



**Short Line  
Safety Institute**

# **Safety Culture The First Step**

[www.shortlinesafety.org](http://www.shortlinesafety.org)

# Short Line Safety Institute

## Our Vision:

- For the short line and regional railroad industry to perform at a superlative level of safety.

## Our Mission:

- To provide the leadership to enhance the safety culture and safety conformance of short line and regional railroads through voluntary, non-punitive partnerships



# **Safety Culture:**

**The shared values, actions, and behaviors that demonstrate a commitment to safety over competing goals and demands**

# How Much do Regulations Cost

**\$1.78 - \$2.028\* trillion annually**

Economic: \$1,448 b

Environmental: \$330 b

Occ. Safety/Health & Homeland Security: \$92 b

Tax Compliance: \$159 b

**Between 3,500 – 4,000 Final Rules / Year**

2013 – 3,659 Rules, over 80,000 pages

2014 – 3,541 Rules, over 78,000 pages

2015 - 3,378 Rules, over 81,000 pages

**Total – 10,578 Rules, over 239,000 pages**

In perspective, the 2015 Federal Budget is about 3.8 trillion dollars.

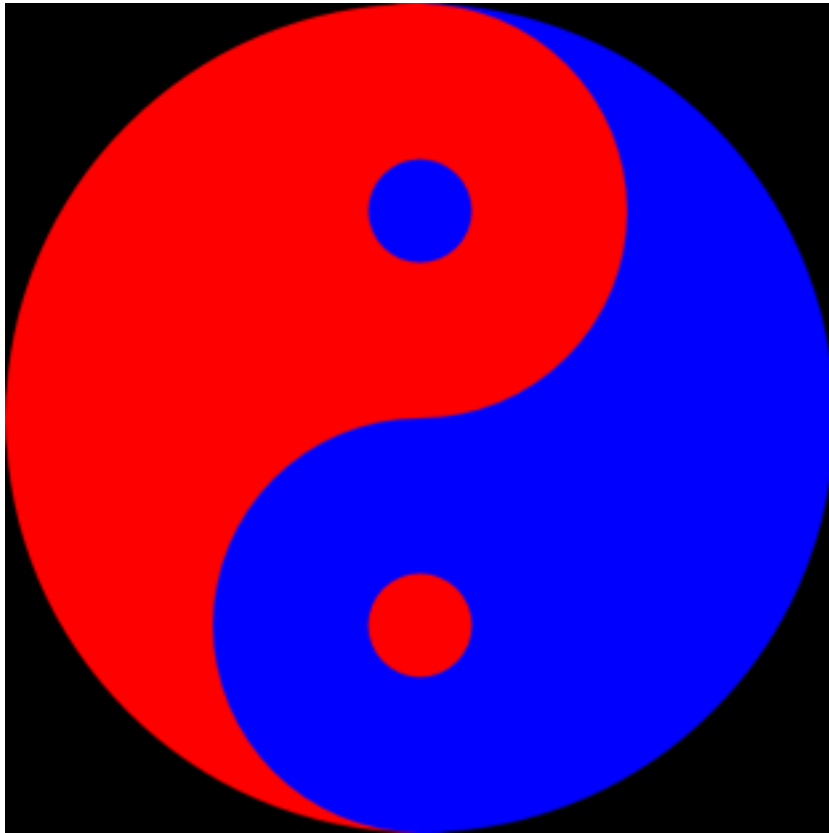
\* Crains Business, National Association of Manufactures, and Forbes  
659 expected to have impact on small businesses

Does not count individual State Regulations

# How Much Does a Fatality Cost

- **OSHA estimated a value of \$ 9.2 million for each life lost in the workplace. Multiplying this value by the 4,821 workplace deaths reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics for 2014, OSHA estimates the annual cost of known workplace fatalities to be over \$44 billion.**
- This estimated does not include the cost of non-fatal injuries, or of occupational illnesses like cancer and lung disease. These illnesses generally occur many years or even decades after workers are exposed and are therefore seldom recorded in government statistics or employer surveillance activities.
- <https://www.osha.gov/oshstats/index.html>

