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An Attempt to Reduce Accidents in the Forest Industry

The Effect of Lewinian Group Decision Method as Applied to Woodcutters

ABSTRACT

The Lewinian group decision method was applied to state forest woodcutters as an attempt to reduce accidents. Of two groups of woodcutters, one reduced unsafe behaviors significantly while the other showed no improvement. A comparative analysis of their discussion content and trend revealed that the former group had accepted the action proposal to reduce unsafe behaviors while the latter had ended up with a rejection of the proposal.

In addition, two other groups listened to a lecture discouraging unsafe behaviors. Both groups reduced significantly dangerous behaviors. Another group designated as the control group in this field experiment showed no change with respect to safety.

Implications of the results were discussed within the context of prior studies.

Key Word: Lewinian group decision, safety, forest industry