CITY UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG

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A Study on the Mechanism of Leader Safety Behavior Influences on Employee Safety Performance

領導安全行為對員工安全績效影響的機制 研究

> Submitted to College of Business 商學院

in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Doctor of Business Administration 工商管理博士學位

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May 2020 二零二零年五月

摘要

產品安全(Product Safety)於工業社會裡,隨著人與產品接觸之日益頻繁,愈來愈顯示其重要性,因為它不僅關係到人的生命財產安全,也涉及到企業的競爭力(徐勝豐,2016)。企業產品要確保消費者的安全,提升員工安全績效才能避免日後事故和傷害的發生。本研究考察產品安全的領導安全行為,並分析員工的安全動機和主動個性在安全績效方面的作用,通過理論推導和實證分析相結合的研究方法,探討領導安全行為影響員工安全績效的心理機制。雖然,前人已經揭示了領導安全行為是提高員工安全績效的影響因素之一。然而,關於領導安全行為究竟是如何影響員工安全績效的內在機制尚不明確。如果我們可以揭示這個心理機制,企業的領導就可以有意識地、有的放矢地去提高員工的安全績效。

本研究根據安全績效模型(Griffin & Neal, 2000)與領導成員交換理論(Graen & Uhl-Bien, 1995),描述了領導安全行為如何影響員工安全績效的機制。Griffin 和 Neal (2000)安全績效模型提供了個人對工作環境的感知與工作環境中個人行為之間的聯繫。然而,目前的安全研究中,過多關注在安全氛圍(Mariani, Curcuruto & Toderi, 2017),而對領導安全行為的作用不夠重視。因此,本研究擴展 Griffin 和 Neal (2000)安全績效模型,以領導安全行為取代安全氛圍為安全績效的前因變量,並引入員工的主動個性作為中介變量(安全動機)與因變量(安全績效)之間關係的調節變量,以探討領導安全行為影響員工安全績效的心理機制。領導成員交換理論(LMX)強調,領導者和跟隨者之間獨特關係和交換對兩者的態度和行為確實會產生影響(Scandura, 1999)。LMX是根據尊重、信任和義務的維度評估領導者和下屬之間關係的品質(Graen & Uhl-Bien, 1995)。根據這些理論,高品質的LMX關係是建立在"互惠原則"上,員工會處到有一種"義務",並努力來回報領

導者。當這種努力受到企業組織的客觀條件限制時,員工也會自發的尋求可能的途徑來繼續回報組織;此時,員工就可能產生安全績效。

本研究對高科技企業的知識型員工進行研究,論文內容包括:(1)領導安全行為對員工安全績效的影響;(2)員工的安全動機在領導安全行為對安全績效影響的中介作用;(3)員工的主動個性對安全動機與安全績效關係的調節作用。本研究採用縱向研究設計與對子(Dyad)取樣的方法,對來自35家企業從事產品安全工作的247名員工及其59名直接上司做為調查對象。整個問卷調查分三波進行(每波間隔期間為一個月)。運用IBM SPSS22線性混合模型(Linear Mixed Model)驗證了整個研究模型和假設,結果發現:(1)領導安全行為與員工安全績效存在顯著正相關。(2)領導安全行為與員工的安全動機存在顯著正相關。(3)員工的安全動機與員工安全績效存在顯著正相關。(4)員工的安全動機部分中介了領導安全行為對員工安全績效的正向影響。(5)員工的主動個性正向調節安全動機與安全績效的正向影響。

本研究的理論意義在於:(1)進一步驗證領導安全行為對員工安全績效的影響。(2)揭示領導安全行為對員工安全績效影響的內在機制:第一,員工的安全動機在領導安全行為對員工安全績效影響的中介作用;第二,員工的主動個性在安全動機與安全績效關係中起到正向的調節作用。本研究的實踐價值在於:(1)讓領導者瞭解自己的安全行為對提高員工安全績效有顯著的正向影響作用,為激勵員工提供了更多的途徑,促進企業的產品安全品質,從而確保顧客(消費者)安全;(2)提出了提高員工對領導安全行為的內在動機方法,即安全動機是個中介變量,領導加強與員工的安全行為溝通,增進其工作的意願,可以提升員工安全績效;(3)讓領導認識到,員工的主動個性會正向調節安全動機對安全績效的影響。我們知道,主動個性可以通過培訓來改變;因此,公司應該為員工提供培訓機會,增強他們的主動個行為,進而幫助企業實現產品安全的目標。

