



UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA

Health and Safety for
Women of Steel in the 21st Century

TO CREATE A BODY MAP

Draw a picture of the human body. It does not have to be artistic.

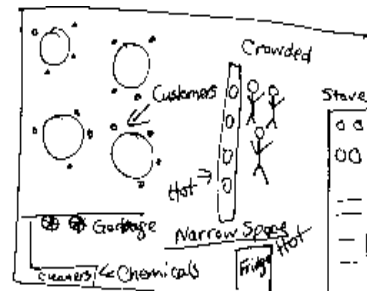
Give those participating in the exercise colored stickers each one representing a different ache or pain. Make sure everyone is using the same color coding system to ensure an accurate reflection of the results. If you want, assign people a registration number and put that number on their colored stickers. This allows the tracking of the disease back to the workers file.

Publicize the results of the maps so it can build support for health and safety issues and make people realize they are not alone in their pain and suffering.

Educate people in the local with the results so that improvements in the collective language dealing with health and safety will have strong support at bargaining time.

◆ HAZARD (RISK) MAPPING

This technique involves workers drawing the workplace or departments of the workplace showing hazards, chemicals, and other exposures present there. It can be used immediately to illustrate problem areas that need to be addressed. In the long term, it can show workplace links to occupational disease.



This technique is best done as a small group activity. The intent is to identify, prioritize and address workplace health and safety concerns. Workplace health and safety concerns are drawn onto a drawing of the workplace or a process flow chart. This map then becomes a tool for the focusing of efforts to control and eliminate workplace hazards. The resulting picture can be easily distributed and can be used to educate and organize workers to support their health and safety representatives on joint health and safety committees. This should lead to more action by the employer to control and eliminate workplace hazards for our members.

◆ HAZARD MAPPING SESSION OUTLINE

A hazard mapping session has eight basic steps:

1. Prepare participants for hazard identification
 - Do introduction of purpose of exercise
 - Draw a map of YOUR worksite
 - Discuss differently types of hazards that can be present in workplaces:
 - Safety hazards
 - Chemicals
 - Physical hazards (heat, noise, magnetic fields, etc.)



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- Ergonomic hazards (poorly designed workstations & jobs that cause back & repetitive strain injuries)
 - Biological hazards (bacteria, fungus, body fluids, etc.)
 - Psycho-social (stress, distressing relationships, oppressive control, insecurity, uncertainty, problematic workload, problematic work pace, understaffing, shift work, long hours of work, etc.)
- How are these hazards identified (how do you know there?)
 - Examples of simple tools (handouts and lecture)
2. Draw process flow
 - Show an example of a simple process and what information to put on it
 - Assign groups, distribute paper and markers
 - Groups should be workers from the same department, office, line, process, etc.
 3. List Hazards
 4. Rate Hazards
 - Rate each hazard listed using a different color to distinguish between high, medium and low hazards
 5. Rate hazard control measures
 - Again using different colors for adequately controlled, no or inadequate control, and not sure.
 6. Make a list of priority concerns
 7. Present results – to membership and any committee’s involved in health and safety issues.
 8. Make a plan of how to use the information gathered

◆ WHAT NEXT?

- Present to management
- Assign responsibilities and target dates
- Distribute copies to show floor workers
- Schedule regular times to update hazard map
- Call in inspector if needed