

Safety Trained Supervisor in Construction (STSC) Practice Exam (Sample)

Study Guide



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Questions

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- 1. What communication technique is most effective in the workplace?**
 - A. Written reports**
 - B. Email updates**
 - C. Face to face individual two-way communications**
 - D. Group presentations**
- 2. Who must have access to Safety Data Sheets (SDS) on a job site?**
 - A. Only the medic on site**
 - B. The supervisor or crew leader**
 - C. Every worker on site**
 - D. Only safety officers**
- 3. What is a critical safety measure for electrical power tools on construction sites?**
 - A. Ensure tools are maintained regularly**
 - B. Use only two-prong plugs**
 - C. Make use of ground fault circuit interrupters or an assured grounding conductor program**
 - D. Limit use of extension cords**
- 4. What must a worker know before isolating a machine?**
 - A. The specific energy isolation locations and devices**
 - B. The operational manual of the machine**
 - C. The previous maintenance schedule**
 - D. The manufacturer's contact information**
- 5. To provide a safe workplace, what should the STS limit their advice and recommendations to?**
 - A. Areas of personal interest**
 - B. Common knowledge**
 - C. Areas in which they have knowledge**
 - D. General best practices**

- 6. What defines Level "B" Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)?**
- A. Standard work gloves and helmets**
 - B. Basic coveralls with goggles**
 - C. Chemical-resistant suit with SCBA or Supplied Air**
 - D. No special equipment required**
- 7. In the context of safety training, what does the acronym PPE stand for?**
- A. Personal Protective Endeavors**
 - B. Personal Protection Equipment**
 - C. Public Protection Equipment**
 - D. Professional Protective Equipment**
- 8. What is the correct order of hazard control methods from highest to lowest effectiveness?**
- A. Designing out the hazard, using PPE, reducing exposure, eliminating the hazard**
 - B. Eliminating the hazard by substitution, reducing exposure, designing out the hazard, using PPE**
 - C. Designing out the hazard, eliminating the hazard, reducing exposure, using PPE**
 - D. Using PPE, reducing exposure, eliminating the hazard, designing out the hazard**
- 9. When a safety hazard presenting imminent danger is spotted by a supervisor, what is the first action they should take?**
- A. Ignore the hazard and continue monitoring the situation**
 - B. Stop the work and notify area supervisor to get hazard corrected**
 - C. Document the hazard for future reference**
 - D. Report it in the next safety meeting**

10. What is the primary reason for conducting accident investigations related to safety and health issues?

- A. To reduce insurance costs**
- B. To determine facts surrounding the event**
- C. To comply with government regulations**
- D. To improve worker morale**

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Answers

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1. C
2. C
3. C
4. A
5. C
6. C
7. B
8. C
9. B
10. B

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Explanations

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1. What communication technique is most effective in the workplace?

A. Written reports

B. Email updates

C. Face to face individual two-way communications

D. Group presentations

Face-to-face individual two-way communications is considered the most effective communication technique in the workplace for several reasons. This method allows for immediate feedback, clarifications, and the opportunity to address any misunderstandings on the spot. The interactive nature of this communication form fosters a personal connection, which can enhance trust and rapport between individuals involved. Moreover, non-verbal cues such as body language and facial expressions play a significant role in conveying messages and emotions, further enhancing the clarity of the communication. In contrast, written reports, email updates, and group presentations may lack the immediacy and personal touch that individual discussions provide. While these methods have their uses, they can lead to miscommunication due to the absence of real-time interaction and the inability to gauge the other person's reaction or understanding. Hence, face-to-face communication is essential for effective relationship building and more nuanced discussions in a workplace setting.

2. Who must have access to Safety Data Sheets (SDS) on a job site?

A. Only the medic on site

B. The supervisor or crew leader

C. Every worker on site

D. Only safety officers

The correct answer is that the supervisor or crew leader must have access to Safety Data Sheets (SDS) on a job site. It is critical for supervisors and crew leaders to have access to these sheets because they are responsible for ensuring the safety and health of all workers. SDS contain vital information about the hazards associated with chemicals used in the workplace, including proper handling, storage, and emergency protocols. Supervisors are tasked with educating their teams about these hazards and how to mitigate risks. Having this information readily available to the supervisor empowers them to make informed decisions and provide guidance to their crew, ensuring a safer working environment. While it is beneficial for every worker to have access to SDS, especially when handling hazardous materials, the primary responsibility for dissemination and understanding of this information falls on the supervisor or crew leader. They can then relay relevant information to all workers and ensure that safety practices are adhered to, promoting overall workplace safety.

