

SAFETY FACTS: ACCIDENT PREVENTION FOR SKI AREAS

- Effective communication and training both written and verbal, demonstrated and documented competency, and periodic refreshers for and by personnel.
- A “lead person” (safety coordinator) responsible for all safety related matters, with authority/willingness to insure compliance and to implement all appropriate actions.
- Awareness i.e., keeping abreast of ski business innovations that are on the vanguard and/or ski areas procedures found to be useful/successful. An example might be using netting instead of ropes.
- Daily/weekly safety meetings, regular (daily) inspections and a safety committee to review past, present and future accidents/trends.
- Regular and reasonable insurance company support and assistance as provided by law and support from and ski association or other clearinghouse that could offer assistance, as well as Workers’ Compensation Administration or other safety organizations.
- Revisiting/rethinking commonly understood ski area practices to ascertain how new methods might offer improvement over existing procedures (for example, more frequent, informative and inclusive contact among personnel engaged in mountain activities, i.e., sweeping, etc.)
- Immediate and effective response to accidents or other emergencies. This assumes a well thought out and coordinated response plan.