

1-17-1989

01/17/1989 - EIU Professor Make Strides in Safety Management

University Marketing and Communications

Follow this and additional works at: https://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1989

Recommended Citation

University Marketing and Communications, "01/17/1989 - EIU Professor Make Strides in Safety Management" (1989). 1989. 32.
https://thekeep.eiu.edu/press_releases_1989/32

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Press Releases at The Keep. It has been accepted for inclusion in 1989 by an authorized administrator of The Keep. For more information, please contact tabruns@eiu.edu.



EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

ART TATE, Assistant Director, University Relations
Office: (217) 581-5983 - Home: (217) 348-7553

89-29

January 17, 1989

FILE COPY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EIU PROFESSOR MAKES STRIDES IN SAFETY MANAGEMENT

CHARLESTON, IL.--A strong interest in safety management research has lead Eastern Illinois University Associate Professor of Management Dr. Foster Rinefort to influence the safety, health and well-being of people throughout the world.

Rinefort was among three Americans who represented the United States at the International Conference on Ergonomics, Occupational Safety and Health and the Environment recently in Beijing, China.

His presentation, "Relationships between Organization Performance and Work Injuries: Implications for Government Policy," concluded that some manufacturing industries, such as steel and chemical companies, are capital intensive, have a large investment in their employees and do an excellent job of protecting their employees from work injuries.

-more-

He found that other industries, which are labor intensive, have less capital investment per employee and do less to protect their employees from work injuries because the economics of the situation do not always encourage them to do so.

Rinefort has also been invited by the Chinese government to lecture at the Safety and Environmental Production Research Institute in Wuhun, China, later this year, where he will continue to work with the Chinese regarding ways to establish cost-effective safety programs--"programs that yield maximum results at minimum costs," he said.

He has provided consulting services to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, state governmental agencies and numerous private organizations based in the United States and to the governments of seven foreign countries. "It is my judgment that the United States continues to lead the world in safety management, but other nations are catching up quickly," Rinefort said.

His research, which suggests the way business organizations can establish cost-effective safety programs and implications for government policy, has achieved recognition throughout the world.

His 15 years of industrial experience have given him insight into his research, which is unique because it quantifies safety management relationships.

"I believe in a management approach, which includes a balanced program of education, training and motivation dealing with the unsafe acts and engineering which deals with the unsafe conditions, is most effective in most industries. I would be pleased if the work I have done would result in lower work injuries throughout the world," he added.

Another highlight of Rinefort's career included lecturing on the "Economic Aspects of Occupational Safety" at a 1987 conference in Helsinki, Finland, sponsored by the Nordic Institute for Advanced Environmental Studies. He has presented over 50 papers at conferences throughout the world and has more than 40 publications.

He has published numerous articles on safety management, written a chapter, "How to Reduce Work Injuries in a Cost-Effective Way," in the Handbook of Occupational Safety and Health, served as editor of a book of readings, Readings in Cost Benefit-Cost Control, and was moderator of the national video satellite teleconference titled, "Cost Containment Through Effective Safety and Health Programs."

"I am really just a teacher who has a research interest," said Rinefort, "and have enjoyed this decade at Eastern Illinois University. The excellent students, the strong administrative support and compatible colleagues have made my time at Eastern pleasant."

Rinefort received his doctorate degree in business administration from Texas A&M University, has completed masters coursework in safety and health at Texas A&M, and is president of the Midwest Society for Human Relations/Industrial Relations, director of the Midwest Case Research Association and active in the Academy of Management, the Minerva Educational Institute and numerous other academic and professional organizations.