

# The Expanding Role of the Construction Safety Professional



**Kimberly Gamble, CHST  
ASP  
Sr. Safety Consultant  
GEW-llc**



**Travis Davis, CPCU  
Sr. Vice President  
Alliant Insurance**



**Brian Clarke, CSP  
Managing Partner  
Quality Safety Times**

# Why are we here?



1. Challenge some historical thoughts on roles of the “Safety Director” & where we might want to concentrate more of our efforts
2. Safety Professionals are in the position to positively influence this increasing financial loss in our firms.
3. Research has identified a direct relationship between Re-work and craft worker injuries.
4. The financial impact of re-work ranges from 4% - 30% of project costs.
5. Quality programs should be built on the safety model.

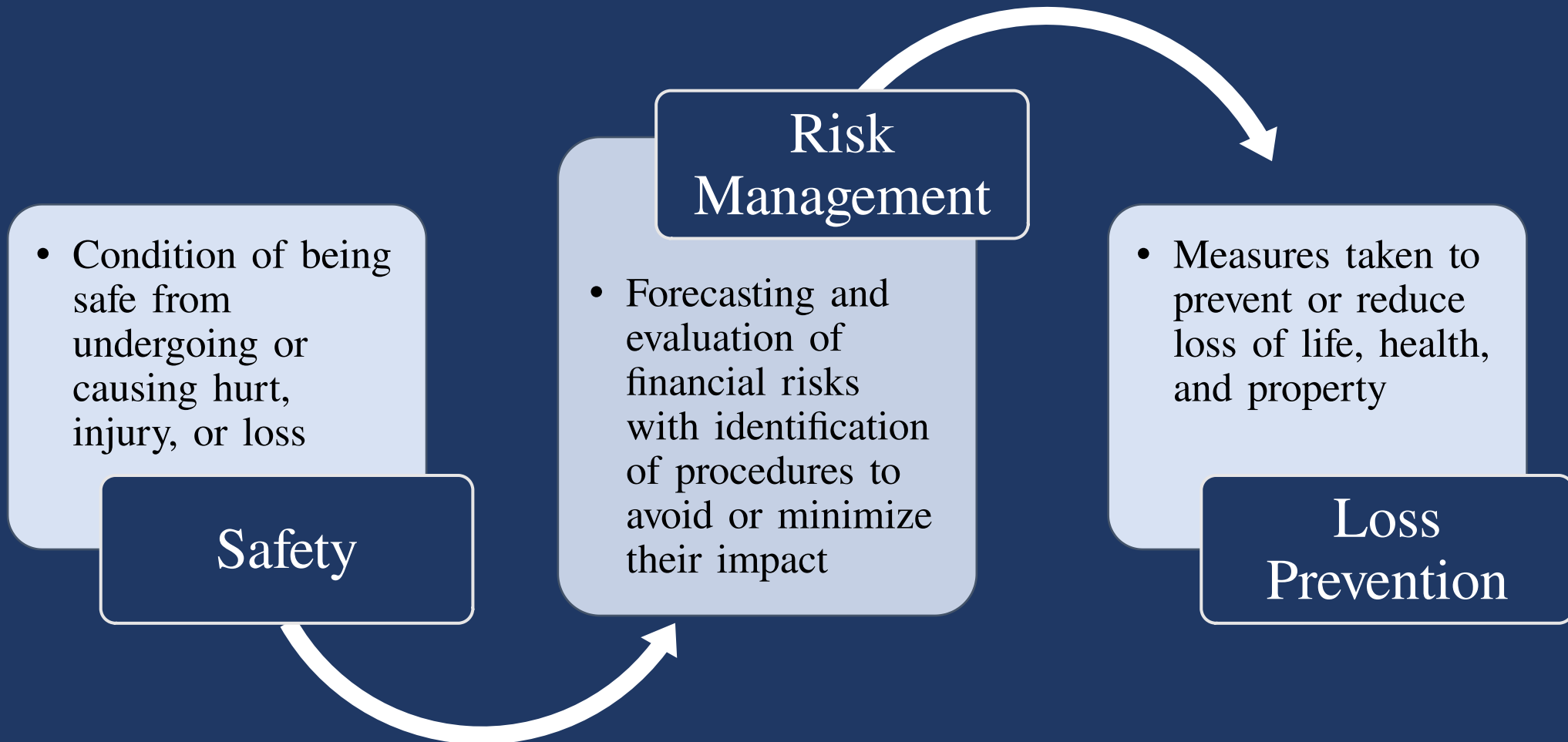
“Cut first, fix it later.” - *Chat GPT on the modern worker*

