



SAFETY Q & A

NAVAL SAFETY CENTER, NAVAL STATION NORFOLK

Requirements for Safety Stand Downs

QUESTION: “Is there a DOD or USN requirement for a certain number of safety stand downs per year?” (*Submitted by a GS-0018 Safety and Occupational Health Specialist*)

ANSWER: Safety stand downs are not required for shore facilities. There is no mention of stand downs in the DOD Instructions. The only place stand downs are mentioned in the OPNAVINST 5100.23G is in Appendix A of Chapter 6, Pages 6-A-2 and 6-A-3, "Safety & Occupational Health Topics." Section 2 says, “Cover various topics applicable to employees including mishaps, compensation, MSDSs, work procedures, smoking, stress, plans and goals, radiation, etc. The supervisor can provide these at "stand-up" safety meetings at industrial regions or activities, safety stand-downs or through routed handouts and publications in offices.”

Formal classroom training is not required; however, where meetings or informal classroom training are conducted, document training by roster with subject, date, instructor and attendees; electronic media can be used to document such training. For non-industrial (office) regions or activities, or personnel, the supervisor should use monthly or periodic "captain's call" or other meetings or methods to distribute information to promote safety."

Stand downs are a requirement for afloat units. Per OPNAVINST 5100.19E Vol I, A0503, SOH Training Requirements and Responsibilities, Section f: “At a minimum, commands shall conduct one safety stand-down per year. Additional safety stand-downs may be warranted at the discretion of the commanding officer." Technical issues and the search function have been removed from the current version of the Naval Safety Center's website.

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