

# Behavioural based Safety – Challenges in Asia

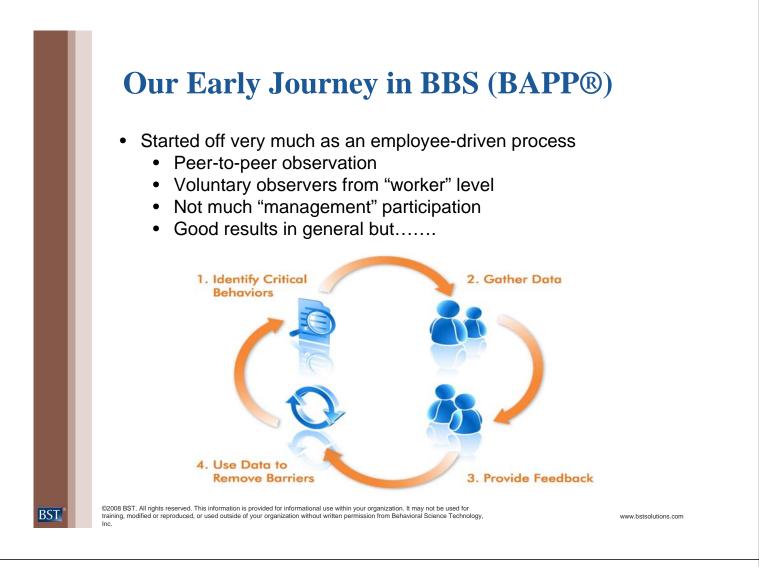
Ricky Yu BST Asia 19 January 2009

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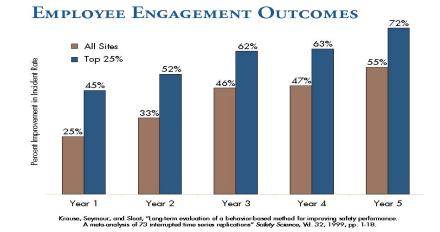
## Introduction

- Established in 1979 → One of the early pioneers in Behavioural based Safety (BBS)
- Evolution of our client base
  - Early clients → mostly Oil & Gas
  - Recent ones → Healthcare Industry (patient safety)
- Offices in Australia, Brazil, Singapore, South Africa, Switzerland, UK, US (HQ in California)
- >180 BST employees located around the world
- Close to 1 million+ BAPP®-engaged employees
- Projects at over 2,300 locations in more than 50 countries



# **Our Early Journey in BBS (BAPP®)**

- · Started off very much as an employee-driven process
  - Peer-to-peer observation
  - Voluntary observers from "worker" level
  - Not much "management" participation
  - · Good results in general but.....over time, variations emerge



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- It's a live document!
- **Observation / feedback**

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- · Only part of the whole process (it's not just observation training)
- The importance of (positive) feedback  $\rightarrow$ it's a "safety discussion" and not giving instructions
- "We are not good at asking questions"
- Quality before quantity
- Skills calibration •







Coaching

# The Real Problems lie in.... (cont)

- Dealing with resistance
  - Coaching / pairing
  - Process induction for non-departmental observers
  - Engage the skeptical
  - Engage the experienced
  - Observe the leaders! (以身作則)
- Action planning (removing the barriers)
  - Management participation → credibility reduces resistance
  - Communication is the key → tell them what have been done!
  - Intelligent data management → "garbage in, garbage out"

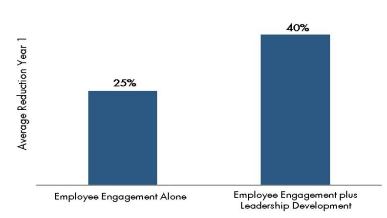
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## **BBS – Our Latest Thinking**

 From BBS to behavioural alignment → It turned out that leadership did play a role in many successful BAPP® implementation.....



#### When the Working Interface and Leadership are Integrated

# **But What Exactly Should They Do?**

- We are talking about managers and supervisors
- Let's think about how they can ruin safety efforts →
  - "Why are these people so stupid?"
  - "If our people would just follow the rules...."
  - "You don't have time for another useless observation"
  - "I need to take care of production at the other bay first.."
  - .....

