

## **Welcome to Acumen Improve Safety**

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Acumen's leading edge software has helped improve the health, safety & wellbeing of workers on construction sites, street works and utility works since 2004. Our software has been used by over 100,000 engineers, we have processed in excess of 250million records, recorded and helped resolve 250,000 safety incidents with over 80 million supporting photos.

Acumen is now bringing safety solutions to all business big and small by removing the burden of cost and complexity - providing a low cost solution that can be used to start your journey to better safety management or help support you in your desire in continually improve safety and wellbeing.

As part of our offering, we are going to be sharing some insights into the wealth of data we have managed across the 250,000 safety incidents. We hope that by sharing these insights into types of incidents, why they occur, responsibilities and an intellectual model that underpins everything we do in safety we will provide some valuable knowledge for all. Some of our articles & papers will be theoretical, some will be data focused and some will provide help and guidance.

We have decided to publish these articles for many reason but fundamentally, since COVID-19 the focus on the health & wellbeing of the workforce has intensified - and rightly so. Everyone who goes to work, deserves to be safe at work and go home after work without harm!

Before COVID-19, the health & wellbeing of workers was important to many organisations.

However, during the pandemic, we found ourselves in unprecedented times - COVID-19 had fundamentally changed how we worked, socialised and interacted with each other. The impact of COVID-19 on the construction and utility industries has been profound. As countries went into lockdown, construction sites big and small shutdown. Workers were laid off, work was suspended, progress was hit, financial costs rocketed and the bottom line profitability was hit hard. COVID-19 was a hard lesson for us all. **All industries have learnt** that health matters cannot be underestimated again in the future.

Solutions, strategies and guidance for future pandemics are starting to emerge. But, what we all need to realise, is that health, wellbeing and safety are all fundamental aspects that we need to have forefront in our thinking in order to bring about a paradigm shift on how we manage health, safety and welfare provisions.

We must all acknowledge the profound impact that Health & Safety events (big and small) can have on industries all over the world. We need to better equip ourselves to prepare, respond and react to all health, safety, and welfare events that can effect construction activity - be them global pandemics or on site safety issues.

We might have the tools at our fingertips but do we have the right mindset? We may need to adjust our thinking and mind set on how we enable, interact and utilise these tools to better support the organisation.

Our golden thread of intellectual thinking tackles the need to embrace new ways of thinking towards information, communications and technology. Without this new paradigm organisations will find themselves tackling



existing and new threats with outdated ways of thinking which will ultimately restrict their ability to respond effectively.

In our series of articles we will present many facts, figures, theories and insights. Importantly this is based on the need to accept that:

- Health & Safety management is more complex that we have anticipated and as such our thinking has been restricted by our limited view of concepts.
- Health & Safety management is a continuous connected conversation by multiple people involved in every aspect of the organisation.
- To fully embrace Health & Safety an organisation must embrace technology in a way that allows the organisation to evolve their technology footprint.

Our solution & theoretical model from where we base our thinking is comprised of five interrelated elements: This model will be presented many times during our series of articles - at heart of this is the acceptance that an interconnected continuous conversation about Health & Safety is required by all organisations.

We can keep every safe & well and work - but me might just have to re-think some of what we do.

## **About the Author**

Paul Robinson PhD blends his academic track record with 20 years industry experience in technology and safety solutions working for organisations such as the NHS Patient Safety Program, consultation and software services to numerous organisations such as Skanska, Qatar Foundation. ASTAD, Amey, AVOVE, Pitney Bowes, TIME Qatar, Balfour Beatty and many others

