# CONSTRUCTION SAFETY CULTURE SCALE

# ITEM GENERATION

Deductive & Subject Matter Expert Approach 52-Items

52 Items Generated Based on Safety Culture **Definition and** Past Literature.

"Deeply held but often unspoken safetyrelated beliefs, attitudes, and values that interact with an organization's systems, practices, people, and leadership to establish norms about how things are done in the organization. Safety culture is a subset of and clearly influenced by, organizational culture. Organizations often have multiple cultures or subcultures, and this may be particularly true in construction." (NIOSH/CPWR, 2013, p.14)

## **5** Industry Subject Matter Experts were Consulted.

Orig ord

The SME's reviewed each question and rated the relevance to construction safety culture on a 5-point scale. They also were provided an opportunity to add items to the scale.

Based on SME agreement and construct fidelity, we removed 16-items, leaving 36items for the next scale development phase.

361 sc 371 fe 50 Wh 10 On 11 On 15 De 18 21 Ho 29 In 1	ow many times could you have reported a near-miss but did not? sometimes do not wear all my PPE because it gets in the way of my work. eel there is pressure to get the job done as quick and cheap as possible. hat is one thing you would do to make your work day safer for you and your coworkers? n average, how often are you disciplined when you act unsafely or break a rule? n average, how often are your coworkers disciplined when they act unsafely or break a rule? epending on who I am working with on the shift, I have to be more cautious for my safety. out of of my coworkers often do not follow safety rules and regulations. w many times have you reported a near-miss?	1 1 1 1 1 1 5	3 3 4 4 3 3	4 4 4 4	3 5 5 3	1 1 1	2.4 2.8 3	4 5
371 fe 50Wr 100n 110n 15De 18	eel there is pressure to get the job done as quick and cheap as possible. hat is one thing you would do to make your work day safer for you and your coworkers? n average, how often are you disciplined when you act unsafely or break a rule? n average, how often are your coworkers disciplined when they act unsafely or break a rule? epending on who I am working with on the shift, I have to be more cautious for my safety. out of of my coworkers often do not follow safety rules and regulations.	1 1 1	4 4 3	4 4	5			5
50 Wr 10 On 11 On 15 De 18 21 Ho 29 In 1	hat is one thing you would do to make your work day safer for you and your coworkers? n average, how often are you disciplined when you act unsafely or break a rule? n average, how often are your coworkers disciplined when they act unsafely or break a rule? epending on who I am working with on the shift, I have to be more cautious for my safety. out of of my coworkers often do not follow safety rules and regulations.	1 1 1	4	4		1	3	
10 0n 11 0n 15 De 18 21 Ho 29 In 1	n average, how often are you disciplined when you act unsafely or break a rule? n average, how often are your coworkers disciplined when they act unsafely or break a rule? epending on who I am working with on the shift, I have to be more cautious for my safety. out of of my coworkers often do not follow safety rules and regulations.	1 1	3		2		5	6
110n 15De 18 21Ho 29In 1	n average, how often are your coworkers disciplined when they act unsafely or break a rule? epending on who I am working with on the shift, I have to be more cautious for my safety. out of of my coworkers often do not follow safety rules and regulations.	1		4	3	3	3	6
15 De 18 21 Ho 29 In 1	epending on who I am working with on the shift, I have to be more cautious for my safety. out of of my coworkers often do not follow safety rules and regulations.		3	-	4	4	3.2	6
18 21Ho 29In 1	out of of my coworkers often do not follow safety rules and regulations.	5	5	4	4	4	3.2	6
21Ho 29In 1			2	4	4	1	3.2	6
21Ho 29In 1		5	3	4		4	3.2	6
		1	2	5	3	5	3.2	6
121 te	the past 6-months: How many times have you stopped your job task because you felt it was unsafe?	1	5	4	5	1	3.2	6
	end to take more risks when I am working alone compared to when I am working with coworkers.	3	4	5	3	2	3.4	6
30 ln -	the past 6-months: How many times have your coworkers stopped work because it was unsafe?	2	5	4	5	1	3.4	6
	vould feel pressure from my coworkers if I were to delay the job due to a safety concern.	1	5	5	5	1	3.4	6
