

STRUCTURAL BUILDING COMPONENTS MAGAZINE

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Publisher's Message A Fresh Face on Work Force Development by SBC Staff

"Individual commitment to a group effort—that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work." —Vince Lombardi

No one needs to tell you that finding, retaining and safeguarding quality employees are central to maintaining the health of your company; but, as you also know, developing a work force of committed individuals is no simple undertaking. It requires creativity, patience and perseverance, not to mention time and money. While personnel and safety issues play a role in every issue of SBC Magazine, once a year we focus solely on this topic in an effort to provide our readers with new information to refresh their hiring, training and work force development pursuits.

In today's competitive labor market, the basic act of finding potential employees, especially truss technicians, seems to be more than half the battle in building a committed work force. This issue's anchor story examines recidivism, or the habitual relapse into crime. Over the next few issues, ["The Road to Reentry: Fighting Recidivism by Preparing for Success,"](#) will uncover how a couple of WTCA members believe small business may hold the answer to solving both the United States' soaring recidivism rate and the shortage of skilled labor in the component industry.

Over the past several years, WTCA has actively responded to member requests for tools to address the challenges they face in hiring, training, developing and retaining high-quality employees. Last year, WTCA created its [Work Force Development \(WFD\) Portal](#), a "one stop" resource for members, educational institutions, potential employees and others, which will help build the talents needed to grow the industry and provide career opportunities for workers in the industry. The Portal is a powerful new tool and how it can best enhance your company's work force development efforts.

Once you have found and hired quality employees, it is still up to you to give them the tools they need to be successful. One of the most important areas to address with your employees is that of safety. In ["Plate Cuts & Back Strains & Mishaps, Oh My!,"](#) we take a look at SBC readers' top five safety concerns and how these issues can be addressed. With the right information, commitment from your staff and a little common sense, you can overcome the safety problems that have beset your company in the past.

Finally, you don't want to miss the last installment of our series on ["Transporting Trusses."](#) We investigate the issue of load securement and the challenges that this part of the delivery process can present.

As always, we hope you enjoy this issue of SBC Magazine. Your feedback and article ideas are important to us and vital to the future of this publication. Contact us with your comments, questions and brainstorms at 608/310-6724 or lwalters@sbcmag.info.

[SBC HOME PAGE](#)

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[SBC HOME PAGE](#)

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