# ***Who is in the Room?***



- a. Project Owners / Owner Representatives**
- b. General Contractors**
- c. Subcontractors**
- d. Insurance Representatives**
- e. Others (regulators, non-profits, etc.)**

# Definitions



# Loss Prevention



**Employee Safety**

**Fleet Management**

**Public Protection**

**Building Protection**

**Contents**

**Wrongful Dismissal, Harassment,  
etc.**

**Business Interruption**

**Inland Marine**

**Quality Control \*Today's emphasis**



# All Lines Insurance



Protects from financial losses caused by:

- Workplace Injuries
- Lawsuits
- Natural Disasters



# ***Commercial Lines Insurance***



- **Professional Liability**
- **General Liability**
- **Product Liability**
- **Auto/Fleet**
- **Workers' Compensation**
- **Property,**
- **Data Breach**
- **Business Interruption.**



# Cost of Employee Injuries



## COST WORK SHEET OF INJURIES

**Incident / Injury Cost Tracking Worksheet**

Contractor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Job Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Injured Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Site Super: \_\_\_\_\_ Direct Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Incident (Hear Hit, First Aid, Recordable, Lost Time): \_\_\_\_\_  
Description of Incident: \_\_\_\_\_

**Supervisor's billing Rate:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Supervisor's Time	Hours	Cost
Time at incident event		
Transport and/or time at medical facility with employee(s)		
Related paperwork/reports/incident review		
Repair/re-order of equipment		
Re-schedule of work		
Replacement employee(s), hiring, training		
Other (Describe):		

**Injured Employee's billing rate:** \_\_\_\_\_

Employee(s) Time	Hours	Cost
Time away from productive work (medical appointments, paperwork)		
Additional training		
% Reduction for Light Duty 1.00 Days		\$ -

**Average billing rate for crew** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Crew Time	Hours	Cost
Time around incident event hrs.		
Investigation time (witness, paperwork): Total hours of all.		
Training about incident hrs.		

**Property/Equipment Damage or Loss**

Equipment Repair/Replacement/Rental	Cost
List items:	

**Others involved in investigation/down time (i.e. project engineer, project super, safety/claims, clerical)**

Identify if Direct or Subcontractor staff	Rate	Hours	Cost
List people:			

**Total Indirect Cost** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Medical Expenses (Deductibles & other \$ NOT paid by insurance)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Direct and Indirect** \_\_\_\_\_ **#VALUE!**  
**Profit Margin on Job** Enter % \_\_\_\_\_  
**Total Extra work required to recover this loss** **#VALUE!**

The above costs do NOT include office staff (processing reports, filing claims, return to work monitoring)  
The above costs are NOT typically covered by Insurance such as medical bills, time loss payments etc.  
Rev: 01/2025

Loss Value		Profit Margin %			
		3%	5%	10%	15%
\$ 50,000	\$ 1,666,667	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 333,333	
\$ 250,000	\$ 8,333,333	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ 1,666,667	
\$ 500,000	\$ 16,666,667	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 3,333,333	
\$ 1,000,000	\$ 33,333,333	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 6,666,667	

To determine extra work required to recapture loss identify your total loss and divide by your profit margin



