

P.O. Box 22434 11-13 Bell Avenue Otahuhu Auckland 1006 New Zealand Telephone: (09) 276 0950 Fax: (09) 276 0953

## May 2017

# Kerry Ingredients – Drawing competition for our Workers' children.

Kerry ingredients (NZ) limited develops, manufactures and supplies food ingredients for use in food processing or for use at wholesale level in the food service areas and for use 'in store" in supermarkets. The Company supplies products like food coatings, batters, salad dressings. The company has two separate manufacturing plants. One is for the dry products and one for liquid processed products.

Kerry Group is a world leader in food taste and nutrition serving the food and beverage industry. Since the commissioning of its first dairy and ingredients plant in Listowel, Ireland in 1972, Kerry Group has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions to become a leader in global food ingredients market.

#### What specific Issues or problem did you face? Include risks involved

Kerry Ingredients NZ employs around 80 workers and have a strong health and safety culture. However, recognising that Health and Safety is a continuous improvement cycle and identifying that Worker Engagement is a challenge in the Auckland Based branch, Karleen White and her Health and Safety Committee were thinking of ways to connect with workers.

During Health and Safety training in February 2017, with Jane Gravestock who is a trainer at the training and consultancy provider Work Safe Advisory Services Ltd, there was a lightbulb moment. Jane was discussing this "Worker Engagement" challenge with the group. She shared a range of strategies that other organisations had used. From safety messages on Hi Viz vests to pedometer challenges, one idea stuck out. Karleen thought a colouring competition for children of her workers might help engage her workers further so a safety drawing competition was designed and shared with workers.

#### What solution did you come up with to solve the problem?

The safety drawing competition was discussed and agreed upon during the Health & Safety Meeting on 15th February 2017.

Karleen then created a Safety Week Competition form and distributed the form to all the employees and displayed a copy of the form on the Health & Safety Notice Board as well.

Children of staff were encouraged to participate in a drawing competition on why they needed parents to be safe.



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There were 2 categories: Age Group 3-6 years and age group 7-12 years. It was decided to give prizes and certificates to the winners as well.

- Age Group 3-6 years: 1st prize was \$100 & 2nd prize was \$50
- Age Group 7-12 years: 1St prize was \$100 & 2nd prize was \$50

The Health and Safety Committee judged the Site Health and Safety Drawing competition during the Health & Safety Meeting on the 15th of March 2017.

## When did you start on this initiative?

The Safety Week Competition started on the 15 of February 2017 and the drawings were judged on the 15<sup>Th</sup> of March 2017. Health and Safety Committee was pleased with the quick turnaround competition and the relatively high number of entries. Karleen notes that for something so simple, the resulting level of engagement has been significant.

## What evidence is there that your initiative has been successful?

The competition received 13 entries and Kerry Ingredients held a prize giving evening on the 21st of March 2017.

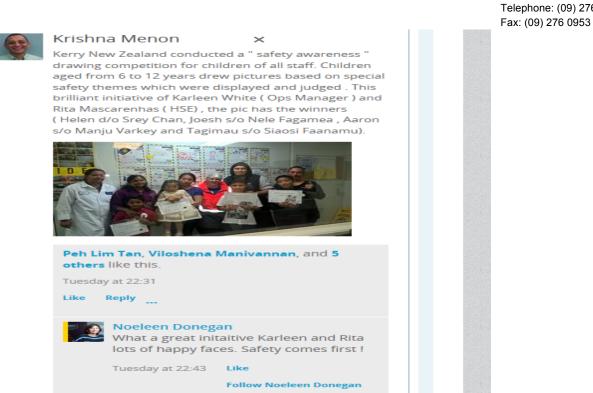
The prizes and the certificates were handed over to the children and there were lot of happy faces.



Pictures were taken of the winners and their parents and the pictures were posted on the Kerry net.



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The entries are on display on the wall in the lunchroom. Everyone walking past stops and reads the strong messages. The messages are telling!

Quotes from Workers' children included:

- o Helen: Come home safe
- Aaron: I love my mum and I want my mum to be safe. So she needs to wear all the safety things at work
- o Tanijah: I want everyone to go home to their Kids.



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The most powerful outcomes of the drawing competition have been:

- The interest the Workers have shown in the children's drawings( pride, renewed commitment to being safe)
- The strong message of "come home safe" which the children included on the entries which resonates with all workers
- The pride and emotional connection that the Workers have spoken about.

The Health and Safety Committee are thrilled with the result. Karleen concludes "We couldn't have wished for a better outcome. Our Workers come to work to go home safe to their families and they have a renewed interest in safety onsite from this easy worker engagement activity."



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