

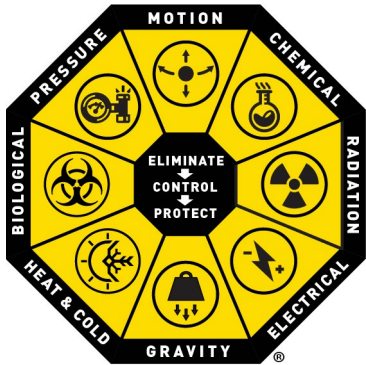


Empowering Safety

A step closer to zero

The safety of our people is foundational to our work. It is the basis upon which all our decisions are made. If something cannot be done safely, then it is not worth doing, and if a situation becomes unsafe, then we stop work until it is made safe.

That belief is codified throughout the company with our Commitment to Zero. It is the goal that we operate without personal injury, environmental release or process safety incident.



With thousands of people working across our sites around the world, ensuring everyone's personal safety requires a thorough understanding of the types of situations that lead to injuries. After researching more than 500 safety incidents, we discovered that in

more than 70% of cases, failure to recognize hazards was the leading cause of personal injury.

So we found a tool to help people recognize hazards.

First introduced by safety leaders in our Chocolate Bayou site in Alvin, Texas, Hazard Recognition Plus™ is a thought process used to plan and perform work more safely and successfully. It helps reveal unnoticed hazards by evaluating energy sources in a systematic manner.

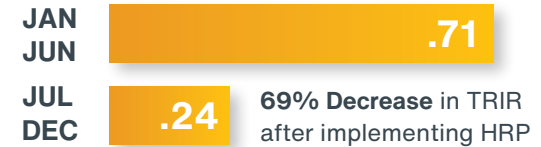
“We went from recognizing eight hazards to recognizing 58,” says Bryan Turbyfill, a maintenance supervisor in our site in Decatur, Alabama, who led one of Ascend's earliest teams to fully integrate HRP. “Some of my employees said they felt like they've had blinders on. It has really changed our thought process.”

A key component of HRP is how it helps identify stop-the-job triggers, says ESSH vice president Paul Cartlidge. “If you don't have the proper PPE or tools, or if the scope of work has changed, HRP empowers our people to stop work and reevaluate.”

People working at our sites have now been trained and now include HRP in their job planning. It's an extra step, but one that Paul says is well worth it.

“The focus is on putting in the time to prepare our work, understanding the hazards, and most importantly mitigating those hazards before we work is the focus. That will take a little bit more time, and that's ok.”

2019 TRIR



Since adopting HRP, our total recordable injury rate has improved considerably.

In the extra moment we take for HRP, we move one step closer to achieving our Commitment to Zero.

We have done a fair amount of work on all three aspects of our Commitment to Zero; Read about our work on [reducing environmental releases](#) and [improving process safety](#).