***Travis – any stats for average costs per claim – comparing worker injury & rework***



**Worker injury claims  
data**

**Construction defect  
claims data**

# Academic Research

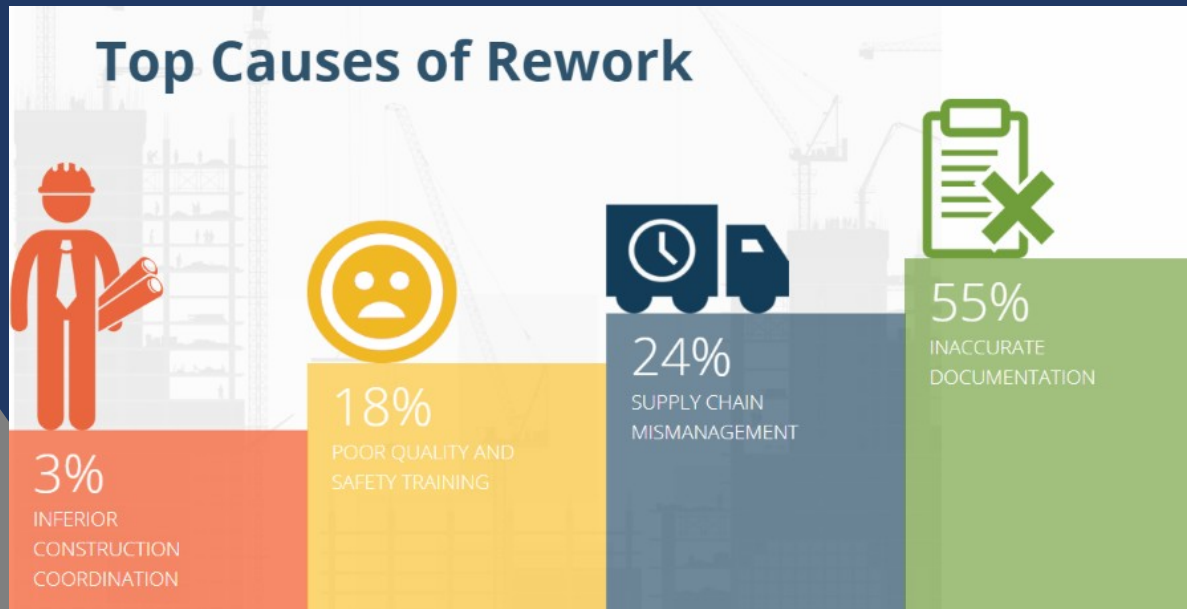


Recent Studies show up to 30% of Construction Costs are directly related to Rework.

\* UK Construction Task Force

Rework is estimated to represent between 2% and 20% of total costs, averaging 12%.

