

## NEW MANUFACTURING ALLIANCE'S

### SAFETY TASK FORCE

February 17, 2026 | 8:30 AM

Teams

*Minutes*

**ATTENDEES:** Alex Auch-Lakeshore College, Cord Semotink-Sargento Foods, Brad Bahls-CMD Corp., Kayla Beardsley-Village Companies, Bob Bergstrom-LaForce, Jenny Brown-Services Plus, Corey Evenson-Eck Industries, Allison Foster-Prevea, Ann Franz-NEWMA, Nicole Fritz-Marion Body Works, Joan Girard-Vollrath Co., Jody Graetz-Graetz Mfg., Stephanie Haines-Cherry Optical Lab, Steve Haldiman-L.E. Jones, Nick Heyrman-Winona Foods, Izzy Iserloth-N.E.W. Plastics, Derek Johnson-Therma-Tron-X, Buckley Kain-Cruisers Yachts, Alison Kostreva-Graetz Mfg., Ken Kurtis-Fosber America, Stephanie Lee-USI Insurance Services, Ryan Lindeman-Crescent Electric, Alma Lopez-W.E. Hoban, Erica Malzahn-BayCare Orthopedics, Vicente Marchan-Horseshoe Beverage Co., Corey Mullard-Miller Electric, Holly Neville-Hatco Corp., Peter Nickel-Keynecta, Mike Parins-Keynecta, Josh Rolfing-Lindquist Machine Co., Melissa Samuels-ErgoFactor, Aidan Stary-The Villate Companies, Dr. Tapscott-Prevea, Tony Warpinski-ErgoFactor, Mike White-Secchi,

#### **Topic 1: Debut of Safety First, Always: Our Shared Responsibility video**

February was the debut of the Safety First, Always video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wS6pNKgTR-A> There have been over 300 people that have viewed the video. Ann has received a great response from the Alliance members regarding the quality and content of the video. All members are encouraged to use the video. Special thanks to the sponsors of the videos: ErgoFactor, Fosber America, Graetz Mfg., Keynecta, Marion Body Works, and MARTOR USA.

#### **Topic 2: Workplace safety and treatments that can help employees work safer and return to work faster in the event an injury does occur presented by Dr. Tapscott with Prevea.**

Please find the PPT that was shared in the email to the members accompanying the minutes.

#### **Topic 3: Best Practice from Dane McDonald with ATI on their company's 1,500 days injury free.**

Tabled until next meeting.

#### **Topic 4: Employee benefits/recognition programs – The Village Companies inquired best practices that Safety taskforce members could share about their programs that are successful. The responses from the taskforce are as follows:**

- One of our programs we do monthly is if there is no safety incident, no customer complaints and we hit production targets for three out of the four weeks of the month we give pizza for the crews. They enjoy team lunches and celebrating together.
- I have found that Kwik trip is a great go to and most like as a gift. I also helped bring on a rewards program that worked similar to credit card rewards that could be used towards many different items
- Safety Bingo and the prizes came from Uline gifts
- Vending machine credits
- Focus on a short-term rewards program, so the promotion doesn't grow stale with the employees.
- Rewards program like a credit card rewards program.
- Recognition program where employees nominate other employees they see doing safe practices. Monthly there is a drawing from all of those nominated.

- We have a Kudos Program- employees can submit an e-mails to recognize their coworkers. The e-mail gets sent out to all the employees to share the recognition. At the end of the month the names are entered into a randomizer and employees are entered in for chance to win a Gift Card. I've only been with the company for 1 year and 4 months but at this time we are on track to hit 4 years of no-lost time injuries on March 1st. Woo!



## QUARTERLY SAFETY REWARDS

Everyone can earn points every quarter (3 months). After accumulating 400 points per quarter, points may be redeemed for group rewards.

Action / Behavior	Points Earned
Zero Recordables	400 pts per 3 months
Safety improvement idea implemented	100 pts
98% completion of Alchemy Training	50 pts per month
Report near miss / hazardous incident	25 pts per 3 incidents
Exceptional safety behavior / action	25 pts

**Topic 5: 2026 Safety taskforce topics and activities**

- Guidelines for robotics & sensors
- Laser cutting & welding best practices
- HazCom updates
- Heat exposure / stress
- Workplace violence
- Nonproduction employee safety considerations
- Home office injury / liability
- Instilling safety practices when there is an acquisition and / or rapid growth
- Online training programs
- Pre-shift exercise stretching program – rollout, duration, benefits – What are the goals
- Driver cages to secure facility.
- Automation safety devices.
- Micro stretching
- Worker’s Comp speaker

**Topic 6: Open Forum**

Tabled.

**Topic 7: Next meeting will be held on March 17 at 8:30 a.m. at Winona Foods and Teams**