

Accident Analysis and Prevention

Special Call for Papers

SPECIAL ISSUE:

Safety Climate: New Approaches, Interventions and Industry-Specific Studies

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DEADLINE: June 30, 2008

Accident Analysis and Prevention announces a call for papers for a special issue on Safety Climate: New Approaches, Interventions and Industry-Specific Studies edited by Yueng-hsiang (Emily) Huang, Peter Chen, and James Grosch. Safety climate is an organizational factor commonly cited as an important antecedent of safety in the workplace. Safety climate is generally defined as employees' shared perceptions of the safety policies, procedures, and practices, as well as the overall importance and the true priority of safety at work. The practical and theoretical significance of safety climate as a construct stems from its ability to predict safety behavior and safety-related outcomes (e.g., accidents and injuries) in a wide variety of settings, with a wide variety of samples, in both Western and Eastern cultures.

Given the important role of safety climate in safety outcomes and the many studies by scholars in different disciplines, it is not surprising to see an increase of confusion and ambiguity in safety climate research. For instance, what dimensions should safety climate encompass; what are safety climate and safety culture and how they are different; how is safety climate formed or developed; how should safety climate be measured; from what level of an organization should safety climate scores be derived; and what is the validity evidence when safety climate scores of an organization are derived from safety climate measures reported by workers? The first theme of the special issue will be on the topic of "*New developments in the conceptualization of safety climate.*"

Furthermore, although extensive prior research has shown that safety climate predicts safety-related outcomes, relatively few studies have conducted interventions targeting on improving safety climate. Therefore, the second topic is to provide a sampling of the most recent research being conducted on *interventions to improve safety climate*.

Finally, in the safety climate literature, some studies have been conducted within a single organization or industry, whereas other studies have focused on workers across work settings. Thus, the final topic of the special issue will be on *occupational/industry-focused studies of safety climate*, with the goal of identifying unique challenges and findings that arise within or across various occupations or industries. Research on either a single occupation or industry or across different occupations/industries are welcome.

Inquiries about this special issue may be directed to the guest editor, Yueng-Hsiang (Emily) Huang, Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety, 71 Frankland Rd., Hopkinton, MA 01748 (e-mail: Yueng-hsiang.Huang@LibertyMutual.com)

Submissions should be sent to <http://ees.elsevier.com/aap/> and select "special issue: Safety Climate". The deadline for submitting new manuscripts is June 30, 2008, although submissions before that date will receive immediate attention.

For manuscript guidelines, please see a recent issue of the journal or visit the journal webpage at: http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/journaldescription.cws_home/336/description#description