關鍵字:產品安全 領導安全行為 安全動機 安全績效 主動個性

Abstract

"Product Safety" receives increasingly attention in the industrial society because it is highly associated with individuals, not only to the safety of people's lives and properties, but also to the competitiveness of business companies (Hsu, 2016). Company products to ensure the consumers' safety, employee safety performance must be improved in order to avoid future accidents and injuries. The research considers leader safety behavior in product safety of company and wants to analyze both employee safety motivation and proactive personality roles in respect to safety performance. This study uses both theoretical derivation and empirical analysis to explore the psychological mechanism under the effects of leader safety behavior on employee safety performance. Although previous research has demonstrated that leader safety behavior is one of the major positive influences on the employee safety performance, the intrinsic mechanism under the effects of leader safety behavior on employee safety performance remains relatively unknown. Only if we can identify its psychological mechanism, leaders can enhance the employee safety performance intentionally and accurately.

Based on the Safety Performance Model (Griffin & Neal, 2000) and the Leader-Member exchange theory (LMX) (Graen & Uhl-Bien, 1995), this study examines these theoretical and model depicting the mechanism of how and why leader safety behavior affects employee safety performance. The safety performance model (Griffin & Neal, 2000) depicts a link between an individual's safety perception of the work environment and their behavior. However, existing research has predominantly focused on safety climate (Mariani, Curcuruto & Toderi, 2017), less attention is on leader safety behavior. Therefore, Griffin and

Neal's safety model was extended and leader safety behavior was replaced as antecedents of safety performance, and introduced proactive personality as moderator in the relationships between safety motivation and performance, to explore the psychological mechanism under the influences of leader safety behavior on employee safety performance. LMX asserts that the unique relationship and exchange between the leader and the follower do impact on attitudes and behaviors of both (Scandura, 1999). LMX assesses the quality of the relationship between a leader and a subordinate based upon the dimensions of respect, trust, and obligation (Graen & Uhl-Bien, 1995). According to these theories, employees they feel that high-quality LMX relationships are based on "rules of reciprocity", and they have developed an "obligation" to give something feedback to the leader. When employees feel the leader invests in them, they should engage in safety actions and behavior that the leader values. This study focuses on the knowledge-based employees of high-tech enterprises, the aim of this research is to examine: (1) the influences of leader safety behavior on the relationing employee safety performance; (2) the mediating role of employee safety motivation on employee safety performance, and (3) the moderating role of employees' proactive personality upon the relationship between safety motivation and safety performance.

Using a time-lagged research design, the study surveyed 247 employees and their 59 direct supervisors from 35 companies who worked on product safety job. The survey was conducted at three time points within one month interval. I used SPSS 22 to test the study hypotheses and found that: (1) leader safety behavior was positively associated with employee safety performance; (2) leader safety behavior was positively associated with employee safety motivation; (3) employee safety motivation was positively correlated with employee safety performance; (4) employee safety motivation partially mediated the effect of leader safety behavior

on employee safety performance; and (5) employee proactive personality positively moderated the link between employee safety motivation and their safety performance.

The theoretical contributions include: (1) further to examine the effect of leader safety behavior on employee safety performance and (2) reveal the intrinsic mechanism of the effect of leader safety behavior on employee safety performance. In particular, first, employee's safety motivation plays a mediating role in the effect of the leader safety behavior on the employee's safety performance; second, the employee's proactive personality plays a positive moderating role in the relationship between safety motivation and safety performance. The practical value include: (1) to let leaders understand that their safety behavior has a significant positive influences on improving employee safety performance, for the incentive of employees to provide more ways to promote the quality of product safety, so as to ensure customer safety; (2) to improve the employee's intrinsic motivation for leader safety behavior. Leaders should communicate the benefit of with employees' safety behavior and enhances the willingness of their work so as to improve employee safety performance; (3) let leaders realize that the employee's proactive personality plays an important role in promoting employee's safety motivation as well as safety performance. We know that proactive personality can be changed through training, therefore, companies should provide training opportunities for employees to enhance their proactive personality and behavior to help achieve leader safety goals.

Keywords: product safety, leader safety behavior, safety motivation, safety performance, proactive personality

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