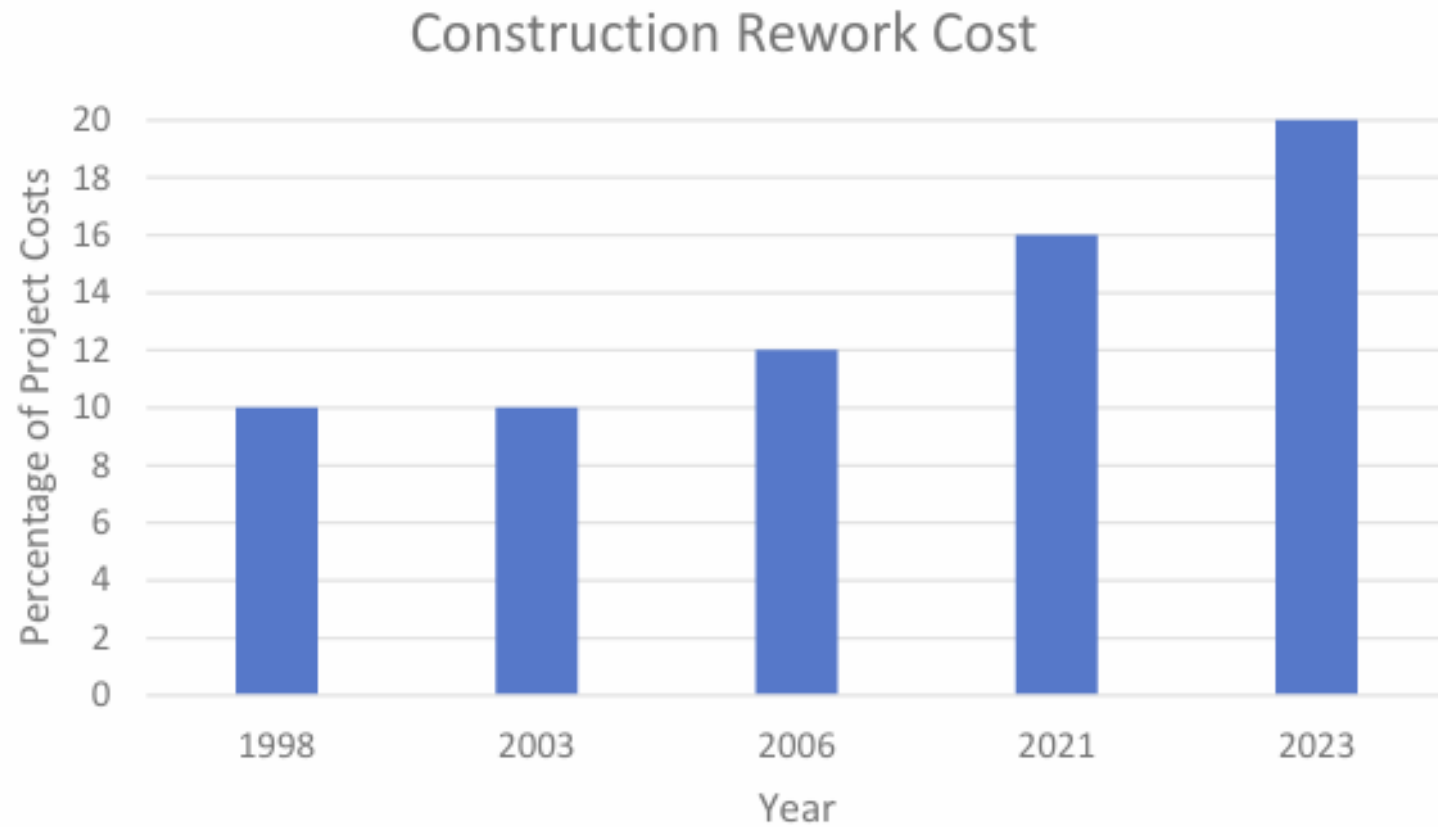
\* Construction Industry Institute (CII)



- US Construction Volume is \$2 trillion

- Construction Rework is a \$200 billion opportunity for our industry

# Cost of Re-work



# *Expanding Role for Safety in Construction*



## ASSE article “Quality Management In Construction; An Expanding Role For SH&E Professionals”



Program	Quality	Safety
Employee orientation	✓	✓
Employee manual	✓	✓
Checklists	✓	✓
Insurance	✓	✓
Incident rates	✓	✓
Incident reviews	✓	✓
Training – Superintendents	✓	✓
Training – Foremen	✓	✓
Training – Trades/Crafts	✗	✓

## Notes:

### LOSS Control/claims Management After the Fact – Defect Claim / Accident

Change checklists to inspection processes

Incident Rates - ???

Incident Reviews - ???

