

# PestSure Safety

INSURING THE FUTURE OF PEST CONTROL

## Tips

**A five-minute training Series for Pest Management Professionals.**

### Our Decisions

Each time we complete a job task in an unsafe manner and we are successful and avoid injury, our unsafe behavior and method is reinforced. We convince ourselves that the risk is small and acceptable. After all, "I've always done it this way and have never had anything go wrong."

All of us are interested in completing our job tasks with less effort and in less time. In our continuous quest for efficiency we can lose sight of the importance of our personal safety. All of us expose ourselves to possible injury by taking a shortcut when, with a little extra effort, we could have performed the task safely.

The best method is not always the quickest, most convenient, or most efficient. Completing a given task safely can take extra time and effort. We are presented with the opportunity to choose our methods continuously throughout our work day.

**While making these decisions it is important to remember that we are influenced by:**

**Complacency** – "I've done it this way a million times and I'm comfortable with the process."

**Distraction** – Thinking about something else while completing a task or continuing to work when your attention is drawn away.

**Unfamiliarity** – A task that is new or that we don't frequently do but just guess instead of retraining ourselves or seeking instruction.

**Hurry** – Pressed for time and rushing to complete the task.

**Will you get down off the ladder and move it 3 feet or will you just reach over instead?**

**Will you walk your account prior to starting your service or just count on your memory and that nothing has changed since your last visit?**

**Will you return that phone call when you are at a stop or will you count on your "auto pilot" and return the call while driving?**

**Will you suit up or depend on your quickness, and agility while bagging that stinging insect nest?**



Whether we win or lose this time, taking the risk to save a few minutes is a gamble. The odds of losing become greater each time we "roll the dice". Remember, you always have a choice, but only you can decide to do it the safe way. It's your decision.