

# Measuring the Impact of Voluntary Consensus Standards on Human Health and Safety

Two Case Studies:

#1. Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems Standards

#2. The Use of Leading Indicators in Standards

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World  
Standards  
Week

# A Quick Introduction on ASSP [American Society of Safety Professionals]

- American Society of Safety Professionals is a global association of almost 38,000 occupational safety and health professionals dedicated to creating safe work environments across all industries.
- For more than 100 years, ASSP has been at the forefront of helping occupational safety and health professionals protect people and property through their efforts to prevent workplace injuries, illnesses and fatalities.
- ASSP has approximately 120 American National Standards and ANSI registered technical reports addressing occupational safety and health

## And, Who am I...???

- Tim Fisher
- Director of Standards Development and Technical Services
- I have been at ASSP for twenty-seven years
- Have been in occupational safety and health since I was nineteen

## And, What is the Point...???

- Glad to be here and contribute
- This is a big topic – We get inquiries about this all of the time – Why should my organization use these standards and what is in it for us...???
- ASSP has had hundreds of inquiries on the use of standards to move safety and health forward
- Is there any data outside of ASSP talking about it?
- Yes there is – Two case studies for your review

# Two Case Studies – Showing what is the point...

## First Case Study – OHSMS Standards

- Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems Standard, [Z10 and ISO 45001]:
  - ✓ ASSP put together an extensive report addressing ROI and benefits
  - ✓ We believe that we have demonstrated solid reasons to implement these system based standards, but do acknowledge more has to be done
  - ✓ It has been distributed to over 10,000 requestors
  - ✓ Response has been completely positive
  - ✓ We are conducting an additional survey right now and initial data is supportive of our ROI paper

# Two Case Studies – Showing what is the point...

## First Case Study – OHSMS Standards - Continued

- Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems Standard, [Z10 and ISO 45001]:
  - ✓ The U.S. Department of Labor is finalizing a study on the ROI and benefits of implementing these standards
  - ✓ The U.S. Mine Safety and Health Administration just noted in one of its proposed rules of the benefits of these standards
  - ✓ Future private and public sector implementation of these standards

# Two Case Studies – Showing what is the point...

## First Case Study – OHSMS Standards - Continued

- Health and Safety Management Systems Standards are growing:
  - ✓ The United States historically has expressed concerns with management systems standards, but the concept is more globally accepted
  - ✓ The definition of risk – what is taking place and why it is so important
  - ✓ It is a repeat - Future private and public sector implementation of these standards

# Two Case Studies – Showing what is the point...

## Second Study – Leading Indicators Standards

- Leading Indicators for Health and Safety – Standards and Improvement:

- ✓ ASSP has its Z16 Committee for Lagging and Leading Indicators:

Scope: The Z16 Committee writes standards and technical reports addressing safety and health metrics and performance measures



# Two Case Studies – Showing what is the point...

## Second Study – Leading Indicators Standards

- What does the federal government [OSHA] say on the issue:

*“...Leading indicators can play a vital role in preventing worker fatalities, injuries, and illnesses and strengthening other safety and health outcomes in the workplace. Leading indicators are proactive and preventive measures that can shed light about the effectiveness of safety and health activities and reveal potential problems in a safety and health program....”*

# Two Case Studies – Showing what is the point...

## Second Study – Leading Indicators Standards

In terms of workplace safety and health, metrics are generally divided into two categories: leading indicators and lagging indicators. Lagging indicators, also known as outcome indicators, typically examine after-the-fact issues and include data such as OSHA injury and illness statistics. Leading indicators, on the other hand, tend to be measures of prevention and can be predictive or incentivizing. These could include redesigning workflows or installing machine guarding to improve the safety and health of the work environment.

# Two Case Studies – Showing what is the point...

## Second Study – Leading Indicators Standards

What our feedback from our work with Z16 and leading indicators indicates assistance with:

1. Preventing injuries and illnesses at your company
2. Reducing costs associated with adverse events
3. Improving safety and health performance
4. Increasing worker participation in safety initiatives

# Conclusion and Contact Information

For more information contact:

[www.assp.org](http://www.assp.org)

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