

### **What is Safety@Work?**

Our workforce is employed to work in factories of various industries such as construction, marine, engineering, oil/petrochemical, pharmaceutical, bioscience, etc. Each of these jobs has its own particular hazards. Some of these hazards can cause immediate injury while others can cause sickness or injury over a period of time. For instance, an employee could slip and fall on a wet or greasy factory floor, while the repetitive act of lifting boxes can lead to chronic injuries.

Poor working conditions in the factories can also pose hazards to workers. Some of these hazards can have harmful effects on workers, their families, and other people in the community, as well as on the physical environment around the workplace.

A classic example is the use of chemicals at work. Workers can be exposed to toxic chemicals in a number of ways: they can inhale the chemicals during use, the chemicals can be absorbed through the skin, and the workers can ingest the chemicals if they eat, drink, or smoke without first washing their hands. The workers' families can also be exposed to residues of these chemicals which may be on the workers' clothes. Likewise, people in the community can be exposed in the same way.

Thus, it is important to adopt a safety mindset while at work. We must recognise these hazards and aim to prevent work-related incidents by being safe at work at all times.

### **Why is Safety@Work important?**

Work plays a central role in people's lives, since most workers spend at least eight hours a day at work. Thus, being safe at work is crucial to ensure that employees return home safely to their loved ones after a day's work.

An injury-free work environment drives productivity as a safe and healthy worker is able to contribute more to his or her job. Being safe at work also enhances the quality of our life as we are able to enjoy the company of our families and friends. Safety at work not only affects the person at work but also his next-of-kin and loved ones.

For more occupational safety and health related information, please visit our online OSHLAND exhibition at [www.mom.gov.sg/MOM/oshland/](http://www.mom.gov.sg/MOM/oshland/).