CORRECTING UNSAFE ACTS

with a peer can be awkward, especially if they have more experience than you. All employees take risks and make mistakes and all employees, regardless of job title or classification, are empowered to make safety corrections for other employees. If someone skips a safety step or is taking an unnecessary risk, it could result in injury.

Correcting a peer on a safety issue is a way of letting them know that you care about them and don't want them or anyone else to be injured. Some corrections are simple reminders while others are a training opportunity to share the safe way to conduct a task.

SIMPLE CORRECTIONS:

• Sometimes it's easy just to make a gesture to correct a coworker.

• Example: A co-worker is cutting broccoli without wearing a cut glove. You could point to your cut glove as a reminder or you can hand one to them. This simple gesture will remind them of the rule to wear a cut glove while using a knife.

COMPLEX CORRECTIONS:

• For a correction that is more complicated, use the 3 step process below:

  1. This is what I saw...
  2. This is why I'm concerned...
  3. State a better way...

  Example: "I saw you climbing on the shelf to reach something on the upper shelf. I'm concerned because you could fall and have an injury. If you use a step stool you will reach it easier and safer. I can show you where it is."

DEVELOP A SAFETY CULTURE

• If not you...then who? If you notice risky behavior and don't say anything, who will?
• Practice making corrections in a positive manner to lower the risks in your work area.
• If someone corrects you, thank them! They just prevented you from getting injured.
• Contact EHS to provide training and support in reducing at-risk behaviors.