



A SELECTION OF DIFFERENT EXAMPLES FROM THE EVERYDAY EXPERIENCE OF BOSKALIS | AUGUST 2016

WANTING TO BE MORE CAREFUL



Rutger van Vliet, SEM Manager

"I am writing this blog because although most of the stories I read about NINA are positive, my recent experience has been different. A lot of things are not going the way they should, and things that do go right take a lot of effort." For example: in June an employee broke his foot while cutting a big piece of iron, because

he wanted to do it quickly. The iron had to be removed, but it had been there for eight years, so there was no reason to rush. Let me start by saying that people here really do their utmost to do their job as well as possible. But the actions described above are often observed and are typical in our work environment. Our colleagues don't pay enough attention and don't look around them thoroughly before starting the job. Too much is still going wrong: in the last one-and-a-half years we have had four (major) incidents and one near miss. The common theme for all of them was carelessness and self-imposed haste.

People find it hard to give feedback to their colleagues. At the NINA eXperience day in March we talked about this, with positive outcomes. However, there is still a group that remains silent. A group that thinks incidents are part of our work; that says 'we have always done it like this'. It is this group of people that needs more time, and I would

like to grant it to them, but time is what we do not have. A high-end client visiting us does not accept oil spills, for instance. We really have to prepare for such a visit, whereas this should not be necessary. SEM is linked to many departments, so when we have a safe working environment the whole company benefits. But how can we achieve this? You can't put too much pressure on people; some already find it annoying to stop working for a toolbox meeting or a training session. And unfortunately, statistics do not show fewer incidents at SEM since the introduction of NINA. It seems as if more attention on safety leads to an increase in incidents. For me, the key questions are : What is needed to make people more intrinsically careful? Can we all accept that working safely starts by spending more time and effort on preparation before the execution?"

Do you want to react?
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BETTER WORKING CLIMATE ON DSV CONSTRUCTOR THANKS TO NINA

You can't miss it on board the DSV Constructor: there are NINA posters everywhere. "We really live with NINA", says Master Andre van Rooijen.

"In July we organized a NINA training session for the newcomers here, who were air divers. We do this every time we start working on a large project. NINA has become a way of thinking on board. You see it in the working atmosphere: how people pay attention to each other, give each other feedback, the way they are involved and give their ideas when things go wrong (or almost go wrong), the number of SHOC cards that are issued."

ELIMINATING PREJUDICES

"This was not always the case. When NINA was introduced, there was some kicking and screaming. People were afraid SHOC cards would be used against them. A lot of talking was necessary to take away these kinds of

prejudices. My way of stimulating the NINA way of thinking is to talk about it a lot, in every briefing and meeting. What has also been helpful is the fact that thanks to NINA several things on board have been improved. The gangway, for instance, had a

dangerous stairway. Twice someone fell off it. The gangway has been replaced by a state-of-the-art structure. We already worked safely, but since NINA, it has become a lot safer still."

