

# Gulf Safety Emphasis Scenarios User Guide

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# Safety Scenarios User Guide

## Background

These discussion questions and scenarios are designed to generate conversations about safety. The discussion questions can be used with leaders or other safety experts to explore a theme. If you want to explore a theme with people who are familiar with a facility (e.g., people working offshore), you can ask them to assess the scenario (rate the likelihood that the scenario would occur, as described, at their facility) and then discuss their perspectives. These scenarios can be used with or without the survey, but they reflect the themes in the Safety Emphasis measure. They have several benefits including:

- Eliciting information on how the team perceives the situation or a concern
- Developing a shared understanding of how these situations could/should be handled
- Generating general ideas on how to minimize any potential safety gaps reflected in these scenarios

For additional tips on enhancing safety within an organization see the Tips for Safety Emphasis Themes document.

## Scenarios for Discussion

### Theme 1 – Anticipate, Prevent, Understand, Improve

Emphasis on anticipating, preventing, understanding, and improving (vs. emphasis on fixing mistakes/errors and determining who is responsible)
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#### Scenario to stimulate discussion offshore:

A member of your work team consistently fails to perform on-going maintenance activities that help avert safety problems but has saved the day a number of times by quickly fixing a problem after it emerged.

*How likely is it that this person would be recognized as a high performer on your team?" \_\_\_\_\_ % (0-100%)*

#### Discussion questions:

- What are we doing that emphasizes anticipating potential problems, thinking systemically, and making improvements?
- What might we do differently?

## Theme 2 – Adjust Appropriately

Emphasis on adjusting to fit needs (vs. emphasis on consistency)

### Scenario to stimulate discussion offshore:

The company has a standard procedure for changing out a seal on any pump, but a few crew members believe it would be better to have a different procedure for one pump to make it easier to remove the trap cover. The change would require an equipment modification as well as a procedure change and would only apply to this one pump.

*How likely is it that the recommended changes to this one pump would be received positively by leadership? \_\_\_\_\_% (0-100%)*

### Discussion questions:

- What are we doing that encourages people to request adjustments when needed (e.g., recommending procedural adjustments, different degrees of inspection based on risk)?
- How can we do that in a way that doesn't undermine the need for consistency?

## Theme 3 – Promote Psychological Safety

Emphasis on psychological safety, openness, and empowerment (vs. emphasis on control)

### Scenario to stimulate discussion offshore:

A junior member of the work team noticed a discrepancy or confusion in the bridging document. They aren't quite sure whether to follow a safety procedure from the facility owner or a contractor.

*How likely is it that the person will speak up and tell someone that they are confused? \_\_\_\_\_% (0-100%)*

### Discussion questions:

- What are we doing that makes it easier for people to speak up, ask questions, report injuries, and feel empowered to use stop work authority?
- What might interfere with people feeling "psychologically safe" enough to do these things?

## Theme 4 – Prioritize Safety

Emphasis on safety (vs emphasis on speed or production)

### Scenario to stimulate discussion offshore:

A person working at your facility noticed a relatively small but potentially dangerous problem and used his stop work authority to cease production.

*How likely is it that this person would get **full support** for having done this?  
(0-100%)*

### Alternative scenario to stimulate discussion offshore:

A task has been identified that will need to be completed at your facility. Before starting the work, a job safety analysis will need to be performed. The type of JSA being proposed is quite thorough, going beyond “checking the box” to demonstrate compliance. Instead, it would include a comprehensive assessment to ensure the work will be done properly and safely.

*How likely is it that the proposal would be viewed positively at your facility?  
\_\_\_\_\_ % (0-100%)*

### Discussion questions:

- What are we doing that emphasizes safety as the top priority?
- How do we balance the need for speed and production with the critical need for safety?