

Injury Trends Tumble to 16-Year Low

Last year we published an article in this newsletter titled "Injury Trends Tumble to 15-Year Low." Twelve months later, all we need to do is change the numbers so 2008's good news is 2009's even better news. Bright Wood finished 2009 with a record-setting Total Case Incident Rate* (TCIR) of 3.6 (down from 4.9 in 2008 and 18 in 1993).

Side-by-side with TCIR is another safety performance breakthrough: Injury severity has also declined in the same 16-year period Bright Wood people have been using the STOP and STAR observation programs. Severity is

measured in 1) work days lost due to injury and 2) work days where tasks had to be modified.

The Lost Time Incident Rate (LTIR) took a noticeable and welcome dip in 2007. The downward trend has continued with LTIR coming in at 1.9 for 2009. Bright Wood folks achieved the best ever lost time performance in the second half of 2009. There were 138 days away from work from January to June and 251 modified workdays. From June to December, however, there were just eight lost workdays and 59 modified ones.

"This is dramatic for a company our size," John Robinson, Safety Coordi-

nator, said. John has tracked Bright Wood's safety performance since the mid-1990s so he knows the numbers inside and out, but sometimes the remarkable is best explained by the ordinary. John's ah-hah moment came when he downsized the log for tracking lost and modified workdays to a smaller binder. The 4" size was far too big for 2009's two-page log so he switched to a 1" binder with plenty of room to spare.

*The Total Case Incident Rate (TCIR) is a calculation of recordable injuries factoring in hours worked so that one year can be compared to another despite fluctuations in crew size. A TCIR of 40, for example, means that four people out of 10 have a chance of suffering a recordable injury.



Zero Recordable Injuries in 2009

Electrical Department	Fabrication & Machine Shop	Madras Plant 5	Madras Plant 6
Madras Plant 9	Madras Plant 12	Madras Plant 14	Maintenance
Pallet/Chipper Department	Purchasing Department	Receiving Department	Redmond Cut Plant
Redmond Fingerjoint Plant	Redmond Profile Wrap	Redmond Slicer I/II & Veneer Reclaim Plants	Saw Shop