



# Hanover County Safety & Risk Management Communication

## Safety & Risk Tip of the Week:

HP Defenses are techniques that when applied deliberately, properly, and consistently help significantly reduce the likelihood that a risk or error could lead to a significant negative event. This week's defense focuses on the concept of Stop, Think, Act, Review (STAR).

### **WHAT IS IT?**

- It is a four-step individual work practice to prevent errors on critical tasks.

### **WHEN TO USE IT**

- Always, and especially just before performing irreversible steps
- When a Peer Check is not available
- Identifying a component
- Task interruption
- Time pressure – a hurried feeling

### **HOW TO USE IT**

#### Stop

- Ensure you've got a safe place and enough time to stop and think
- Eliminate distractions. Focus your 100% undivided attention on the decision you're about to make

#### Think

- Verify that no critical conditions have changed since you last checked them (grounds are still on, job plan still the same, etc.).
- Consider the realistic worst-case scenario, verify the defenses you're using to prevent it, and recall what contingency plan you'll use if it occurs (escape route, etc.)
- Identify the results that you expect your irreversible step to cause
- Check any assumptions that you are less than 100% sure of

#### Act

- Without losing physical or visual contact with the device, perform the task

#### Review

- Verify that you got only the specific results that you expected and wanted, and no other results (Positive Control)

## Safety & Risk Quote of the Week:



## Safety & Risk Spotlight:

### Back to School Safety

With the start of a new school year just around the corner, attached are links to several resources on keeping yourselves and your students safe for the start of back to school!

- [Back to School Safety for Drivers](#)
- [Back to School Safety: Keeping Kids Safe](#)
- [Head back to school safer & healthier this year](#)