Safety Coordinator

The safety coordinator’s primary responsibility is to keep the loss of human and property resources to a minimum. The safety director is an individual capable of managing jobsite safety by providing safety training for employees, inspecting jobsites, correcting safety hazards found during regular inspections, managing workers’ compensation insurance processes, and ensuring that the company is in compliance with required Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety and health standards.

Education and Training

A college education is not essential although pertinent safety training courses are desirable. A good safety coordinator understands OSHA regulations and how they work in construction. He or she also has basic knowledge of construction operations, materials, and methods. Most safety directors have previous construction experience and a keen interest in construction safety.

Advancement Potential

Safety directors are often capable money makers and capable of working with individuals at all levels of the corporate ladder. The high cost of health care and expenses related to jobsite injuries, as well as the high cost of replacing and/or repairing a company’s resources including its property, equipment, and tools is prompting many construction companies to hire safety directors. Safety directors often advance to higher level management positions either in their company or in others.

Wage Averages for Ohio (Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2013)

Hourly: $23.54
Annual: $50,170
YEARS WORKING IN THE INDUSTRY?
I have been working in this industry for seven and I have been in safety for 15 years.

HOW DID YOU BEGIN YOUR CAREER?
I began my career in general industry, I had a role as quality and safety manager. I oversaw four locations.

WHAT ATTRACTED YOU TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY?
The construction industry began to make safety important and companies started to understand that each project starts with safety. I wanted to be a part of that movement and help make a difference in people’s lives.

WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT YOUR JOB?
I enjoy working with people and sharing information that can save their life.

BEST ADVICE
If I am granted the opportunity to teach people about safety, I should always start off asking them who is in charge of their safety. I will get all kinds of answers but, let them know they are in charge of their own safety!

BEST EXPERIENCE
Was in 2011 working on the Cleveland Medical Mart now known as the Global Center for Health Innovation. The opportunity to work on a project that large one that had safety challenges that safety professionals study for but never think you would be dealing with them all on a daily basis. I used my OSHA book daily which kept me on top of things that affected our work. Working with all trades and sharing information with other safety professionals was an experience that I will never forget.