

Notes for ToolBox Talk Leader

The third key concept you need to make sure everyone understands from Unit 1 is that no one is ever trying to get hurt. Most injuries occur when we ‘unexpectedly’ come in contact with hazardous energy. Review workbook pages 13–19 for more information and examples on this concept. A typical explanation you can use:

“There are really only three sources of these ‘unexpected’ events: we do something that gets us hurt (the self area), someone else does something that results in injury (the other guy), the equipment or systems we work with do something that gets us hurt (they break, malfunction, etc.). For almost everyone, the vast majority of lifetime injuries comes from the ‘self-area’—our own actions cause or contribute to the injury. As an example that illustrates this idea, almost everyone has stood up without looking and bumped their head on a kitchen cupboard door. Far fewer have had a cupboard door fall on their head because the hinges failed. Statistically, primary equipment failure is involved in fewer than 5% of all injuries.”

SafeStart Unit 1 – ToolBox Talks for Key Learning Points & Skill Development • Copyright © 2018 SafeStart

Injuries Occur When We Unexpectedly Come in Contact with Hazardous Energy
(review pages 13–19 in the Unit #1 Introduction & Overview Workbook)

Since we don't contact hazardous energy or get hurt on purpose, something unexpected must always happen when we get hurt. For almost everyone, the vast majority of their lifetime injuries have been the result of something unexpected occurring in the “self” area.

Three Sources of Unexpected

Self—your own actions cause or contribute to an incident/injury (falling asleep while driving)

Other People—someone else's behavior causes or contributes to an incident/injury (other person runs red light)

Equipment—something unexpected happens (traffic lights start working incorrectly without you or someone else being involved)

Self 85–95%

Other People 4–10%

Equipment less than 5%

“I can't think of a time it's been other people or equipment that injured me! I should ask my spouse.”

How would you explain this concept to your family, friends or work colleagues?

What real world examples would you use to help them to understand this concept better?
(Hint: Car accidents and how they occur are a common example of this concept)

Group questions to measure understanding and application of this concept:

1. How would you explain this concept to your family, friends, or work colleagues?
2. What real world examples would you use to help them understand this concept better? (e.g. car accidents and how they occur are a common example of this)

Your Work/Department specific questions/comments related to this concept:

Discuss each response as a group.