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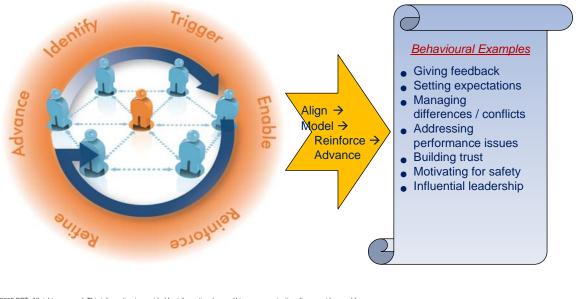
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## **But What Exactly Should They Do?**

- We are talking about managers and supervisors
- Applying the same concepts of BAPP®, we aim to identify a set of "critical behaviours" for managers and supervisors

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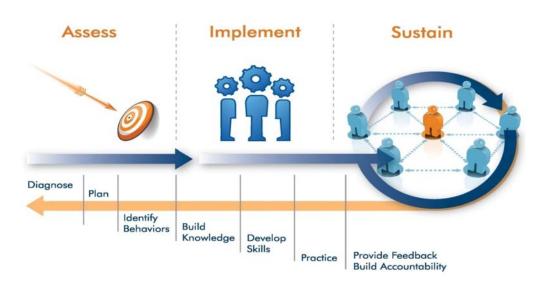


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# Is That All? What About the TOP?

• Traditional thinking about "senior" management support is about speech and \$.....but there are more...

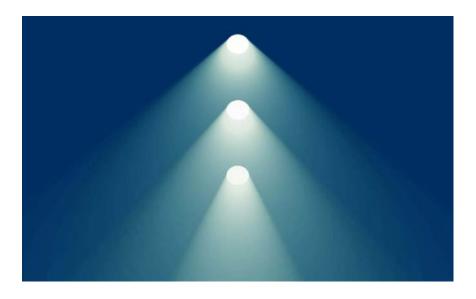


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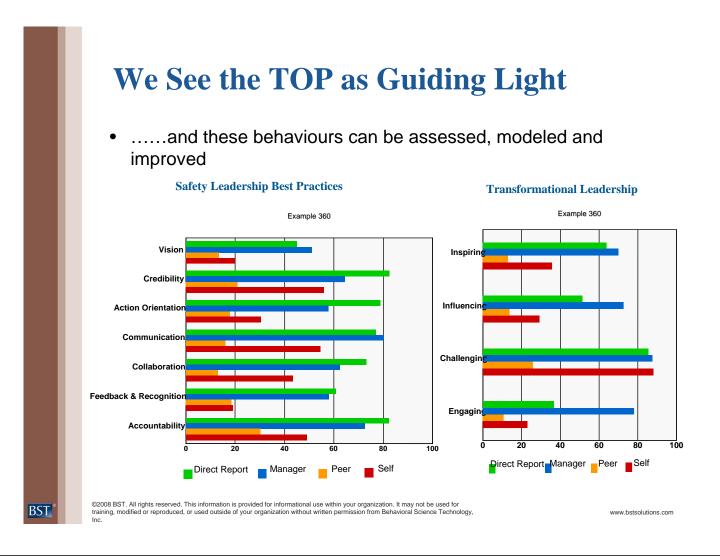
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# We See the TOP as Guiding Light

• What they do and say really shape the entire safety / organisation culture.....

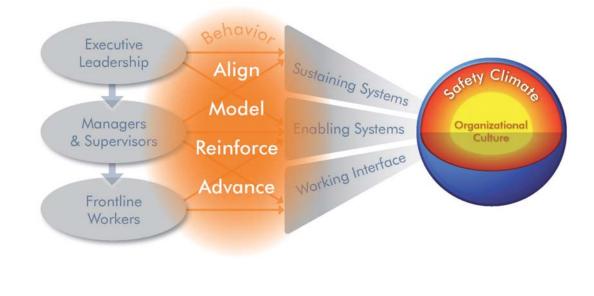


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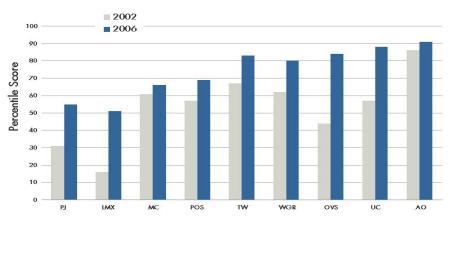
# So, What is World Class Safety?

