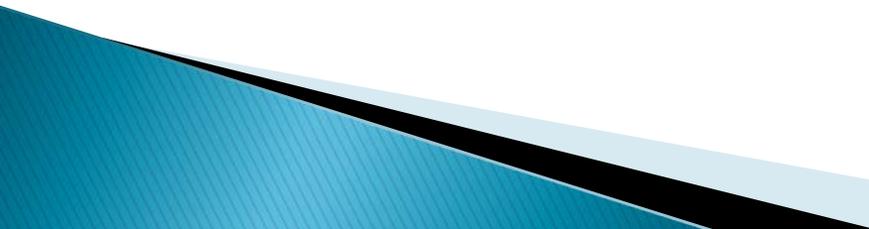


Concerns from the Field

Dr. Bridgette Hester
Hubble Foundation

When Asked....

- ▶ When posted on social media and through emails, the workers in the field gave some of their concerns about safety issues and fatalities.
 - ▶ They have offered up things that they come across in the field that they believe need to be addressed by the industry, OSHA, the DOL, the FCC, and any other pertinent players within the industry.
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Training Concerns...

- ▶ There should be one single standard that is all inclusive and more comprehensive.
 - ▶ Standards that test & record different levels of competence (applicable to both the climber and all foremen).
 - ▶ Concerns with the Train the Trainer Program – there is no oversight.
 - ▶ Too many “Green Hands” & companies being permitted to just send them in the field to do work before they are ready.
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Training Concerns...

- ▶ Intense training for the different tasks executed in the field. There are many job functions and there is not enough training on each aspect.
 - ▶ How can there be standards for wind/rain/lightning in instances of crane work, but no parallel standard for tower workers?
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Carrier & Tower Owner & Employer Concerns...

- ▶ Encouragement of personal responsibility
 - ▶ Designers, Engineers and Carrier techs should have required climbing experience
 - ▶ More audits and inspections of towers
 - ▶ The employers, and carriers should be held responsible for pushing the crews beyond their limits to meet a deadline
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Towers

- ▶ T-Boom elimination
- ▶ Marked tie off anchors
- ▶ Marker lifting anchors
- ▶ Quit over loading booms
- ▶ More time
- ▶ More money
- ▶ Stress tests
- ▶ Testing on site not in an office
- ▶ Make servicing equipment accessible
- ▶ Nationwide universal codes
- ▶ Also a discussion of the feasibility of installing hd video feeds on towers could possibly serve not only as a deterrent to unsafe climbing practices, but also as an important investigative tool regarding fatalities.

OSHA, DOL, FCC...

- ▶ Stop reducing fines for companies when there is a fatality
- ▶ How can you reconcile the instances of fines for a hard-hat violations with no accidents or injuries costing up to \$5000 with instances of climber fatalities costing less than \$1000?

OSHA, DOL, FCC...

- ▶ Companies are profiting from the destruction of climbers. How can you reconcile instances of serious/willful climber fatalities costing less than the profit for an average site?
 - ▶ How can it be that there is no industry standard training for rigging of any kind?
 - ▶ OSHA Training...why does the training required for telecommunications workers not include example videos or scenarios that pertain to the hazards of the telecommunication field (which are more diverse) in addition to building construction hazards?
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Climbers...

- ▶ More encouragement of personal responsibility
 - ▶ Recourse for ex-employees to report to OSHA and be HEARD and NOT seen as “disgruntled”
 - ▶ Crews should be performing practice rescues weekly
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Apprenticeship Program

- ▶ Will this eventually have an accredited curriculum similar to that of the Linemen apprenticeship program?
 - ▶ How are you safeguarding against sponsors (companies) rubber stamping assessments?
 - ▶ What is estimated cost for a company to be a sponsor? How much will it cost in added administrative work, software, etc... for a company to get on board with this program?
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Apprenticeship Program

- ▶ “Responsibilities of the Sponsoring Employer” --- under this section, the point labeled “c” says Determine the quality and quantity of experience that the apprentices should have...” Shouldn’t this be the responsibility of the TIRAP council? What is in place to ensure consistency and quality from company to company if they are left to make these determinations themselves? One man’s quality is another man’s shortcut.



Apprenticeship Program

- ▶ Drug Testing?
 - ▶ Under related instruction you mention something called an “alternate form of instruction.” What do you mean by this? Can you provide an example?
 - ▶ What stop gaps are in place to prevent companies from falsifying records in general, but also as it relates to complaints?
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