

# Contractor Safety Management – Challenges and Solutions

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# Working with Contractors has its Advantages

- Closing gaps: Know How and Experience
- Closing gaps: Manpower and equipment
- Higher efficiency: lower cost and shorter timeline

# The responsibility for VISION ZERO cannot be delegated

- One business: Society expects a Client company that guarantees an integral quality without distinguishing between own work and contractor work
- One territory: There is but one safety on all of the building site
- One reputation: Accidents are always linked to the Client company in public reports on social media
- One legality: the responsibility remains with the Client company

# Working with Contractors makes reaching Vision Zero more difficult

- Different hierarchies
- Different know how and experience
- Different objectives
- Different languages
- Different cultures

# Different Hierarchies

# Different Know How and Experience

## **Establishing safety in contracts**

Can we prescribe specific conditions and behaviors in a contract when we do not really understand the work of the contractor? What would be our liability?

## **Establishing safety in execution**

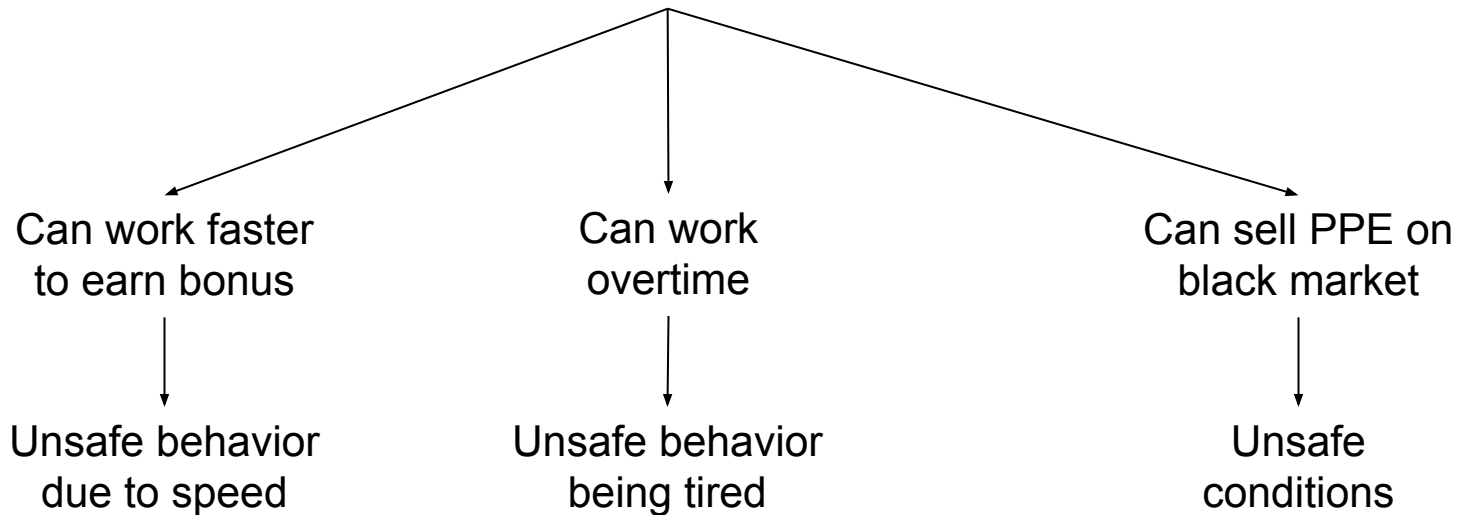
Would we notice unsafe conditions or unsafe behavior if we do not really understand the way work is performed?

# Different Objectives

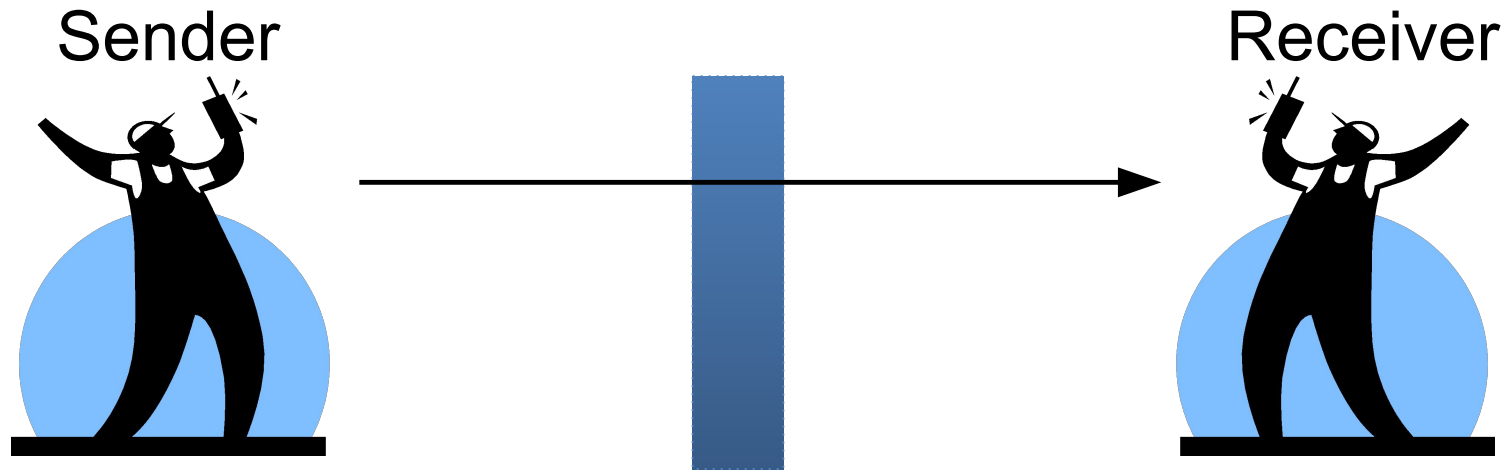
Example: Employee of a contractor

Earns \$ 3.-/day

□ needs \$ 4.-/day to survive



# Different Languages



- How many languages are spoken on a building site?
- Is there a joint understanding about the meaning of the words used?



# The Cultures are Different: Care and Dare

In a Vision Zero culture, everybody

**CARES** about all others

**DARES** to point out unsafe conditions and behaviors

But many cultures resist:

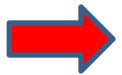
- Individualism: Don't stick your nose in my affair
- Strong hierarchies: The boss knows better
- Fatalism: This is kismet

# The Problem is “We are Different The Solution is “We are Partners”

- Different hierarchies: „Marry“ the safety specialists
- Different know how and experience: Joint elaboration of „HIRA“
- Different objectives: Explicite section on safety in the offer
- Different languages: daily safety moment
- Different cultures: Safety training, terminating with a test, before being allowed onsite

# Conclusion

- Contractor Safety is the unloved child of working with contractors
- The problem is being different
- The solution is becoming partners



Together we reach VISION ZERO