3. What is a critical safety measure for electrical power tools on construction sites?

- A. Ensure tools are maintained regularly**
- B. Use only two-prong plugs**
- C. Make use of ground fault circuit interrupters or an assured grounding conductor program**
- D. Limit use of extension cords**

Using ground fault circuit interrupters (GFCIs) or an assured grounding conductor program is a critical safety measure for electrical power tools on construction sites because these devices provide essential protection against electrical hazards. GFCIs are designed to prevent electrical shock by monitoring the current flowing through a circuit and cutting off the power if an imbalance is detected, which can occur if electricity takes an unintended path, such as through a person. This is particularly important in construction environments where tools may come into contact with water or be used in damp locations, increasing the risk of electrical shock. Implementing an assured grounding conductor program ensures that tools are properly grounded, which is an essential safety feature designed to protect users from electrical faults. Both GFCIs and grounding practices significantly enhance safety and reduce the likelihood of accidents on site, making them a fundamental requirement in the electrical safety protocols for power tools used in construction.

4. What must a worker know before isolating a machine?

- A. The specific energy isolation locations and devices**
- B. The operational manual of the machine**
- C. The previous maintenance schedule**
- D. The manufacturer's contact information**

Before isolating a machine, it is crucial for a worker to know the specific energy isolation locations and devices. This knowledge is essential to effectively and safely perform lockout/tagout procedures, which are designed to prevent accidental energization of machinery during maintenance or repair work. Understanding where and how to isolate the energy sources ensures that the worker can safely eliminate all potential hazards related to electrical, mechanical, hydraulic, or pneumatic energy. While familiarity with the operational manual of the machine can provide insights into its functioning, it's not directly related to the immediate safety concerns during the isolation process. Similarly, knowing the previous maintenance schedule and the manufacturer's contact information may be beneficial for overall equipment management but does not directly contribute to the safety of isolating a machine. The priority must always be ensuring that the worker understands how to effectively isolate and control energy sources to prevent incidents, which makes knowing the specific isolation locations and devices vital.

5. To provide a safe workplace, what should the STS limit their advice and recommendations to?

- A. Areas of personal interest**
- B. Common knowledge**
- C. Areas in which they have knowledge**
- D. General best practices**

The focus of an STS (Safety Trained Supervisor) is to ensure a safe working environment by providing relevant and informed recommendations. Limiting advice and recommendations to areas in which the supervisor has knowledge is essential for several reasons. Firstly, knowledge ensures that the guidance given is accurate and applicable, which helps to prevent misunderstandings and potential hazards. An STS should only provide advice based on their training and experience, as this fosters trust and credibility among workers and management alike. When advice is based on a solid foundation of knowledge, it is more likely to result in effective implementation of safety measures and compliance with relevant regulations. Moreover, limiting recommendations to familiar areas reduces the risk of providing misleading or incorrect information, which could compromise worker safety. It also emphasizes the importance of continuing education and staying updated on best practices, codes, and safety standards relevant to their field. General best practices and common knowledge are valuable for overall workplace safety, but they should be understood in the context of a supervisor's specific expertise to be truly effective. Personal interest may not be based on professional training or knowledge and could lead to unsafe practices if not grounded in factual competence. Thus, focusing on knowledge areas ensures that the STS is providing the most reliable safety guidance.

6. What defines Level "B" Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)?

- A. Standard work gloves and helmets**
- B. Basic coveralls with goggles**
- C. Chemical-resistant suit with SCBA or Supplied Air**
- D. No special equipment required**

Level "B" Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is defined as a chemical-resistant suit that is typically worn with a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) or supplied air system. This level of protection is necessary when there is a high potential for exposure to hazardous materials, specifically where chemical splashes, vapors, or gases are possible, but the specific identity and nature of the chemicals are known. The requirement for an SCBA or supplied air highlights the need for respiratory protection against airborne contaminants, which is critical in maintaining the safety and health of workers in environments where they might encounter significant chemical risks. In contrast, the other choices reflect levels of PPE that are not sufficient for situations involving hazardous chemicals. Standard work gloves and helmets provide only minimal protection and are suited for general construction work without exposure to serious chemical hazards. Basic coveralls with goggles offer limited protection and do not address the respiratory risks posed by hazardous materials. The option indicating no special equipment required fails to recognize the potential risks present in environments where hazardous substances are encountered, which would make Level "B" PPE essential for ensuring safety compliance and protecting workers effectively.

