

# **Developing First Line Safety Leaders**

Marty Barfield – Domtar Larry Walker – Det Norske Veritas

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## Background



- Domtar came together in 2007 from the parts of various other companies
  - Weyerhaeuser (Weyerhaeuser & Willamette)
  - Domtar (EB Eddy, Domtar, Georgia Pacific, Nekoosa)
- The 'new' company was a bit of a melting pot...
  - Many different... cultures, standards, processes, backgrounds, expectations
  - Not uncommon in a 'merging' industry
- Safety results were shaky
  - 2.14 total incident rate in 2007
  - 1.98 total incident rate in 2008
  - Lots of safety opportunities & challenges...
    - Incident investigation
    - Communication
    - Mill networking
    - Policies
    - Auditing
    - Behavior based safety

#### The 'NEED'



- 2009 mill managers meeting...
  - Identified <u>safety leadership development</u> as a critical, missing need
    - First line managers, leaders and supervisors need to be trained in how to be safety leaders... and they were not
    - Leadership viewed as a key leverage to move the safety 'needle'
    - First line leaders must lead and engage their employees
      - But they did not have the tools or developed to do so
- So, what is leadership?
  - Many different, varying, applicable definitions
  - Critical few...
    - Facilitate a group of individuals to achieve common goals and objectives
    - <u>Develop</u> skills and abilities in a group of individuals
    - Resolve conflict & ensure compliance with norms and procedures
    - Lead problem solving
    - Develop tactical plans using all available resources
    - Interface between the company and its employees

#### The 'PLAN'



- Identify and procure third party support late 2009
  - Contracted with Det Norske Veritas (DNV) to develop & conduct training
- Develop strategy
  - Train <u>all</u> salaried supervisors/managers and some hourly leaders
  - Train <u>at</u> each site
  - Supported by Sr. managers visibly
    - Opened & closed meetings
    - Plant leadership team involvement
  - Identify & agree on training scope Domtar and DNV jointly
    - Ensure the fundamentals are included
    - Survey all mills and Converting sites
      - What does consensus say?
  - Develop challenging schedule- critical priority to get it done

#### **Execute & Track**



- All mills have completed training
  - Over 1080 leaders
  - Plan to touch new leaders trained mentors
    - Both 'imports' & promotes
  - Plan to roll into Domtar's Distribution organization

#### ■ Follow up plan

- Audit the results slightly variable by mill
- Personal improvement plan and identified activities an outcome component
  - Roll into personal performance goals ... and track

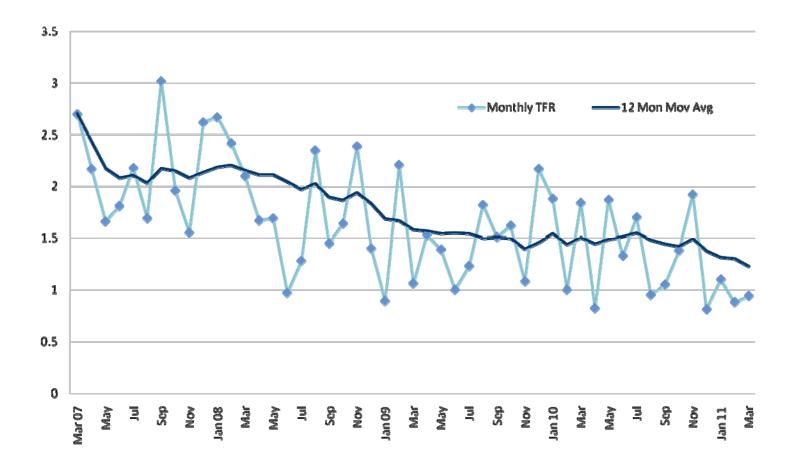
#### Positive input and feedback

- Not surprising <u>if</u> a lack of training exists in the first place
- Impactful? Culturally changing? Time will tell...
  - Early indicators are positive

# **Safety Results**



- Safety results are improving...
  - Leadership **is** a huge component



### **The Process**





### **Critical Messages**



- Safety is a line management function.
- Success is about leadership, not management.
- Safety leadership skills are not completely intuitive.
- Risk competency is critical.
- There are timeless, fundamental concepts that support effective safety performance.
- Effective training must be interactive, engaging, fun.
- Training never helped anyone!

#### The Course



- Pre-Course Perception Survey
- Senior Leadership Commitment
- Understanding the Perception Survey
- Safety Leadership
- Understanding Practical Risk Identification, Assessment, and Control
- Basic Concepts of Loss Causation
- Leading Conformance to Work Controls
- Conducting Effective Inspections
- Conducting Effective Safety Meetings
- A Case Study
- Case Study Presentations
- Course Examination
- Personal Action Plans