	vould feel pressure from my supervisor if I were to delay the job due to a safety concern.	1	5	5	5	1	3.4	6
0.11.11			Ŭ	Ű	Ŭ	-	0.1	
47 lf I	I raise a safety concern, I worry that our business might not get another contract with the same contractor.	1	5	3	5	3	3.4	6
48I fe	eel less safe when I work for certain contractors.	1	4	3	5	4	3.4	6
20n	n average, how often do your coworkers receive positive feedback when acting safely.	4	2	4	4	4	3.6	7
171 b	pelieve that out of my coworkers care about their own personal safety.	4	3	3	4	4	3.6	7
	the past 6-months: How many times SHOULD you have stopped work because you felt it was unsafe?							
31(W	/hy/Why not)	2	5	5	5	1	3.6	7
51Wh	hat, if anything, stops you from reporting safety accidents and injuries?	1	4	5	5	3	3.6	7
10n	n average, how often do you receive positive feedback for acting safely.	4	3	4	4	4	3.8	7
161 b	elieve that out of my coworkers care about my safety when we are working together.	5	3	3	3	5	3.8	7
19	_ out of of my coworkers always follow safety rules and regulations.	5	3	4	4	3	3.8	7
52 lf t	the government legalized marijuana, would it make your workplace more dangerous? Why or why not?	1	5	3	5	5	3.8	7
26lf I	I saw something dangerous or unsafe coworker, I would tell to other coworkers about it.	5	4	4	2	5	4	ξ
60n	n average, how involved are your coworkers in the decisions regarding their health and safety at work?	4	3	5	5	4	4.2	ε
13Co	ompared to when I am alone, I behave more safe when I am around coworkers.	5	4	5	5	2	4.2	ξ
14Co	ompared to when I am alone, I behave more safe when I am around my supervisor	5	4	5	5	2	4.2	8
	I saw something dangerous or unsafe condition, I would talk to my coworkers about it.	5	4	4	3	5	4.2	8
	y direct supervisor is quick to resolve safety issues on the job site.	5	4	4	4	4	4.2	8
-	y direct supervisor provides the appropriate amount of discipline when a safety rule or procedure has been							
45 bro	oken.	5	4	4	4	4	4.2	8
	y direct supervisor provides the appropriate amount of discipline when a safety rule or procedure has been							
46bro		5	4	4	4	4	4.2	8
30n	n an average work week, how often do you prioritize productivity over safety?	5	5	5	4	3	4.4	8
40n	n an average work week, how often do your coworkers prioritize productivity over safety?	5	5	5	4	3	4.4	8
50n	n average, how involved are you in the decisions regarding your health and safety at work?	4	4	5	5	4	4.4	٤
90n	n average, how often do your coworkers follow safety rules and procedures?	5	3	5	5	4	4.4	8
23lf I	I saw a dangerous or unsafe condition, I would talk to my supervisor about it.	5	3	4	5	5	4.4	٤
25 lf I	I saw a dangerous or unsafe coworker, I would talk to my supervisor about it.	5	4	3	5	5	4.4	٤
41My	y direct supervisor focuses on working safety, even if work will fall behind schedule.	5	4	4	4	5	4.4	٤
49Ce	ertain contractors do not prioritize safety.	5	4	3	5	5	4.4	8
7 On	n average, how often are the appropriate tools and equipment available for you to work safely?	5	4	4	5	5	4.6	ç
80n	n average, how often do you follow safety rules and procedures?	5	3	5	5	5	4.6	ç
	ur organization has a process to capture near-miss incidents (incidents that did not result in damage or harm,							
20bu	It easily could have) If Yes, then	5	3	5	5	5	4.6	ç
28 My	y supervisor is open to new ideas and ways of completing the job in a safer way.	5	5	4	5	4	4.6	ç
35I al	lways wear the appropriate PPE, even if it will take additional time to complete the job.	5	4	4	5	5	4.6	ç
38 My	y direct supervisor prioritizes safety over everything else.	5	5	4	4	5	4.6	ę
39 My	y direct supervisor supports me in receiving safety training	5	5	4	4	5	4.6	ç
40 My	y direct supervisor cares when I am not working safely.	5	4	5	4	5	4.6	ç
271 le	et my coworkers know when they are not working safely	5	5	5	4	5	4.8	ç
42 My	y direct supervisor leads by example when it comes to safety.	5	5	5	4	5	4.8	ç
	y direct supervisor listens to my safety concerns and suggestions.	5	5	5	4	5	4.8	ç
	eel comfortable reporting safety concerns, even if it means the job will be delayed.	5	5	5	5	5	5	10

## SCALE DEVELOPMENT

36 Items.

## 2 Scale Types + Short Answer

#### Frequency (0-100%)

"Indicate, on average, how often each statement occurs from 0% (never) to 100% (Always) in your workplace

#### Agreement (5-point scale)

When imagining your current job and employer, please indicate the extent to which you agree or disagree with each of the follow statements.