7. In the context of safety training, what does the acronym PPE stand for?

- A. Personal Protective Endeavors**
- B. Personal Protection Equipment**
- C. Public Protection Equipment**
- D. Professional Protective Equipment**

Personal Protective Equipment, abbreviated as PPE, refers to specialized gear or clothing designed to protect individuals from various hazards in the workplace or other environments. This term is widely used in safety training and protocols to ensure the health and safety of employees. PPE includes items such as gloves, helmets, goggles, and respiratory equipment, all aimed at mitigating risks from physical, chemical, and biological hazards. Understanding PPE is crucial in promoting a culture of safety, as it emphasizes the importance of taking proactive steps to safeguard oneself from potential injuries or exposure to harmful substances. The use of the term "Personal Protective Equipment" specifically highlights the individualized nature of this equipment, acknowledging that the protection provided is tailored to the specific needs of each person based on their roles and the hazards they may encounter.

8. What is the correct order of hazard control methods from highest to lowest effectiveness?

- A. Designing out the hazard, using PPE, reducing exposure, eliminating the hazard**
- B. Eliminating the hazard by substitution, reducing exposure, designing out the hazard, using PPE**
- C. Designing out the hazard, eliminating the hazard, reducing exposure, using PPE**
- D. Using PPE, reducing exposure, eliminating the hazard, designing out the hazard**

The correct order of hazard control methods from highest to lowest effectiveness is indeed correctly identified as designing out the hazard, eliminating the hazard, reducing exposure, and using personal protective equipment (PPE). Starting with the most effective method, designing out the hazard involves creating a work environment that eliminates potential risks altogether through careful planning and engineering solutions. This approach is aimed at removing the hazard before it can cause any harm, which is the ideal goal in safety management. Following that, eliminating the hazard is another highly effective method, which means removing the hazard completely from the workplace environment. Both designing out and eliminating hazards are proactive strategies, focusing on preventing risks rather than managing them after they have been introduced. Next, reducing exposure relates to minimizing the likelihood or severity of exposure to a hazard that still exists. This approach might include implementing measures such as job rotation, limiting the amount of time workers spend near the hazard, or using barriers to reduce contact. Finally, using PPE is considered the lowest effective control method. While PPE is essential for protecting workers, it is a reactive measure that comes into play after other controls have been implemented. It does not eliminate or reduce hazards at the source but rather serves as a last line of defense when other controls may not be sufficient. Understanding

9. When a safety hazard presenting imminent danger is spotted by a supervisor, what is the first action they should take?

- A. Ignore the hazard and continue monitoring the situation**
- B. Stop the work and notify area supervisor to get hazard corrected**
- C. Document the hazard for future reference**
- D. Report it in the next safety meeting**

The first action a supervisor should take when encountering a safety hazard that presents imminent danger is to stop the work and notify the area supervisor to ensure the hazard is corrected. This is aligned with the principle of prioritizing worker safety above all else. Imminent dangers are hazards that can cause serious injury or death if not addressed immediately; therefore, it is crucial for the supervisor to take swift action to protect employees. Stopping work is essential because it minimizes the risk of accidents and injuries that could occur if the hazardous condition remains unaddressed. By notifying the area supervisor, the supervisor ensures that appropriate corrective actions are implemented quickly and effectively. This immediate response not only safeguards the workforce but also demonstrates a commitment to maintaining a safe work environment. In contrast, allowing the hazard to persist by not taking action, documenting it for future reference, or waiting to report it in a safety meeting is insufficient as it can lead to potentially severe consequences and injuries. Each of these alternatives lacks the urgency required when dealing with imminent danger, thus reinforcing why halting work and addressing the hazard immediately is the mandated response.

10. What is the primary reason for conducting accident investigations related to safety and health issues?

- A. To reduce insurance costs**
- B. To determine facts surrounding the event**
- C. To comply with government regulations**
- D. To improve worker morale**

Conducting accident investigations primarily aims to determine the facts surrounding the event. This process involves gathering detailed information about what occurred, analyzing the sequence of events, and identifying contributing factors. By establishing a clear understanding of how and why an incident happened, organizations can develop effective measures to prevent similar occurrences in the future. Investigating accidents goes beyond simply gathering data; it enables the identification of hazards, unsafe practices, and systemic failures within a safety management system. This evidence-based approach is crucial for making informed decisions about changes to policies, procedures, and training that ultimately enhance workplace safety. While reducing insurance costs, complying with regulations, and improving worker morale can be outcomes of effective safety management, they are not the primary reasons for conducting an investigation. Focusing on the facts surrounding the incident directly contributes to fostering a culture of safety, as it empowers employers and employees to learn from past mistakes and continuously improve safety practices.