Treatment Group, Follow up Call

Treatment Group, Follow up Call Script (To be read to owners/managers 5 months from receipt of educational/informational manual). Name: Study Id# :

Hello, Is Mr. XX there? [*Mr. XX* is the person you talked to previously] If Mr. XX is not at work then find out when he will be at work and call again. If Mr. XX is no longer at that worksite, then ask if there is anyone else they could talk with the authority to make safety and health changes in the business and call that person.

If Mr. XX or someone in authority to make changes is on the phone then say:

My name is YY and I am calling back on behalf of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health or NIOSH, and the wood pallet association. The Institute primarily conducts research; we are not regulatory and cannot fine your company--we are located in the Department of Health and Human Services and not the Department of Labor. We are in partnership with the National Wood Pallet and Container Association to develop educational materials to help improve safety and health in the pallet manufacturing businesses. Five months ago I sent you (your company) a copy of our educational manual along with some posters for your employees and said I would call you back. Now it is time for some follow-up.

I want to remind you that your participation is voluntary and your responses will be protected by the Federal Privacy Act and data will be treated in a secure manner unless otherwise compelled by law. This is an OMB approved data collection and the OMB number for this project is 0920-XXXX. NIOSH operates under authority of part 20(a)(1)

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of the Occupational Safety and Health Act (29 U.S.C. 669), which allows us to conduct research. Feel free to contact the project officer, Robert Malkin, at 513-533-8375 if you have any questions about the study.

I'm required to tell you that, as was discussed 5 months ago, besides helping NIOSH researchers to develop a program to reduce injuries in the wood pallet industry, there are no further benefits from participating in the study. A risk of participation might involve the accidental disclosure of your responses to members outside the research team. These risks will be minimized by the replacement of your name with a numeric code accessible only to the investigators.

I'll ask you a few safety and health questions now. [If now is a bad time, but they want to participate, arrange a call back time that is good for them.]

1. What business organizations such as the National Wood Pallet and Container Association and Chamber of Commerce are you a member of now?

2. On a scale of 1 to 4, please tell me how valuable it is for a small business owner to have a safety and health program with 1 being the least valuable and 4 being the most valuable.

3. Do you have a safety and health program at your business now that consists of a written program that discusses prevention and control of hazards, safety and health meetings with the employees, and contains safety and health instructions for employees?

Yes___ No ____

If yes, ask

3A. How often does the safety and health program meet?

Suggestions for interviewer

a. Daily quick talks _____# of minutes

b. Weekly toolbox talks _____# of minutes

- *c. Monthly meetings* _____# *of minutes*
- d. Once a year meetings _____
- e. Other (please specify)

If yes, ask

3B. Who conducts the safety and health program with the employees?

(suggestions for interviewer)

- a. Owner or manager of the company
- b. Safety and health professional I hire
- c. Senior worker
- d. My insurer or workers' compensation rep
- e. Equipment or manufacturers' rep
- f. Other; Who?_____

If no then ask:

3C. Do you have meetings for your employees just to discuss health and safety issues but do not have a written Safety and Health (S&H) program?

Yes___ No ___

4. Where do you get most of your safety and health information?

(suggestions for interviewers)

a. from tool and material suppliers

b. from insurance companies or Workers' compensation

Safety materials

- c. I received it from friends or colleagues
- d. I learned about it at conventions or workshops
- e. I created it myself
- f. other. Please describe _____

5. What safety and health information do you give new employees?

(Suggestions for interviewer)

a. nothing

b. I have someone show them how things work

c. a special program for new employees

(Find out what the program consists of-is it run by the owner,

another employee, contractor. Does it have a written curriculum?)

- d. the same program as other employees-find out what that is
- e. I teach them myself personally

6. Has your company had any on the-job-injuries in the past five months?

Yes___ No ____

If yes:

a. how many?

b. what was the nature of the injury? _____

7. Which of the following statements best describes your feelings today regarding starting a safety and health program? _____

(read choices)

a. I haven't thought about it at all

b. I am thinking about starting a new safety and health program in the next 6 months.

c. I am preparing to put a new safety and health program in place in the next 30 days.

d. I have already started a new safety and health program within the past 6 months.

e. My safety and health program is fine and I do not feel the need to change.

Interviewer-- if the respondent answered **positively to either statements b, c or d** then ask one of the following questions.

If yes to statement b, then ask:

What prompted you to think about a new safety and health program?

If yes to statement c, then ask:

Why are you intending to put a new program in place?

Please briefly describe what your new program may include.

If yes to statement d, then ask:

Briefly describe the changes you've made.

What prompted you to make those changes?

8. What types of safety equipment are your employees required to use now and where are they required to use them? _____

Suggestions for interviewer

a. hearing protection devices (earplugs) when using nail guns

b. hearing protection devices when using saws or other noisy tools

c. safety lenses

9. Do you have a hearing conservation program at your business now? Yes____ No ____

If yes, ask if you: monitor noise levels at your business? Yes___ No ____ test the hearing of your employees? Yes___ No ____

10. Approximately what percent of the saws at your company are equipped with local exhaust ventilation now? _____%

For interviewer, local exhaust ventilation is an exhaust pipe located next to the saw blade.

11. What have you done to control carbon monoxide emissions in the past 5 months?

Suggestions for interviewer

- a. bought an electric forklift
- b. improved ventilation,
- *c. limited the idling time of forklifts*

Finally, I'd like your opinion about these statements. Please say whether you:

- 1 = disagree a lot
- 2 = disagree a little
- 3 = agree a little
- 4 = agree a lot

1.	Knowledge of safety and health will decrease injury in my business.	
2	A safety and health program will cost too much money.	
3.	Knowledge of safety and health will lower my workers' compensation costs.	
4.	Good safety practices will increase productivity at my business.	
5.	The cost of production will decrease as a result of having a safety program.	
6.	Employee awareness of safety and health will make them more aware of properly using saws and forklifts.	
7.	A safety and health program will improve relations with my employees.	
8.	Safety and health education will result in more workers' compensation claims.	
9.	Safety and health education will make employees more dissatisfied with their job.	

Did you read the educational manual that we sent you? Yes___ No ____

If you didn't read it, why?

If the educational/informational manual *was not read*, then **STOP** here. The next questions pertain to the manual.

14. On a scale of 1 to 4, please tell me how helpful you found the manual with 1 being not very helpful at all and 4 being very helpful.

14a. Why do you feel that way? ______

15. Was the educational/informational manual easy for you to read and understand?

Yes___ No ____

If no, why not?

If yes, what did you like about it? ______

16. On a scale of 1 to 4, please tell me how much you agree with the statement "The manual improved what I know about safety and health in my work" with 1 being not agreeing at all and 4 being the strongest agreement.

17. What sections of the manual were most effective for you and why? _____

Suggestions for interviewers:

a. noise
b. saw safety
c. forklift safety
d. carbon monoxide
e. ventilation
f. ergonomics

18. What two recommendations that were made in the manual were most relevant to you?

1.		
2.		

19. Since you received the manual, have you done anything to improve safety and health that was due to suggestions in the manual? Yes___ No ____

If yes, what have you done? _____

20. Do you agree with this statement? "The manual made me think quite a bit about the safety problems in the pallet industry."

Yes___ No ____

21. Is there anything else that we haven't asked that you might like to share with me?