

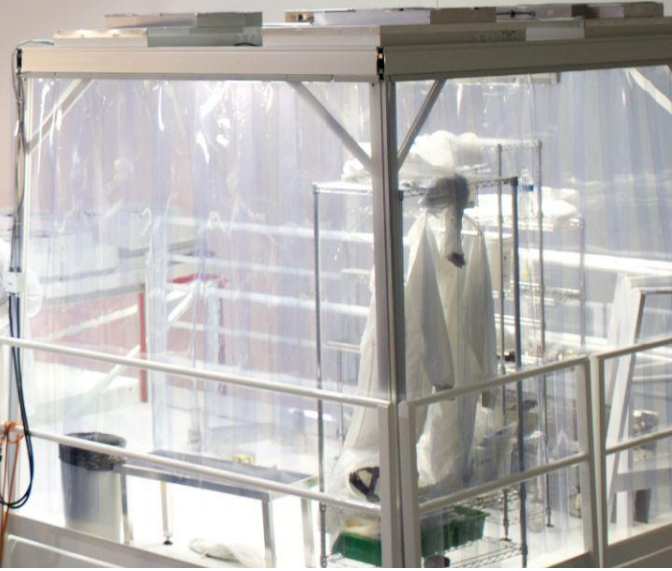


Safety culture and LIGO

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Concepts in creating and maintaining a culture of safety



- What ingredients are needed to create a culture of safety and maintain that for decades at a laboratory?
 - » Commitment throughout management chain; communication to the lab.
 - » Passion for the process. Education, training, and a willingness to change are needed ingredients.
 - » Endurance: sometimes changes are required in a culture, a process which may take years. Tenacity is required to maintain that culture once goals are reached.



- Address hazards through a Work Permit System.
- Follow good housekeeping procedures. Don't be responsible for setting yourself or coworkers up for an injury.
- Take time to inspect your work area and equipment.
- Ask Questions. Communicate.
- Encourage others to work safely.
- Be active. Report potential hazards or voids in the lab's safety system (Good catch).
- Foster Responsibility and Accountability

A specific example: stop work

- Stop work at LIGO
 - » Has been a staple since before I came to LIGO Hanford Observatory (LHO) in 2000.
 - » Allows anyone to call a halt to a procedure, without recrimination.
 - » Is perceived positively throughout the sites and campus labs.
 - » Can scale depending on perceived issue (Hold conversation in-chamber? Exit to control room? Call formal stop work with required resolution?)
 - » Should be called by a variety of individuals at LHO, not just Observatory Head or Operations Manager