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# Role of Safety in adding value to LPG operations

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With the many different uses of LPG iRopen industry and home, it has meant great numbers of people are now involved in its supply, distribution and marketing throughout the value chain. With this increased number of players in the value chain, chances for unethical, unauthorised, or illegal practices are rife, putting innocent people and reputable companies at risk. Therefore accidents caused by circumstances or people involved in the distribution chain, can expose the players to severe liability costs and damage to the reputation of the industry. The cost of accidents therefore goes beyond the obvious financial costs to include the trauma, the pain, injury, loss of life and maiming of body leading one's incapacitation to produce. Ultimately, the promotion of safety and health standards will benefit everyone including workers, their families, employers, industry and the country.

For the LP Gas industry to realise full benefits of business growth and ultimately fulfill its role in the entire economic development, it must operate within a framework of 'good business practices.

As companies continue to strive towards best practices, it means customers in turn will receive and enjoy the many benefits provided by LP Gas. Bad business practices damage the reputation of the industry, companies, undermine business profitability and can put lives of innocent people at risk by compromising on safety.

Bad practices by an established and reputable company may result in the company incurring expenses in reputational damage mitigatory efforts. This is a cost which is either passed on to the customer or undermines the financial foundation of that particular business.



According to the WORLD LPG ASSOCIATION (WLPGA), good business practices that are well designed and properly implemented benefit everyone. They help achieve public interest goals, attract customers and minimise regulatory intervention. Further, good business practices stimulate more efficient and cost-effective operations and reduce the impact of any negative social, safety, environmental or economic issues. Companies using good business practices attract better staff, making them more competitive.

The application of good business practices helps companies improve their public image and their credibility with government authorities, since good business practices compliment existing regulations and legislation. In return for complying with safe practices, those with investment in the distribution chain are entitled to a return on investment. It is vital that good business practices are an integral part of the organisations' culture. If not, bad practices will threaten not only the business but also the rest of the industry.

**Robert Mandeya is the interim President of the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Safety Association of Zimbabwe (LPGSAZ). He can be contacted on [info@lpgzim.co.zw](mailto:info@lpgzim.co.zw), [www.lpgzim.co.zw](http://www.lpgzim.co.zw)**