

## What a 'Cracker'!

B-Safe® is a Behavior-Based Safety process that creates a 'safety partnership' between wage roll employees and management to improve safety performance. Although the emphasis is on those injury causing behaviors identified from incident reports, associated outcomes include better communications, reduced incidents, and cost-savings from reduced operating costs.



Olefin 6 processes some 3m tonnes of hydrocarbon, and produces Olefins Ethylene, Propylene and Butadiene.

Prior to B-Safe® the plant had been 8 years without a reportable injury. However, people were still being hurt with 90% of injuries triggered by 'unsafe behaviours' and it was this aspect Olefins 6 wanted to improve.

The project began with an analysis of incident records for the previous two years. The safe behaviors identified from the analysis were placed on 'observation checklists'. These were approved by the workforce prior to use by trained observers.

Trained observers monitored people on the plant for 10-20 minutes a day, for two weeks to find out how safe people actually worked.



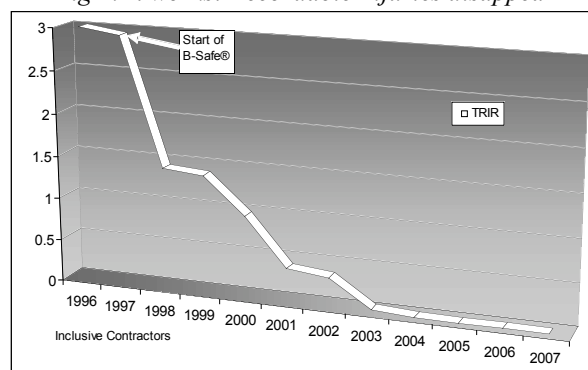
Once known, shift personnel set a safety improvement target to be achieved within six months. Observers continued to monitor daily and gave feedback when observing people and at weekly feedback meetings. The project team also relentlessly followed up any corrective actions. They changed checklists and observers every six months

and repeated the process, baseline, goal-setting and feedback.

Other business units on site such as Storage & Distribution and Shipping became involved as the plant gained experience. Then B-Safe® was rolled out to long-term maintenance, lagging and scaffolding contractors, repeating the same process as the Olefins 6 shift teams.

During the first year, the OSHA Recordable Injury Rate fell by 52%. After 6 years the site achieved and has maintained a Zero OSHA Recordable Injury Rate, inclusive of contractor companies.

Fig 2: It works! Recordable Injuries disappear



Other tangible benefits include \$500,000 per annum energy cost-saving and a 32 percent reduction in insurance premiums.

In 2004, the Chemical Industry Association (CIA) awarded the plant a Diamond Award in recognition of their safety performance over the previous 5 years.

*"I feel I have become more aware of everything that surrounds me. I look at situations in a different way, assess things differently, and my approach to just being on the plant has been altered in a very significant, but positive manner".* **Steve Gell, Principle Technician**

Contact us to see how we can help you improve your safety culture

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