

Major Lessons Learnt in George's 37 Year Safety Career

- 1 It is often the relationships you build, not your technical skills, that determines success.
- 2 Do not take yourself too seriously as if you do you will have difficulty coping with the fact many will not share your passion for safety.
- 3 Use personal damage occurrences, not emotion, to guide your preventative efforts.
- 4 Be a life-long learner in a variety of fields, not just OHS.
- 5 Everything you do must pass the real world test.
- 6 Minimise the use of lecture-style presentations.
- 7 Challenging the status quo is a lot of fun and very satisfying, much better than putting up with fools and mediocrity. Being a bit of a stirrer is an admirable approach.
- 8 Do not get too focused on work, your family should come first.
- 9 If it is not face to face it is not communication.
- 10 Use humour whenever you can

A ex-manager of mine, who has a way with words, says the trouble with safety is that management and safety professionals sometimes engage in acts of public masturbation! I apologise if anyone finds the foregoing offensive but my belief is it is an admittedly crude, but accurate, way of describing some of the things I have seen happen in safety.

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