

National Safety Council, South Louisiana Chapter
68th Annual Meeting & Awards Banquet
Wednesday, 4/3/19
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Preventing and Managing Injuries and Malingering in the Workforce

Keynote Speaker: Richard W. Bunch, PhD, PT, CBES

Presentation Description

Today, the cost of injury, illness and loss of productivity among workers are skyrocketing as a result of improper job matching, poor ergonomics, and toxic psychosocial work environments. The pandemic of obesity and decline in physical fitness along with the impact of aging, polypharmacy, stress and comorbidities such as arthritis and diabetes have created unique challenges for engaging and retaining healthy and productive employees.

The direct and indirect costs of simply hiring blindly and reacting to preventable injuries after the hire is astounding. Research shows that 40-60% of employee injuries occur within one year of hire. Besides the enormous cost of lost work time, the issue of presenteeism, working while sick, is estimated to cost employers 60-130 billion dollars annually in lost productivity. In addition to improper matching of the employee to the job at the time of hire and upon return to work post injury/illness, the failure to provide proper ergonomics and a supportive organizational culture can lead to employees who are actively not engaged on the job. In such cases disengaged employees can sabotage the job, mangle, and hurt productivity.

In this seminar, Dr. Bunch will address specific methodologies that can be applied immediately to your organization that will help create an injury-free work environment, prevent or reduce malingering, and obtain optimum employee health and full engagement in the job.

Seminar Takeaways:

- Ergonomically design and bullet proof a fitness-for-duty testing program for new hires and return to work to be fully compliant with federal and state laws.
- Identify the key signs of malingering behavior.
- Use return to work fitness-for-duty tests to effectively accommodate disability and to identify and manage malingering behavior.
- Apply key ergonomic changes in the physical environment to prevent the most common disabling work injuries and malingering behaviors.
- Optimize the psychosocial work environment to promote employee engagement and reduce malingering behavior.

Bio:

Dr. Bunch attended West Point and received his PT and PhD degrees from LSU Medical Center. He is the CEO of WorkSaver Systems, which provides fitness-for-duty testing and ergonomics to industries nation-wide. He is also an Adjunct Associate Professor at Tulane University Medical Center where he teaches ergonomics.

Subject line for Email Invitation: Preventing Occupational Disability & Malingering