## Validated with 223 Construction Employees

223 construction employees (supervisors and labour) from a variety of subindustries while attending a training session at Nova Scotia Construction Safety.

### Sub-Industries:

**Commercial Construction** Concrete & Cement Products **Concrete Services Construction Infrastructure Electrical Services** Framing Heavy Construction Interior Finishing Services Masonry Insulation and Siding Misc Maintenance & Install Plumbing & Air Conditioning **Residential Construction** Roofing Site Work Wrecking & Demolition

# SCALE CONSTRUCTS

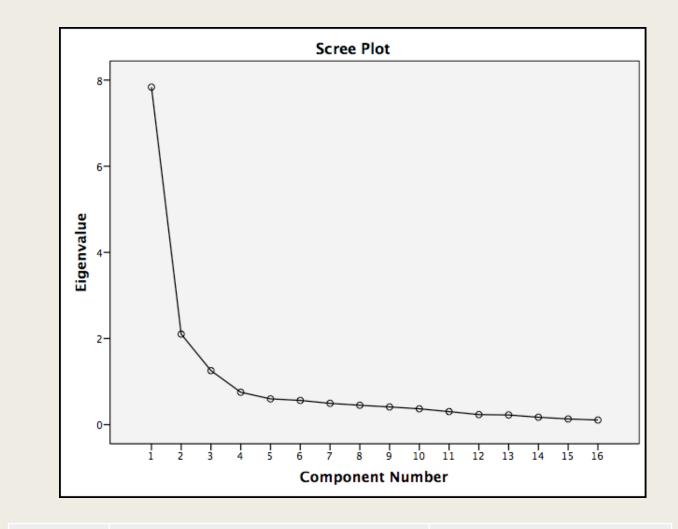
**3-Factor Solution** 

Principle Components Analysis: **3** - Factor Solution:

## 16 - Items

The Scree Plot is used to identify how many factors exist in the scale.

It is clear that there is a 3-factor solution from the scree plot and Eigenvalues (greater than 1).



		Initial Eigenvalues	Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings				
Component	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	
1	7.837	48.983	48.983	7.837	48.983	48.983	
2	2.102	13.138	62.121	2.102	13.138	62.121	
3	1.254	7.837	69.958	1.254	7.837	69.958	
4	.753	4.704	74.662				

	Supervisor Culture	Coworker Culture	Communication Culture
1My direct supervisor is quick to resolve safety issues on the job site.	.934		
1My direct supervisor leads by example when it comes to safety.	.883		
1My direct supervisor focuses on working safety. even if work will fall behind schedule.	.874		
1My direct supervisor listens to my safety concerns and suggestions.	.832		
1My direct supervisor provides the appropriate amount of discipline when a safety rule or procedure has been broken.	.788		
1My direct supervisor prioritizes safety over everything else.	.727		
1My supervisor is open to new ideas and ways of completing the job in a safer way.	.568		
2My coworkers always follow safety rules and regulations.		.848	
2My coworkers care about my safety when we are working together.		.838	
2How involved are your coworkers in the decisions regarding their health and safety at work?		.794	
2How often do your coworkers follow safety rules and procedures?		.772	
2How often do your coworkers receive positive feedback when acting safely.		.536	
3If I saw something dangerous or unsafe condition. I would talk to my coworkers about it.			.844
3If I saw a dangerous or unsafe condition. I would talk to my supervisor about it.			.842
3I let my coworkers know when they are not working safely.			.758
3I feel comfortable reporting safety concerns. even if it means the job will be delayed.			.517

## **3** Factors + Short Answer

Supervisor Culture: A supervisor's support towards safety has consistently been identified as one of the key drivers to a strong and positive safety culture. The selection of items represent a strong safety leader. Someone that leads by example, is receptive to individual safety concerns, and prioritizes safety.

<u>Coworker Culture</u>: How you perceive your coworkers can have an important role in identifying underlying aspects of safety culture and can reduce socially desirable responding.

**Communication Culture:** The items asses a **clear and uninhibited communication,** which is core to a strong and positive safety culture. 1 My direct supervisor is quick to resolve safety issues on the job site.

