NIRAPON

What Is a Culture of Safety?

A quick guide to the attributes and benefits

A safe workplace encompasses more than sound infrastructure and engineering. It includes having the right processes and mindsets in place to develop and maintain a sustainable culture of safety.

Culture is the ideas, customs, and social behaviors of a group of people or society.

Nirapon defines a factory with a culture of safety as:
One that positively, proactively prioritizes safety by managing hazards, controlling risks, maintaining a safe work environment, and empowering workers to play a key role in keeping their workplace safe. A culture of safety embraces the individual actions and collective mindset, values, and behaviors that make safety a shared responsibility.

A workplace with a culture of safety is committed to keeping people safe while they do their jobs.

Factories with a culture of safety do this by:
→ identifying and managing hazards
→ understanding and mitigating risks
→ creating regular maintenance schedules for equipment and machinery
→ establishing and evolving safe processes and practices
→ continuously educating workers about those processes and practices

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At factories with a culture of safety:

- **Safety is a core value.** It is part of the organization's identity and a top priority.
- **Everyone is responsible for safety.** Every individual, from top management to frontline workers, is actively committed to promoting and maintaining a safe work environment – and has the skills and knowledge to do so.
- **Employees feel empowered.** Workers voice safety concerns, report hazards, and participate in safety initiatives without fear of reprisal.
- **Education is part of the job.** Employee training and education is built into production schedules and daily routines.

  Safety education helps workers take ownership of their safety by giving them the knowledge, skills, and understanding to identify and mitigate potential hazards effectively. More than simply "what to do," safety education imparts the "why" of safety protocols, so workers can make informed decisions that keep themselves and the workplace safe.

A robust safety culture safeguards the organization and everyone in it.

Factories with a culture of safety tend to experience:

- fewer incidents and accidents
- less legal concerns
- fewer unexpected maintenance costs

Organizations with an established culture of safety often experience business benefits.

For factories with a culture of safety, these benefits can include:

- higher levels of worker satisfaction, productivity, and retention
- a healthier workforce
- improved overall performance
- a better reputation and stronger customer trust – which can attract more customers and deliver greater profit