

Safety II

A new approach to health and safety

Safety II is a new approach to health and safety that focuses on learning from why things go right at work, as well as why they go wrong.

Traditionally, safe workplaces are said to be those where incidents don't occur. But no incidents in the past doesn't necessarily mean a workplace won't suffer incidents in future – particularly if conditions changed.

So under the Safety II approach, a safe workplace is defined as: **the presence of an ability that enables things to go right across varying conditions.**

The ability to adapt to change is important in forestry because work conditions are always changing.

To stay safe in constantly varying conditions workers need to be set up for success. They need the right:

1. Tools, resources, equipment
2. Strategies and work methods
3. Work environment.

Curious questions for forestry site visits

One way to find out if workers really have what they need is to go on site and ask open, non-threatening questions like:

- ▶ **Tell me about a time when your work was difficult? Uncomfortable? Slow? Inconvenient? Frustrating?**
- ▶ **What bothers you about the job?**
- ▶ **What makes you uncomfortable?**
- ▶ **What solutions have you come up with to make the job better?**
- ▶ **What can we do to make that solution even better?**
- ▶ **What does the best crew look like? What do they do? How do they work?**
- ▶ **What it is about your work mates that makes them good to work with?**
- ▶ **How do we help you to get the right resources for the job?**
- ▶ **Can you tell me about the best clients/customers/suppliers you work with?**
- ▶ **Can you tell me about the ones that are difficult or frustrate you?**