• It requires behavioural alignment at ALL levels of the organisation



## So, What is World Class Safety?

• A strong organisational culture has a much high probability of sustaining excellent safety performance



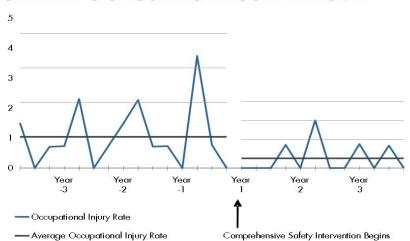
#### Culture Improves with Safety Focus

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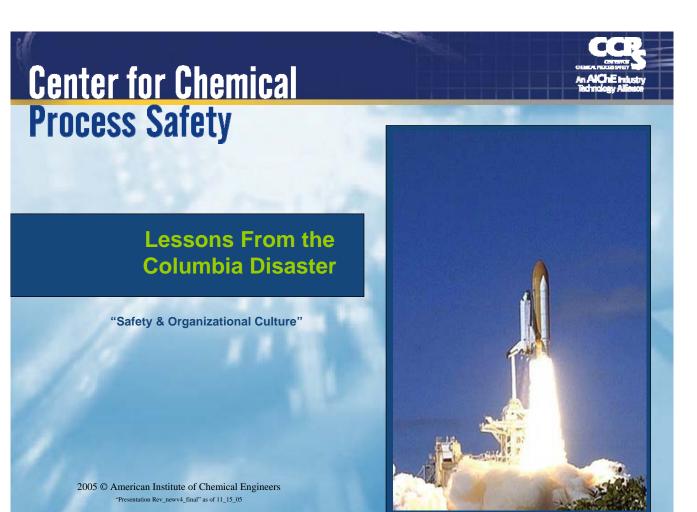
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## So, What is World Class Safety?

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#### SAFETY OUTCOMES ALSO IMPROVE



FEB 1, 2003 8:59 EST

Space shuttle Columbia, re-entering Earth's atmosphere at 10,000 mph, disintegrates

- All 7 astronauts were killed
- \$4 billion spacecraft was destroyed
- Debris scattered over 2000 sq-miles of Texas
- NASA grounded shuttle fleet for 2-1/2 years





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# **Columbia - The Physical Cause**

- Insulating foam separates from external tank 81 seconds after lift-off
- Foam strikes underside of left wing, breaches thermal protection system (TPS) tiles
- Superheated air enters wing during re-entry, melting aluminum struts
- Aerodynamic stresses destroy weakened wing



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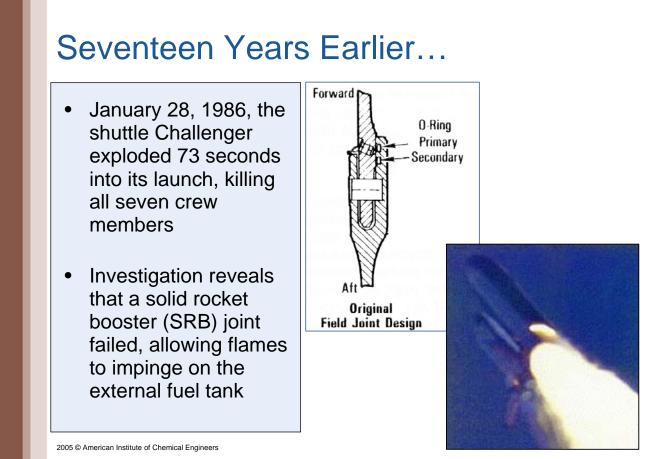
# A Flawed Decision Process

- Foam strike detected in launch videos on Day 2
- Engineers requested inspection by crew or remote photo imagery to check for damage
- Mission managers discounted foam strike significance
- No actions were taken to confirm shuttle integrity or prepare contingency plans



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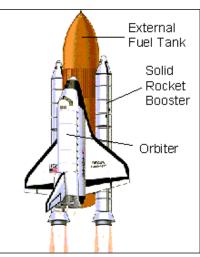
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# Challenger...

