10 TIPS TO KILL THE SILLY SEASON

During the festive season at the year’s end, many companies experience a spate of preventable, silly incidents and hence the term “Silly Season”. Below are a few practical and visible ideas to stimulate your thinking about taking ACTION to prevent harm to your people and their families. Don’t attempt to implement any of these ideas unless you are dead SERIOUS about spending TIME & MONEY to make a difference during this time of uncertainty and change.

1. Set up a 24 hour HELPLINE and issue all employees with that number to take home as well. Encourage ASKING for HELP, rather than taking a chance.

2. Put together a take home safety ‘hamper” as the silly season is not only at work, but also at home or on holiday.

3. Offer rewards for the best suggestions to deal with the “Silly Season” syndrome.

4. Issue “Silly Season Safety Official” vest to the senior managers and SHE Reps and make them hand out safety reminders at a “CEO’s Road block”.

5. Now is the time where you need all hands on deck to weather the silly season storm. Build on Be your Brother’s Keeper by giving the people “who push the buttons and use the tools” the role of Acting Safety Officers and issue them with the “Silly Season Safety Official” vests too. Wearing the vests at work every day during the silly season gives them a sense of responsibility and an opportunity to get “experience” in the safety field.

6. Issue each employee with a condom stressing the point of it is YOUR own CHOICE to keep the eye on the ball – otherwise your expiry date will come up sooner than you think! Also, stress calling for help (see # 1).

7. Give each employee a sucker (lollilop) with the message of: “Don’t be caught for a sucker by others enticing you to take chances with ‘Just one more for the road’.”

8. Although bemoaning the silly season is a tiresome old song, put a new twist on it by having “Don’t drink and drive” props at the factory / mine gate. These can be in the form of a bottle, a steering wheel and even someone bandaged up and in a wheel chair.

9. Issue each employee with boarding pass or train / bus ticket, wishing them a safe journey and return back to work without any incidents. On the back of the ticket, list some prevention tips for the “Silly Season”.

10. Teach all employees the SAFETY YOGA instructions. Take safety, every morning, from the back of the head to the front of your head where you can see it.