Managers Brief

Subject: THE ACCIDENT FREQUENCY RATE.

Distribution: Managers & Supervisors/Team Leaders Only

What is the AFR?

The Accident Frequency Rate (AFR) is a way of measuring the accidents we have based on a category of accident which is reportable to the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

It allows us to get a figure with which we can compare how we are performing as a contract within the three Joint Venture Companies.

It also allows us to gauge our progress towards our target of “Zero Harm.”

“Zero Harm”

The company vision is that all accidents are preventable, therefore “Zero Harm.” One of the methods of demonstrating this is by using the AFR.

None of us want to go to work and come home injured, so it should be everybody’s aim to ensure that what they do is safe both for themselves and those around them so that we achieve an AFR of Zero.

How is it Calculated?

AFR = No. of RIDDOR incidents x 100,000 / No. of hours worked

The AFR is worked out by multiplying the number of RIDDOR Reportable accidents by 100,000 (the average number of hours worked in a lifetime), divided by the overall number of hours worked in that month by all of the staff.

What Does it Look Like Within Vennsys?

As of 30th June 2012, the overall AFR for the Contract was 0.65. Individually the work streams had AFR’s of 0.20 for Installations and 1.28 for Meter Reading & Sales Investigation.
What Does it Mean?

These may seem fairly random figures, and they seem quite low, so what's the problem?

What do these numbers mean? Dependant on how high or low the number is, gives you an indication of how high or low the chances are of you and your colleagues sustaining a RIDDOR reportable injury during your working life. That could mean for an AFR of 1, you being laid up on long term sick after a suffering a manual handling injury at least once in your working life.

And the bigger the AFR number gets, the more injuries you will be likely to sustain while you are at work.

So, for Vennsys at this point of time, the AFR is calculated using the total hours worked by all of the staff in that month. So an AFR of 1.28 means 1.28 RIDDOR reportable injuries per Vennsys employee. Each.

However, in reality not all of the team will sustain those kinds of injury. Office workers and managers are at lower risk, and to date have not yet sustained a RIDDOR reportable injury on the Contract. This would mean therefore, that the AFR would be higher for those doing the higher risk tasks.

So, if you think that the AFR doesn’t concern you and that it doesn’t affect you, please think again. The higher the AFR is, the more likely it is that you and a member of your team will get hurt!

**ZERO BY CHOICE – Make Your Choice the Safe One.**