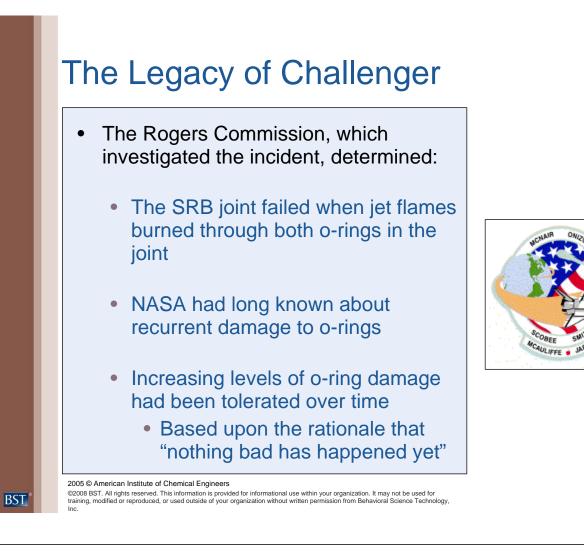
- Liquid hydrogen tank explodes, ruptures liquid oxygen tank
- Resulting massive explosion destroys the shuttle





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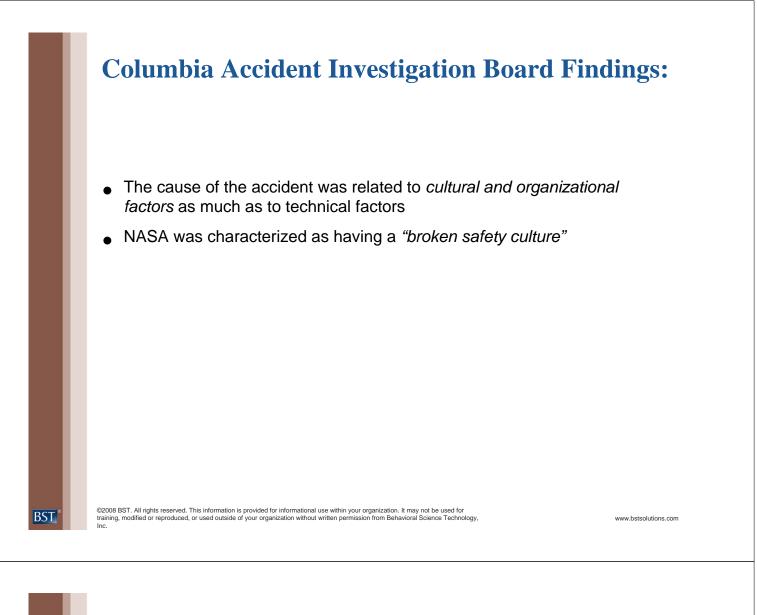
# The Legacy... continued

- The Commission also determined that:
  - SRB experts had expressed concerns about the safety of the Challenger launch
  - NASA's culture prevented these concerns from reaching top decision-makers
  - Past successes had created an environment of over-confidence within NASA
  - Extreme pressures to maintain launch schedules may have prompted flawed decision-making
- The Commission's recommendations addressed an number of organizational, communications, and safety oversight issues

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BST was given the task of assessing the NASA's culture and developing an intervention plan to change the culture of the organization

#### **Project Goals:**

- Assessment and Plan: 30 days
- Measurable progress: 6 months
- Transform culture: 36 months

### **Project Team:**

- 16 person BST team
- 2 sub-contractors
- Top-level NASA Steering Team at HQ
- Site-level implementation teams

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# **Assessment:**

- Administer BST Safety Climate and Culture Diagnostic Instrument and Leadership Diagnostic Instruments
- Conduct in-depth interviews and observations
- Analyze data
- Recommend plan

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# **Assessment Findings**

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# The Columbia Accident Investigation Board's view of organizational causes of the accident:

- 1. Barriers prevent effective communication of critical safety information and stifled professional differences of opinion.
- 2. Failure to recognize that decision making was inappropriately influenced by past success.
- **3.** Acceptance of decision-making processes that operate outside the organization's rules.

