

Safety Task Force

There are two inter-related problem solving structures whose purpose is enhancing the entity's safety management efforts.

- The Safety Advisory Committee, and
- A Safety Task Force.

The Safety Task Force involves the creation of a small ad hoc group to solve a specific, single safety-related problem and seek cost-effective and feasible solutions. Its objective is to bring together those people (internal and external) who have specific expertise to help solve specific types of problems. When a solution is agreed upon the task force disbands; it has no responsibility for managing the solution, or monitoring results.

A given task force is created when either:

- The manager in charge or the Safety Advisory Committee identifies a problem needing to be solved using a problem-solving format; or
- Someone else in the organization requests a task force be formed to solve a safety problem they identified and the manager in charge or the Safety Advisory Committee accepts the request.

The Safety Task Force reports its findings to the appropriate manager at the Safety Advisory Committee; a follow-up to monitor results is placed on a future Safety-Advisory Committee agenda.

Note: Safety task forces do not supersede the need for, or the authority of the Safety Advisory Committee. The task force is a tool available to the Committee to meet its goals; a Committee member should serve on each Safety Task Force to ensure communication, focus and quality.

Based on recent YCPARMIA claims experience possible issues for Safety Task Forces might include:

- Departments that have had a rash of repetitive use injuries.
- Departments that have had a recent rise in the number of lifting injuries.
- Injuries suffered by volunteers and "non-employees."