People correct on the job – great for the job;  
how do we share it

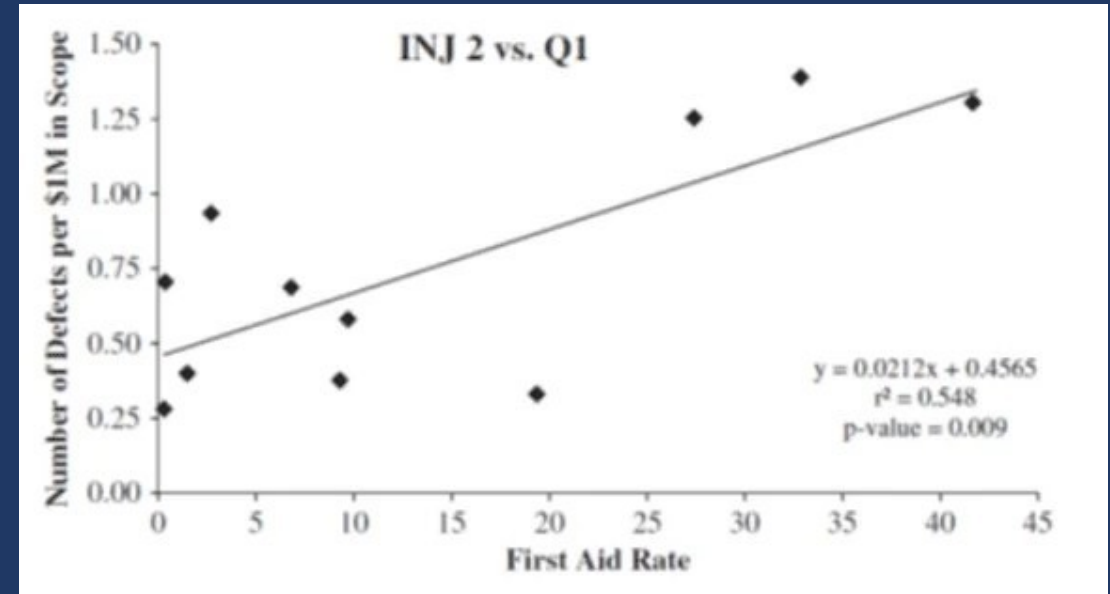
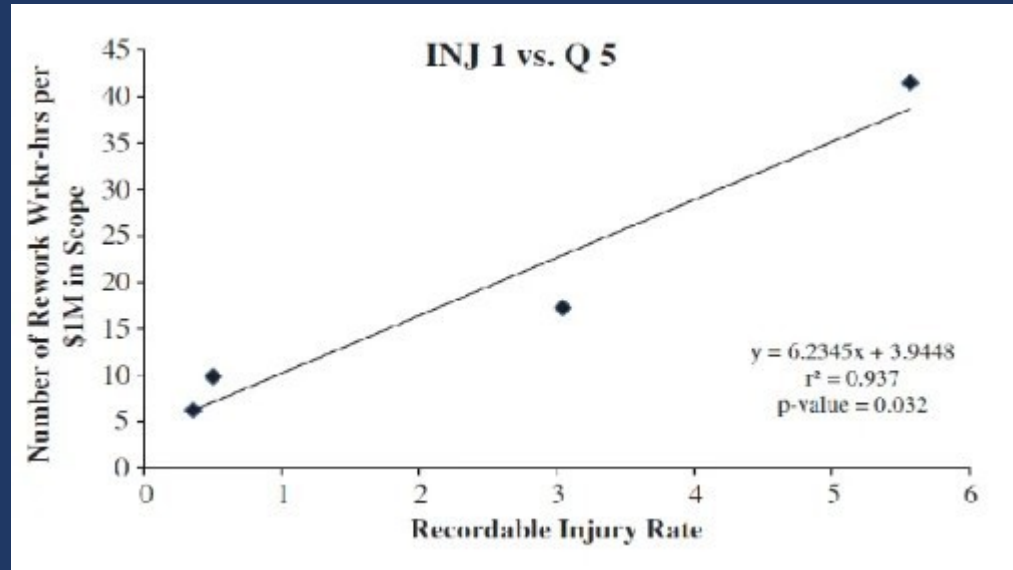
Near miss – near hit – how do we share

Claims review meetings / incident review  
meetings

(somewhere – construction defect claims -  
discovery)

Consulting experts for mediation / trial

# Parallels between Safety and Quality



# Evolution of Safety - a guide for Quality



**G.E.W. llc**  
Incident Indirect Cost Sheet

Contractor \_\_\_\_\_  
Job Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Injured Employee(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_  
Foreman's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ General Foreman: \_\_\_\_\_  
Type of Incident (Near Hit, First Aid, Recordable, Lost Time): \_\_\_\_\_  
Description of Incident: \_\_\_\_\_