2 My direct supervisor leads by example when it comes to safety.

3 My direct supervisor focuses on working safety even if work will fall behind schedule.

4 My direct supervisor listens to my safety concerns and suggestions.

5 My direct supervisor provides the appropriate amount of discipline when a safety rule or procedure has been broken.

6 My direct supervisor prioritizes safety over everything else.

7 My supervisor is open to new ideas and ways of completing the job in a safer way.

8My coworkers always follow safety rules and regulations.

9My coworkers care about my safety when we are working together.

10 How involved are your coworkers in the decisions regarding their health and safety at work?

11 How often do your coworkers follow safety rules and procedures?

12 How often do your coworkers receive positive feedback when acting safely.

13 If I saw something dangerous or unsafe condition. I would talk to my coworkers about it.

14 If I saw a dangerous or unsafe condition. I would talk to my supervisor about it.

15 I let my coworkers know when they are not working safely.

16 I feel comfortable reporting safety concerns. even if it means the job will be delayed.

## **RELIABILITY ANALYSIS**

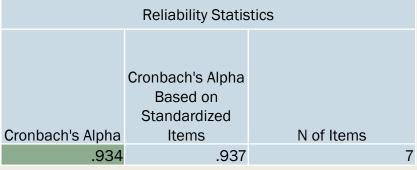
Cronbach's Alpha

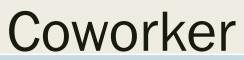
### Factor Reliability

Cronbach's Alpha is a reliability indicator of internal consistency.

An acceptable Cronbach's Alpha values range between .70 and 1.0

### Supervisor





Reliability StatisticsCronbach's Alpha<br/>Based on<br/>StandardizedCronbach's Alpha<br/>ItemsN of Items.816.845

#### Communication

Reliability StatisticsCronbach's Alpha<br/>Based on<br/>StandardizedCronbach's Alpha<br/>ItemsN of Items.812.827

## SCALE EVALUATION

Phase I Phase II underway

### Safety Culture Scale Relationships

Our Construction Safety Culture Scale was correlated with several safety performance scales, climate scale, and self-reported safety injury and events.

Safety Performance was measured by 4constructs. Safety Knowledge, Safety Motivation, Safety Compliance, and Safety Participation. Self-report injuries and safety events

Safety Climate

Safety knowledge, which refers to the amount of knowledge an employee has regarding safe work practices.

**Safety motivation**, which refers to an employees attitude towards the importance of safety.

Safety Participation, refers to an employees effort in contributing to the safety in the workplace.

Safety compliance, which refers to an employees ability to follow rules related to safety.

Correlations											
	Climate	Knowledge	Compliance	Participation	Motivation	Mean Injury		Self-Report Safety Injuries	Supervisor	Coworker	Communication
Climate	1	.390**	.563**	.507**	.514**	203**	199**	181**	.738**	.369**	.531**
Safety Performance: Knowledge		1	.650**	.641**	.741**	-0.067	-0.066	-0.055	.447**	.248**	.521**
Safety Performance: Compliance			1	.669**	.663**	156*	147*	145*	.637**	.298**	.646**
Safety Performance: Participation				1	.676**	-0.115	-0.119	-0.094	.502**	.304**	.609**
Safety Performance: Motivation					1	-0.111	-0.107	-0.095	.504**	.183**	.546**
Self-Report Safety Events							1	.788**	260**	-0.13	-0.098
Self-Report Safety Injuries								1	217**	-0.065	-0.084
Supervisor									1	.545**	.612**
Coworker										1	.323**
Communication											1

### Neal, A., & Griffin, M., A. (2006)

#### Safety climate

1. Management places a strong emphasis on workplace health and safety

2. Safety is given a high priority by management

3. Management considers safety to be important

#### Safety compliance

1. I use all the necessary safety equipment to do my job

2. I use the correct safety procedures for carrying out my job

3. I ensure the highest levels of safety when I carry out my job

#### Safety participation

1. I promote the safety program within the organization

2. I put in extra effort to improve the safety of the workplace

3. I voluntarily carry out tasks or activities that help to improve workplace safety

Safety motivation

1. I feel that it is worthwhile to put in effort to maintain or improve my personal safety

2. I feel that it is important to maintain safety at all times

3. I believe that it is important to reduce the risk of accidents and incidents in the workplace

Safety knowledge (Neal, Griffin, & Hart, 2000; Griffin & Neal, 2000)

1. I know how to perform my job in a safe manner

2. I know how to maintain or improve workplace health and safety

3. I understand the health and safety regulations relating to my work