a plan to ensure selected controls are implemented, provide interim protection when necessary, track progress, and verify control is effective.



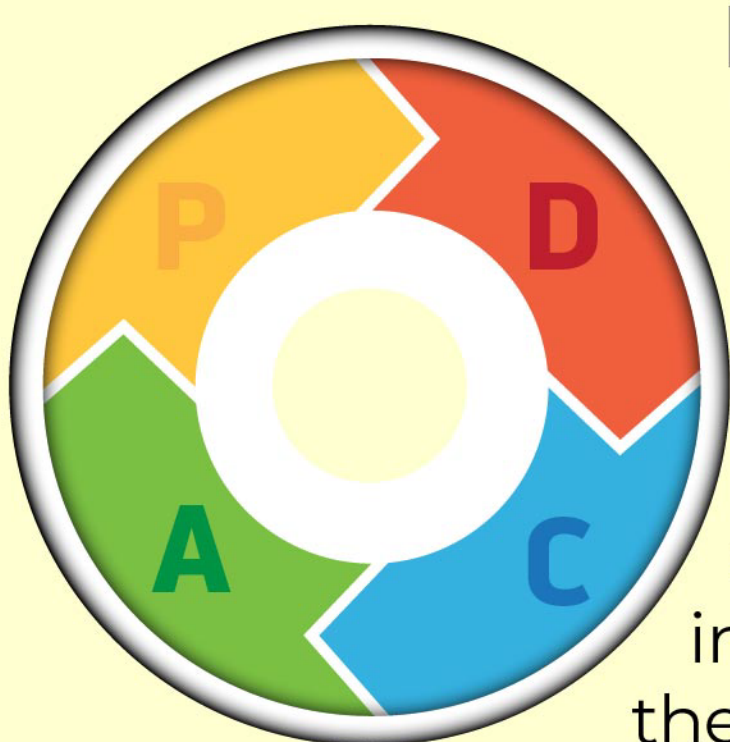
5 EDUCATION & TRAINING

Train all workers to understand how your safety and health management program works and how to complete their responsibilities under the program; make sure employers, managers, and supervisors receive training on safety concepts and their responsibility for protecting workers' rights and responding to workers' reports and concerns; train all workers to recognize workplace hazards and to understand control measures that have been implemented.



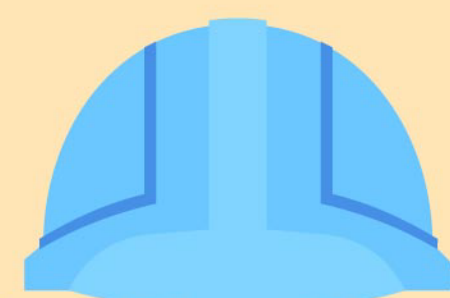
6 PROGRAM EVALUATION & IMPROVEMENT

Periodically evaluate control measures for effectiveness; establish processes to monitor program performance, verify program implementation, and identify program shortcomings and opportunities for improvement; take actions necessary to improve the program and the organization's overall safety and health performance.



7 COMMUNICATION & COORDINATION FOR EMPLOYERS ON MULTIEMPLOYER WORKSITES

Have general contractors, contractors, and staffing agencies commit to providing the same level of safety and health protection to all employees; have general contractors, contractors, subcontractors, and staffing agencies communicate the hazards present at the worksite and the hazards that the work of contractors may create on site; have general contractors establish specifications and qualifications for contractors and staffing agencies; before work begins, have general contractors, contractors, and staffing agencies coordinate on work planning and scheduling to identify and resolve any conflicts that could impact safety and health.



Source: OSHA 3866, Recommended Practices for Safety & Health Programs in Construction, <http://bit.ly/OSHACSM3866>