# Safety = Culture + Compliance



- Culture
- Doing
- The
- Right
- Thing
  
- Compliance
- Doing
- The
- Thing
- Right

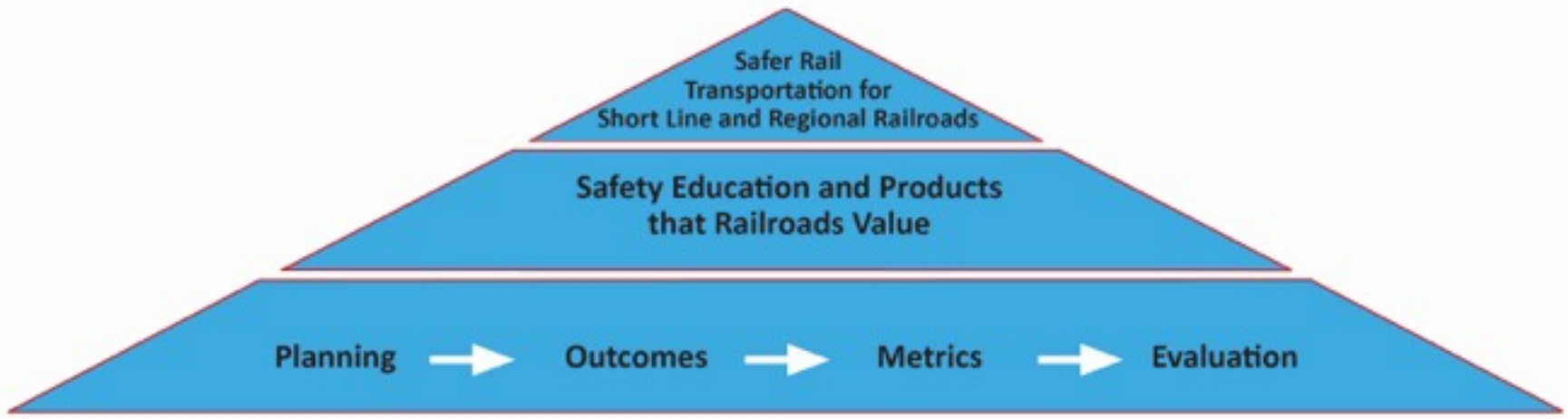
# Why a Safety Culture Assessment?

- Two recent accidents in the railroad industry have changed the regulatory environment and added billions of dollars of regulatory requirements and Federal oversight.
- September 8, 2008: Metrolink at Chatsworth
  - Employee not following safety rule (electronic device)
- July 6, 2013: Montreal, Maine & Atlantic at Lac-Magentic
  - Employee not following ABTH rule, securing train.
  - ?? Why were they not following the rules ??

# Who is Eligible for a Culture Assessment & How Much Does it Cost the Railroad??

- Class II and Class III Railroads
- Transport either Crude Oil or other Hazardous Materials
- No Cost to the Railroad.





# 10 Core Elements of a Strong Safety Culture

- Leadership is clearly committed to safety
- The company practices continuous learning
- Decisions demonstrate that safety is prioritized over competing demands
- Reporting systems and accountability are clearly defined
- There is a safety conscious work environment

# 10 Core Elements of a Strong Safety Culture

- **Employees feel personally responsible for safety**
- **There is open and effective communication across the organization**
- **Mutual trust is fostered between the employees and management**
- **The company is fair and consistent when responding to safety concerns**
- **Training and resources are available to support safety**

# Steps in a Culture Assessment

- **Determine Qualification**
- **Coordinate with Sr. RR Leadership**
- **Send Anonymous Survey Link to RR for Employees**
- **Request Railroad Safety Rules, TT, etc.**
- **Review FRA Required programs**
- **Conduct Interviews of Management & Labor**
- **Observe Crews for Safety Conformance**
- **Debrief RR**
- **Written Report**
- **Follow-up**
- **Resources**

# Questions or are you Interested in a Safety Culture Assessment

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