

Manage Responsibilities for Loss Prevention

The basic responsibility for Loss Prevention in any organization must be assumed by top management if it is to be fulfilled in an effective manner.

Basically, Management's responsibilities can be broken down into three general areas:

1. To provide and maintain Safe Physical Conditions. (Safe place to work, safe vehicles, safe equipment, etc.). Fulfilling this responsibility must be a prerequisite to all other Loss Prevention efforts.
2. To provide Management Direction to Loss Prevention efforts. The object is to assign responsibility with accountability throughout the chain of command.
3. To provide adequate Management Controls for Loss Prevention. Loss Prevention and Efficiency go hand-in-hand. The same lack of management controls that results in accidents will also result in other operational problems.

The first responsibility is one imposed by Federal and State legislation as well as being a basic moral responsibility. The other two responsibilities are simply good management principles.

Management Involvement

The key to management involvement is to handle Loss Prevention the same as other operational concerns (Efficiency, Marketing, Productivity, Quality Control, etc.).

Just as in any other phase of your operation, Management involvement is necessary to make your Loss Prevention effort effective. The key is for Management to display active interest and concern for Loss Prevention throughout the entire operation.

Listed below are several methods of becoming actively involved.

1. Reviewing and taking executive action on good and poor accident records.
2. Requiring periodic reports as to the status and effectiveness of Loss Prevention efforts being carried out throughout the organization.
3. Taking safety performance into consideration in the overall evaluation of supervisory personnel.
4. Reviewing Loss Prevention activities during staff and operations meetings.
5. Reviewing supervisors' accident investigation reports and ensuring corrective action is taken promptly.
6. Following up on all employee and supervisory suggestions, recommendations, and complaints.
7. Making sure management personnel set a good example by following all company Loss Prevention procedures and rules.

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Contact your local Great American Loss Prevention Specialist for additional information.

The information presented in this publication is intended to provide guidance and is not intended as a legal interpretation of any federal, state or local laws, rules or regulations applicable to your business. The loss prevention information provided is intended only to assist policyholders in the management of potential loss producing conditions involving their premises and/or operations based on generally accepted safe practices. In providing such information, Great American does not warrant that all potential hazards or conditions have been evaluated or can be controlled. It is not intended as an offer to write insurance for such conditions or exposures. The liability of Great American Insurance Company and its affiliated insurers is limited to the terms, limits and conditions of the insurance policies underwritten by any of them.

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