



SafetyMatters

Who is Gino Martino? Why is he here?

Edited by: James Austin

Gino Martino was born and raised in the south suburbs of Chicago. He is a graduate of Brother Rice High School and Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana where he received a bachelor's degree in Construction Management and Occupational Safety & Health. Gino comes to the GACO with over 18 years of construction experience. He began his safety, health, and environmental career directly out of college and started off his career with Walsh Construction, eventually moving on to positions with Turner Construction and Chicago Steel Construction. Gino is extremely passionate and truly believes that an incident free environment is possible to attain. "It's not about hiring and firing, rather coaching and mentoring."

Gino was hired to take GACO to the next level of incident prevention. As Gino said, "GACO has a quality safety and health program in place, I am only here to shine it up and make it more visible." Gino is an educator and a resource for all the Gallagher companies when it comes to safety, health, environmental, and incident prevention/investigation matters. Feel free to contact Gino at 708-259-6212 or gmartino@gallagherasphalt.com.

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What is a Safety Department?

The primary focus of a safety department is to act as a resource to all its coworkers, vendors, and visitors in the prevention of incidents to people, property, and the environment. The safety department carries a high level of integrity and confidentiality. The Safety Department uses a wide variety of management, engineering, and scientific skills to prevent incidents and loss. The Safety Department delivers expertise in a variety of areas such as environmental and fire protection, occupational safety, industrial hygiene, ergonomics, and all levels of incident/injury prevention. The Safety Department also works diligently to explore, mentor, and deliver an industrial culture that promotes an incident free environment both at and away from work.



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Exciting Safety Additions

Gino spent the first month and half with GACO interviewing a variety of individuals to locate any possible voids in the safety and health program. A total of 43 individuals were interviewed. The results were thoroughly studied, and action plans have been developed and even more are in the works. Some of the new additions include:

- **Safety rewards program** – This program rewards employees for their incident/injury/infracton free days. The program also incorporates employee's families.
- **Daily pre-start safety huddles** – This allows the crews to huddle up at the start of each shift and review the day's work, the hazards associated, and how the hazards will/could be eliminated.
- **Weekly safety meetings (tool box talks)** – Topics will be developed in house and catered around our current daily exposures.
- **Near miss gathering** – Used to educate the entire company and to prevent reoccurrence of an incident.
- **Visitors program** – Visitors sign in/out to help develop a culture of professionalism.
- **Recycling Program** – As the leader in industry recycling, we have incorporated an in-house recycling program for our offices, shops, and plants utilizing paper, hazardous-chemicals, and cans/plastics/glass.
- **Consistency** – Identified clear understanding amongst all of the Gallagher company policies and procedures. Personal protective equipment (PPE) requirements in our yards, plants, and projects.
- **New Personal Protective Equipment** – White logoed hard hats beginning with the foremen on up and orange for the various crew members. Each plant received new fall protection and confined space equipment.
- **Safety Committee** – A safety committee has been developed to create a "for the people by the people" means of sharing ideas and suggestions how to make safety more of a "want to" versus "have to." The committee is comprised of office, plants, and field personnel.

The Gallagher Asphalt safety program is only as successful as its employees strive to make it. The safety department wants to hear your voice and suggestions of how to improve the program. All calls and emails that the Safety Department receives are confidential.

Sincerely,

Gino Martino

2015 SAFETY COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chris Wirkus	Charlie Meyer
Paul Yerkes	Jonathan Gallagher
John Danello	Jimmy Parker
Mike Burdick	Steve Caraway
Justin Jonkman	

If you have an idea or a suggestion for the Newsletter, either call (708-259-6212) or email Gino. gmartino@gallagherasphalt.com