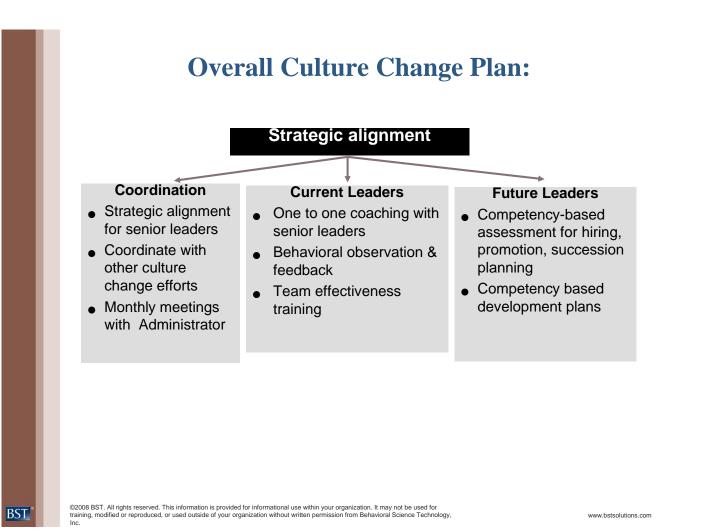
#### **BST Safety Climate & Culture Scales**

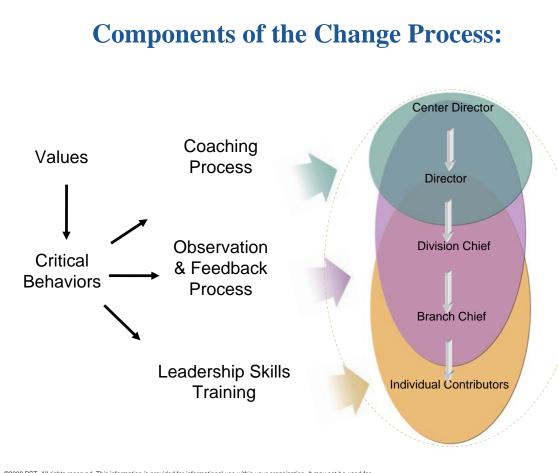
#### 98 92 88 83 78 77 77 Percentile Score 62 46 PJ LMX MC POS тw WGR SC UC AO ©2008 BST. All rights reserved. This information is provided for informational use within your organization. It may not be used for training, modified or reproduced, or used outside of your organization without written permission from Behavioral Science Technology, www.bstsolutions.com Inc

#### NASA Combined Overall Percentiles by Scale

#### **Themes from the Interviews and Observations:**

- 1. "We are a unique organization in a unique industry". Reluctance to learn from other industries.
- 2. Motivation, goal alignment and job satisfaction were very high. Pride of accomplishment, sense of mission, were primary drivers of individual performance.
- Individual competence does not reliably predict organizational competence. Highly-competent individuals were often dysfunctional in groups.





