

A "SafeStart" to the New Year: Denver P&DC gets jumpstart on accidents reduction

Denver Mail Processing Center and Denver MP Annex employees reduced their work accidents by 28% in 2004 - that's on top of a 46% reduction in 2003 - and they show no signs of slowing this year. So far in FY05, they have a seen 26% reduction in accidents.



So what's the secret? You might say they have gotten off to a fresh start with SafeStart, a unique employee safety awareness training program begun in 2003. All 2,500 Denver mail processing employees at the two mail processing sites have received SafeStart training.

From left, Denver P&DC Maintenance Technician Kevin Hempstead, Distribution Clerk Pat Smith and Mail Handler Fran Moreno are SafeStart trained employees.

SafeStart teaches employees how to recognize and limit the risk for injury. The program emphasizes being aware of simple risk factors like rushing, frustration, fatigue and complacency. SafeStart reminds employees to be responsible and to "keep their eyes on the task at hand".

Denver P&DC Tour 2 Distribution Clerk Pat Smith uses her training all the time "even outside of work. SafeStart teaches you to be alert, to focus and to look out for the little things. It's saved my life a couple times while driving"