**Supervisor's Billing Rate:** \$ 0.00

Supervisor's Time	Hours	Cost
Time at incident event	0.00	\$ -
Transport and/or time at medical facility with employee(s)	0.00	\$ -
Related paperwork/reports/incident review	0.00	\$ -
Repair/re-order of equipment	0.00	\$ -
Re-schedule of work	0.00	\$ -
Replacement employee(s), hiring, training	0.00	\$ -
Other (Describe):	0.00	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**Injured Employee's Billing Rate:** \$ 0.00

Employee(s) Time	Hours	Cost
Time away from productive work (medical appointments, paperwork)	0.00	\$ -
Additional training	0.00	\$ -
% Reduction for Light Duty 0% Days 0.00 0.00	0.00	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**Average Billing Rate for Crew:** \$ 0.00

Crew Time	Hours	Cost
Time around incident event hrs. 0.00 Employees 0.00 0.00	0.00	\$ -
Investigation time (witness, paperwork): Total hours of all.		
Training about incident hrs. 0.00 Employees 0.00 0.00	0.00	\$ -
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**Property/Equipment Damage or Loss**

Equipment Repair/Replacement/Rental	Cost
List items:	\$ -

**Others involved in investigation/down time (i.e. project engineer, project super, safety/claims, clerical)**

List person:	Rate	Hours	Cost
	0.00	0.00	\$ -
	0.00	0.00	\$ -
	0.00	0.00	\$ -
	0.00	0.00	\$ -

**Total Indirect Cost** \$ -

The above costs do NOT include office staff (processing reports, filing claims, return to work monitoring)  
The above costs are NOT typically covered by insurance

Rev: 08/05

## 2003 Gary E Bird Horizon Award



Donna Bird



Jack Gibson



# How To Measure Re-work



**Quality Safety Times**

**Rework - Cost Sheet (Detailed)**

**Contractor:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Incident/Injury Involved?** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Job Site:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Scope of Work:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Tradepartner:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Crew Lead:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Reason(s) for rework (Example: Materials, Workmanship, Specs Non-Compliance, Incident, etc.)** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Description of Incident:** \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Direct Costs to Conduct Rework** \$

	Cost
<b>Tear out / Removal of Finished Work</b>	
Crew Time (see billing rate below)	\$ -
Tools / Equipment Used	
Consumables Used	
Safety Protocols (i.e. training (silica, respiratory protection)	
New Installation Material Costs	
Replacement employee(s), hiring, training	
Additional GCs/GRs	
LD's	
Secondary Mobilization Fees	
Other (Describe):	
Other (Describe):	

**Indirect Costs to Conduct Rework** \$

	Cost
<b>Tear out / Removal of Finished Work</b>	
Lost Crew Time (see billing rate below)	
Schedule Delays	
Investigation Time (Determining fix, Cause, Responsible Party)	
Insurance Claim Management (if applicable)	
Other (Describe):	
Other (Describe):	

**Direct Costs to Conduct Rework** \$

	Cost
<b>Replacement / Repair</b>	
Crew Time (see billing rate below)	\$ -
Tools / Equipment Used	
Consumables Used	

**Quality Safety Times**

**PROFIT MARGIN CALCULATIONS**

Loss Value	Profit Margin %					
	3%	1%	5%	7%	10%	15%
\$ 10,000	\$ 333,333	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 142,857	\$ 100,000	\$ 66,667
\$ 19,150	\$ 638,333	\$ 1,915,000	\$ 383,000	\$ 273,571	\$ 191,500	\$ 127,667
\$ 50,000	\$ 1,666,667	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 714,286	\$ 500,000	\$ 333,333
\$ 100,000	\$ 3,333,333	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,428,571	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 666,667
\$ 150,000	\$ 5,000,000	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,142,857	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,000,000
\$ 200,000	\$ 6,666,667	\$ 20,000,000	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 2,857,143	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,333,333
\$ 300,000	\$ 10,000,000	\$ 30,000,000	\$ 6,000,000	\$ 4,285,714	\$ 3,000,000	\$ 2,000,000
\$ 400,000	\$ 13,333,333	\$ 40,000,000	\$ 8,000,000	\$ 5,714,286	\$ 4,000,000	\$ 2,666,667
\$ 526,317	\$ 17,543,900	\$ 52,631,700	\$ 10,526,340	\$ 7,518,814	\$ 5,263,170	\$ 3,508,780
\$ 750,000	\$ 25,000,000	\$ 75,000,000	\$ 15,000,000	\$ 10,714,286	\$ 7,500,000	\$ 5,000,000

