

GUIDELINES & RESOURCES
For Educators & Students in Cooperative Education Programs

CASE 2: Mark Ignores the Rules

Mark is really enjoying his Cooperative Education placement in a cabinet-making factory. The thing he likes best about the job is the friendly atmosphere – he gets along with his co-workers very well.

On his first day, Mark's supervisor instructed him on the proper use of the electric bench saw. A few days later, Mark's buddy Jim tells him to ignore using the safety guard. «It's a pain, and it slows you down.» Mark decides that Jim is probably right since he's worked there longer, and besides he doesn't want to hurt Jim's feelings by ignoring his suggestion. Mark decides not to use the safety guard.

1. What are the possible consequences of Mark's decision?

2. How could Mark have handled Jim's remark differently?

3. Two weeks later, Mark's supervisor discovers Mark has been ignoring the safety rules. After warning Mark of the seriousness of this action, he contacts his cooperative education teacher to discuss a possible dismissal. What should the cooperative education teacher do?
