INTRODUCTION

Job Safety analyses, risk assessments, and the like should be considered essential behavioral components of safety. Taking a few moments to practice these safety surveys before embarking on a task increases the safety of the work environment and conditions, and also helps the individual to maintain a heightened level of safety and situational awareness throughout the task at hand, and in their day-to-day life.

A job safety analysis (JSA) is only helpful if it is performed adequately. When performing a JSA it is important to be observant, and consider all aspects of the task and the location of the task. Failure to include what may seem to be an unimportant or irrelevant component may lead to a near-miss, or an accident.

Inadequately performing a JSA may be the result of:
- Failure to consider all hazards
- Unclear communication during the task
- Incomplete work procedure

A JSA must consider all elements in the area: the weather and sea conditions, condition of the tools and equipment being used, and address all PPE and other related safety concerns. Failure to do so reduces the effectiveness of the exercise. It is also important that the JSA is performed with everyone who is involved in the task, as well as anyone in the vicinity, and senior officers who are required to be made aware of specific tasks. Also, a part of the exercise is to alert those who can ensure no routine drills, or maintenance will compromise the safety of those involved in the task.

A JSA requires thinking through the steps and procedures of the task that is to be performed. Each step must be analyzed with respect to safety. If one of the steps is missed there may be critical pieces of information left out of the analysis. In all of these instances, various forms of omission leave a gap in the analysis resulting in the task and the people involved vulnerable to a hazard.

Whenever a task is to be performed take a moment to perform a job safety analysis, take your time, be thorough.