This spreadsheet represents the amount of extra work required to regain a loss based on profit margins  
 To change calculated loss, change profit margin % in row 9

What gets inspected gets inspected  
 What gets measured gets results



# A Contractor's Perspective





# Safety Process –compared to QC



Safety Plan Development

Pre-Con  
meetings

Stakeholder  
Review

# Program Components



## Safety

**Leadership Engagement**  
**Contractual Requirements**  
**Pre-Construction Meetings**  
**Inspection Processes**  
**Orientations**  
**JHA/PTP/A3 processes**  
**Task Specific Training (i.e. fall protection, confined space)**  
**Weekly Safety Meetings/ Toolbox Talks**  
**After Action Reviews/Lessons Learned**  
**Drug and Alcohol Testing**

## Quality

**Leadership Engagement**  
**Contractual Requirements**  
**Pre-Construction Meetings**  
**Inspection Processes**  
**Orientations**  
**JHA/PTP/A3 processes**  
**Task Specific Training (i.e. fire caulking, mock-up testing)**  
**Weekly Quality Meetings/ Toolbox Talks**  
**Lessons Learned**

# How do you communicate to & train craft workers on the job?



## Weekly toolbox talks?

# *ReWork Example*



# ***Audience Participation***



**How many of you have a formal safety (Injury prevention) program?**

**Most important aspects (section) of your safety program (yell it out)?**

**How many of you have a formal quality control program?**

# *Prevention*



**What are your most valuable tools to prevent safety incidents?**

Quote from AIA – continuing training

Einstein – definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results

Brian Clarke – Not having craft-level quality control meetings is like having a great safety program without crew safety meetings.

**What are the most valuable tools to prevent re-work?**



**Educate yourself on your organization's and the industry's losses beyond just injuries**

**Insurance carriers want to reduce claim frequency and severity, leading to higher profits (contractor renewals with reasonable premium increases)**

**Workers compensation losses (generally) have minimal financial impact on employers.**

**#3 Reason for contractor default is lack of quality control (Re-work)**

**Construction defect claims often have high deductibles and policy limits.**

**Project Owners want to decrease overall project costs both directly and indirectly, leading to higher profits**

# Industry Concerns



**-The cost of Rework is over \$200B annually in the US**

**-State of the Market is making this problem worse, not better**

- Record construction volume
- Skilled Labor shortage
- Loss of Knowledge - 20% of craft workers retiring in next 4 to 5 years
- Training our new craft workers and sharing of skills critical to safety and quality

*“It’s up to all of us here to Lead the Way”*

*- Wendy Cohen*

# What Can Safety Professionals Do?



- What are your Losses
- What are your Controls
- Share your gained knowledge
- Have your facts & Recommendations to improve

# How Do We Get There



**Invest in our People**

**Track Re-Work and align goals within the organization**

**Budget for craft training (safety and quality)**

**Update Pre-task planning forms to include “quality”**

**Require “Site specific QC plan” in the RFP**

**As part of contractor selection process include QC (every project)**

**Refocus (cross-train) Safety staff for Quality**

**Update your contract verbiage requiring weekly *Safety & Quality* crew meetings**

# ***Take-Aways***



**Think Beyond  
Correlation in Re-work & Injuries  
Parallels in Quality & Safety  
Quality Gap  
Add Value**

# Questions?



**Come see us at our  
Booth**

**Rework examples  
available**

