

NCITEC Project Summary

Project Title: Effects of Safety Culture & Leadership on Accident Rates Among Transportation Workers

Principal Investigator: P. Sherry

Start Date: 7/16/2012

Completion Date: 12/16/2014

NCITEC Funds: \$80,000

Matching Funds: \$83,000

Project URL (if applicable):

Category (select at least one and at most five categories):

Safety & Human Factors, Freight Transportation

Project Description:

The research will consist of a project designed to develop a measure of corporate safety culture for a state department of transportation. The first step will be to conduct a thorough literature review to determine existing research measures and the theory supporting them. Second, we will identify a suitable partner (i.e. state department of transportation) to participate in the development and validation of a measure of corporate safety culture. Next, we will conduct focus groups to determine additional indicators of safety culture and leadership factors associated with effective safety culture to ensure that we have a practical and readily acceptable list of items for moving forward with a measure. Fourth, we will construct a measure of corporate culture and safety leadership that will be developed for administration on-line as well as paper and pencil. Fifth, the measure will be administered to the employees in different departments associated with various activities. Sixth, data on the accident rates associated with the various departments will be gathered. Seventh, statistical analyses will be conducted (e.g. profile analysis and one way analysis of variance) will be conducted to determine whether there are different accident rates associated with different scores on measures of safety culture. Eighth, conduct focus groups with stakeholders and incumbents to develop recommendations based on results. Ninth, results of meeting with stakeholders will be converted to recommendations for changes in the various departments. Ten, papers containing descriptions of the instrument and recommendations for improving safety culture will be delivered to industry specialists and papers will be submitted for presentation at TRB/TRF/APA and the final report delivered to NCITEC.