

FROM THE BENCH TO THE BOARDROOM

Managing Your Managers

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November 23rd 2017

What Keeps You Awake

The safety professionals' dilemma

“As a safety manager at a successful research facility, today’s been good for me. No one’s been trapped by machinery, crushed by a forklift or fallen to their death through a skylight. In fact, we haven’t even had a cut finger. On the health front, no one’s been diagnosed with work related cancer, asbestosis, or Legionnaires’ disease, and no one’s been off sick with stress or a back problem. There's been no spillage or waste misappropriation. It was the same yesterday; hopefully, it will be the same tomorrow. Just one worry: will I be promoted because my preventive work is so effective or selected for redundancy because I’m clearly not needed?”

Its All About You

Back to basics: what is our radiation safety role



- Lead
- Influence
- Train
- Persuade
- Challenge

- People
- Budget
- Equipment
- Space

You Must Know Your Arena

What does your board room look like?



Know Your Objective

Stay focussed



- Nice to have or business critical?
- Your responsibility or owned elsewhere?
- Quick and easy or complex and expensive?

The Answer Is...

So what is the question



Have all of the answers before you go into your Board Room

- Know your facts and state them
- Don't lobby in your Board Room
- Aim for at least 50% of the market

Its All About People

Or 3 legged dogs and love birds



Difficult Situations

It is ok to be wrong (occasionally)



- Clarity and integrity are essential
- We must believe in who we are for others to do the same
- Do not promise lightly
- Its ok to be wrong – with honesty and clarity
- Admit if you get it wrong and agree how to get back on track

In Summary



you don't
know it all

If we don't do this you could go to jail

However...

So I've been a director of a small company for almost 20 years. My whole time being the boss all I've heard "if that happens then you could go to prison".

Surely I can't be held responsible for every mistake someone makes in my company, can I?

I am wondering what the most likely reasons are for a director going to prison...

Shot a man in Reno, just to watch him die.
But when I hear that lonesome whistle blow,
I hang my head and cry.

there is this bloke that brought a massive yacht with the company money . He sold the business for a pound it then went skint and nobody knows if they will get their pension.

He is paying some back now but we are waiting for the cheque to clear even as I write...

So it looks as though you can get away with most things.
Why do you ask? What have you done?

- The number of company directors and managers prosecuted by the HSE in the year to 31 March 2016 was 46 (compared to 15 in the previous year);
- of the 46 prosecutions, 34 were found guilty and 12 were given prison sentences;
- with the longest prison sentence imposed at two years.

SHP October 2016