

SAFETY TALK

NINA WORKBOX SERIES: LOGICAL NEXT STEP IN THE NINA PROGRAM



01

01 DESIGN WORKBOX
Under the name Workbox, Boskalis is introducing a series of workshops that put personal safety center stage. An extensive range of practical support materials have been developed.

'Since the introduction of NINA, we have successfully put the spotlight on improving safety awareness at Boskalis,' says Wilfred Haaijer, the head of SHE-Q. 'During the numerous NINA Management and Do-It courses, start-up meetings and team refresher courses for the projects and operational units, we saw that there was an increasing demand for practical aids that will help people to work in concrete ways with safety risks at the workplace. As a result, we went looking for tools that will allow our operational staff and line managers to improve safety immediately in the working environment. In part on the basis of an Area West campaign (Slips, Trips & Falls), we established a separate working group with people from line and staff departments to look at how we can roll out initiatives like this to the organization as a whole. The result is the workbox approach, which focuses initially on

personal safety. The first workboxes have therefore adopted the safe body theme. The main focus is on protecting hands and eyes, and preventing trips and falls. Together, these three areas cause almost half of all the accidents at our company, and that is why we are focusing on them first. The next stage will be to extend the approach and to develop special workboxes, for example for preventing injury during mooring operations, another important aspect of our work.'

INSIDE OUT

Wilko Bardelmeijer, NINA program manager: 'Our approach differs from the way in which many safety programs are developed; they emphasize the risks and dangers of specific activities. In our case, we didn't work from the 'outside inward'; our initial focus is on the body. The workbox consists of a workshop with support

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02

02 WORKBOX PILOT PROJECT IN QATAR
A range of trial sessions were organized before the introduction of the workbox, for example on the 'The Base' project in Qatar.

resources. Each workbox concentrates on one specific risk, giving greater depth to our NINA rules. The content of the workboxes is based largely on the lessons we can learn from reported accidents and near misses. So we are now feeding that information back to the organization by putting the feedback we have received to practical use.'

TAILORED TO REAL LIFE

The working group played a major role in this respect. We got about forty colleagues involved in development and asked them for suggestions on a regular basis. Thanks to all their comments, we were able to develop the plans still further. We hope the participants will continue to provide us with feedback during and after the workbox sessions so that we can tailor the program even better to real life. We are therefore deliberately engaging in an open

dialogue with all our colleagues. We would like to invite everybody to come forward with ideas that contribute to a safer working environment. In that way, in the foreseeable future, we will have a series of workboxes covering a wide spectrum of subjects and categories that the projects and vessels can choose from, depending on what they need at that particular point in time.'

FOR AND BY OUR OWN COLLEAGUES

'During a workshop, we want to stop and think about how serious the subject is, and discuss people's past experiences in an open dialogue,' explains Wilko. 'Then we ask the group to complete a number of practical assignments and to think about an approach to mitigating the risk in question in their own working environment. The working group has also looked for ways of keeping the issue on the agenda for a longer period of time, and developed

support tools for that purpose. Wilko emphasizes that the workboxes are being developed for and by our own colleagues. 'Initially, we will be organizing a "train the trainer" course for the staff in the SHE-Q pool. In that way, we can inform them about the in's & out's of the approach, enabling them to roll out the workboxes themselves for other colleagues and line management on the projects and the fleet.'

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