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Translating safety research into practice: Lessons learned from 30 years of safety culture research

Safety culture is an important construct in industrial safety management and could be described as one of the most important developments in industrial safety in recent history. In this presentation I will describe how safety culture research can provide important insight into translating research into practice. This research highlights the benefits of adopting a collaborative approach when conducting occupational health and safety research, while also identifying the challenges in working closely with stakeholders including government, industry and labor. Safety culture research has been conducted in response to industry interest in the concept. This industry interest has resulted in excellent knowledge translation, but also may have contributed to the fragmentation of the research area.