



Weekly Safety Tip

Better Listening Skills



Better Listening Skills



DaveV Preface: Expect most would agree that there is no shortage of *talking about Safety* but too often not enough “doing” (i.e., *walking-the-talk*). Though this may seem an odd topic for a **Safety Share**, when you think about it, it is probably one of the most valuable we could engage in. If you aren’t listening well, that could negatively impact someone’s safety & well-being. Since we all share in creating a strong safety culture in our workplaces, it’s worth reviewing some tips on what we can do to be better listeners, not just talkers....



Many people who claim to want to be better communicators focus almost entirely on speaking more clearly. But **effective speaking and effective communicating are two very different things**. You can’t communicate effectively if you can’t listen effectively. Good communicators know that’s a fact.

The benefits of being a more effective listener cannot be overstated. Not only do effective listeners learn more, they build deeper and longer-lasting relationships. Being a better listener involves both active engagement and a willingness to understand others.

Here are some tips to improve your listening skills:

Give your full attention. When someone is speaking to you, put away distractions like your phone or other devices. **Make eye contact and show that you’re fully present.** The person you’re speaking with should be your only focus. They should feel as if they are the most important person in the world to you...because in that moment they truly should be.

Listen without interrupting. Allow the speaker to express their thoughts without interrupting them. **Interrupting can disrupt the flow of conversation** and make the speaker feel unheard. If your response to what the speaker has just said is any version of “yes, but...” I can guarantee that you were not fully listening to them. You were figuring out your response before they finished talking.

Weekly Safety Share



New Standard to Prevent CO Poisoning From Portable Generators

New Standard Against Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

G300-2023 is designed to reduce health risk of poisoning from generator misuse in an enclosed space.



The Portable Generator Manufacturers' Association (PGMA) introduced a new safety and performance standard, approved as ANSI/PGMA G300-2023, **to address the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning due to generator misuse.**

This new standard mandates something called "CO-shut off technology," which is **designed to reduce the risk of injury from generator misuse in enclosed spaces.** The technology is based on carbon monoxide sensing and has been shown to significantly reduce deaths related to generators operating indoors where CO can accumulate.

The auto-shutdown feature in the ANSI/PGMA G300 standard stops the generator from running when carbon monoxide begins to accumulate as a result of improper operation in enclosed spaces.

In addition, the G300 standard includes safety and performance requirements for portable generators and helps consumers identify proper locations to operate their generator.

Portable generator safety tips from PGMA include keeping generators outdoors, directing generator exhaust away from occupied structures, installing carbon monoxide alarms, and reading and following the manufacturer's recommended precautions and procedures.

If individuals experience symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning while using a generator, they are advised to seek fresh air immediately and call 911 for emergency medical attention.

PGMA's **Take it Outside™** education and awareness campaign will continue to promote safe generator use in conjunction with the new standard.

The standard will **apply to all portable generators 15 kW or smaller**, including inverters, open frame, construction generators, and generators fueled by natural gas.

Effective Date for Compliance is for generators manufactured on or after **January 1, 2025.**

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