# **A Final Word**

 Don't forget that your Safety Enabling & Sustaining Systems are as important



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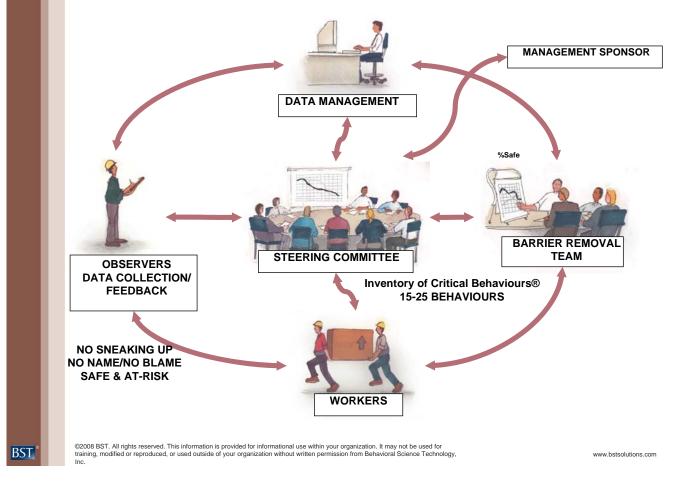
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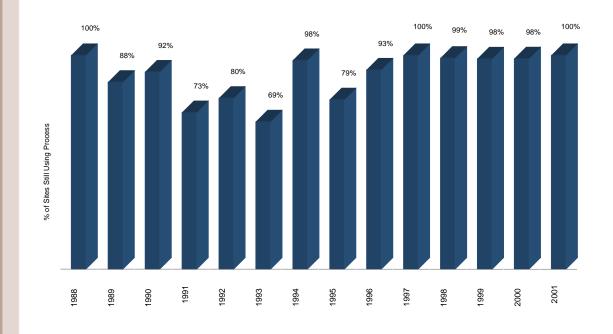
# Thank You

#### **BAPP® Technology Process Flow Chart**

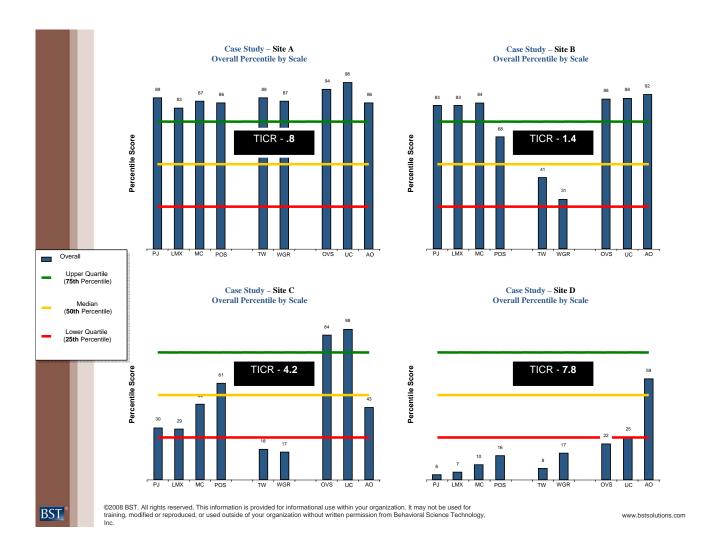




2001 Study



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# **Organisational Factors**

Scale	Description	Example
Management Credibility	Management is honest and trustworthy	<ul> <li>Most managers will keep their word</li> <li>Managers treat workers with respect</li> </ul>
Procedural Justice	Supervisor is fair and consistent	<ul> <li>Supervisor listens to concerns before making job decisions</li> <li>Decisions are unbiased</li> </ul>
Leader-Member Exchange	Relationship between leaders and their direct reports	<ul> <li>Supervisors understand workers' needs</li> <li>Supervisors develop their people</li> </ul>
Perceived Organizational Support	The company values its workers	<ul> <li>Company values my contribution</li> <li>Company cares about workers' well being</li> </ul>

### **Team Factors**

Scale	Description	Example
Teamwork	Team members get the job done	<ul> <li>Team members plan together and coordinate efforts</li> <li>Team members make good decisions</li> </ul>
Workgroup Relations	Team members get along	<ul> <li>Team members discuss difficulties with their co-workers</li> <li>Team members listen to each other's ideas</li> </ul>

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# **Safety-Specific Factors**

Scales	Description	Example
Organizational Value for Safety	Management values safety	<ul> <li>Mgmt is acting to make the workplace safer</li> <li>Mgmt is willing to invest money and effort to improve safety</li> </ul>
Upward Communications	Employees can communicate easily with supervisors about safety issues	<ul> <li>Supervisor cares about employees' safety concerns</li> <li>Workers are encouraged to report unsafe conditions</li> </ul>
Approaching Others	Peers will talk to each other about safety issues	<ul> <li>Workers will let each other know if there is a safety concern</li> <li>Workers would pass on safety information to others who have not heard it</li> </ul>