7 SAFETY, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AUDITING

CASE STUDY

Joe Battalia has recently joined the American Biscuit & Cookie Company as vice president of operations. The ABC Company has been in business for many years and has a solid reputation. Joe is somewhat concerned about the age of some of the equipment in the older plants, however, and also feels that he would like to have an up-to-date assessment of the company's safety, health, and environmental performance. One of his priorities will be to revitalize the company's S/H/E auditing program. After all, in this litigious age, a company can't afford to be complacent.

1. Is Joe's concern about litigation reasonable?

2. Are there any particular legal sensitivities that the audit team should consider?

3. If the audit should discover some regulatory violations, must the audit results be reported to the appropriate government agency?

© 2009 National Safety Council