



2014

OSHSPA Report

Grassroots Worker Protection

**State plan
activities of the
Occupational
Safety and Health
State Plan
Association**





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Occupational Safety & Health State Plan Association

Chair

September 2014

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The Occupational Safety and Health Act allows states and the entire country to take advantage of “the laboratories of democracy” by specifically allowing for state plans to exercise authority over workplace health and safety. This provision allows a rich “conversation” between states and between the states and federal OSHA as we share ideas and approaches and consider whether to adopt approaches pioneered in one or more of the other state programs.

Vice Chair

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As with any such conversation between those who share an important mission – in this case, the elimination and reduction of hazards in the workplace that can cause injury, illness, and death – we may sometimes argue a particular perspective or approach with passion. That is natural when the work is important, and the work that OSHSPA members and federal OSHA do together is indeed important. If we never challenged one another or suggested that there might be a better way to do things, that would suggest that what we do together does not matter. And it does matter, very much, to workers and their employers throughout the country.

Past Chair

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At times we struggle – indeed, providing adequate funding for state programs remains an important issue at both the federal level and in almost every state. We may differ regarding the best approaches to enforcement or to rulemaking or to education. But, through it all, we share a common vision of a safer workplace.

Grassroots is an opportunity to recognize the importance of the work by celebrating the achievements of the 27 state plans that make up the Occupational Safety and Health State Plan Association. We operate in different states, with sometimes different approaches. Most of us exercise jurisdiction over both the public and private sector, while several exercise jurisdiction over the public sector alone. But we all have something to offer. And we all can learn from one another. This publication represents the best that we have to provide – innovation, dedication, and commitment – all in the service of making the workplaces of this country the safest in the world.

Directors

Kevin Beauregard North Carolina

Janet Kenney Washington

Resty Malicdem (Treasurer) Nevada

Mischelle Vanreusel Maryland

Sincerely,

Michael Wood, Chair
OSHSPA



SEP 25 2014

Thank you for the opportunity to acknowledge the significant efforts of Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) State Plan partners that are highlighted within the Occupational Safety and Health State Plan Association's (OSHSPA) 2014 edition of *Grassroots Worker Protection*. These reports have historically documented the contributions of the State Plans to protect America's working men and women, as well as highlight the ingenuity that the State Plans employ to make workplaces safer and more healthful.

OSHA is continuously looking for ways to better meet the safety and health needs of America's workers, and State Plans play an active role in these efforts. For example, OSHA recently issued a revised recordkeeping standard that will provide OSHA with additional information regarding workers who experience an amputation or whose injuries result in in-patient hospitalization. Several State Plans had previously adopted similar notification provisions, which helped pave the way for OSHA's revised standard.

Additionally, OSHA held a national safety stand-down to prevent falls in construction, in June 2014, to raise awareness of preventing fall hazards in construction. More than 20 State Plans partnered with OSHA to make this a truly nationwide event that reached more than 1.7 million workers and 7,000 companies. This was, by far, the most successful worker awareness campaign in the history of OSHA. Stand-downs were held in every state and several countries. I appreciate the many State Plan efforts that contributed to this success.

For more than forty years, OSHA and the State Plans have made remarkable progress. We continue to tackle deadly safety and health hazards by establishing common-sense standards, strong enforcement, and effective cooperative programs that have saved thousands of lives and prevented countless injuries. Today, workplaces in America are far safer. OSHA commends the 27 State Plans for their commitment, strong worker protections and innovative programs. Investing in safety and health and reducing injuries and fatalities not only saves lives, but also saves employers money and increases productivity.

I look forward to continuing dialogue with the State Plans as we work together to improve our efforts to assure that more workers will come home from work safe at the end of the day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Michaels". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

David Michaels, PhD, MPH

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OSHSPA

States Protecting Workers

OSHSPA is the Occupational Safety and Health State Plan Association, an organization of 27 states and territories that have OSHA-approved state plans. OSHSPA is the link between the state plans, federal OSHA, and Congress. OSHSPA representatives meet three times a year to exchange information and address shared concerns. OSHSPA representatives also appear before congressional committees and other hearings to report on workplace safety and health matters.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 gives states and territories the right to develop their own workplace safety and health plans and to enforce safety and health rules within their jurisdictions. Federal OSHA approves and monitors state plans and funds up to 50 percent of their operating costs. State plans must be as effective as federal OSHA in enforcing safe and healthful working conditions.

State plans affect the safety and health of more than 53 million workers. In addition to their enforcement role, state plans help employers make safer workplaces with free consultative services, education, and technical assistance.

Protecting public-sector employees

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 does not cover public-sector employees; however, the state plans give equal protection to public- and private-sector employees. This is a significant benefit to public employees because some of the most hazardous occupations — firefighting, emergency response, corrections, law enforcement, publicly funded health care facilities, and transportation — are in the public sector.

Note: California, Vermont, and Virgin Islands did not provide reports.

OSHSPA

States at a Glance

States and territories with approved safety and health plans

		1	2	3	4	5	
	Initial Approval	Certified	18(e) Final Approval	Operational Status Agreement	21(d) Consultation Agreement	Different Standards	On-site Maritime Coverage
Alaska	07/31/73	09/09/77	09/28/84		yes		
Arizona	10/29/74	09/18/81	06/20/85		yes		
California	04/24/73	08/12/77		yes	yes	yes	yes
Connecticut	10/02/73	08/19/86			yes		
Hawaii	12/28/73	04/26/78		yes	yes	yes	
Illinois	09/01/09				yes		
Indiana	02/25/74	09/24/81	09/26/86		yes		
Iowa	07/20/73	09/17/76	07/02/85		yes		
Kentucky	07/23/73	02/08/80	06/13/85				
Maryland	06/28/73	02/15/80	07/18/85		yes		
Michigan	09/24/73	01/16/81		yes	yes	yes	
Minnesota	05/29/73	09/28/76	07/30/85		yes		yes
Nevada	12/04/73	08/13/81	04/18/00		yes		
New Jersey	01/11/01				yes	yes	
New Mexico	12/04/75	12/04/84		yes	yes		
New York	06/01/84	08/18/06			yes		
North Carolina	01/26/73	09/29/76	12/10/96		yes		
Oregon	12/22/72	09/15/82	05/12/05		yes	yes	
Puerto Rico	08/15/77	09/07/82		yes			
South Carolina	11/30/72	07/28/76	12/15/87		yes		
Tennessee	06/28/73	05/03/78	07/22/85		yes		
Utah	01/04/73	11/11/76	07/16/85		yes		
Vermont	10/01/73	03/04/77		yes	yes		
Virgin Islands	08/31/73	09/22/81	04/17/84		yes		
Virginia	09/23/76	08/15/84	11/30/88		yes		
Washington	01/19/73	01/26/82		yes		yes	yes
Wyoming	04/25/74	12/18/80	06/27/85		yes		

1 – Certified: Date developmental steps completed

2 – 18(e) Final approval: Date concurrent federal jurisdiction relinquished

3 – Operational status agreement: Concurrent federal OSHA jurisdiction suspended

4 – 21(d) consultation agreement

5 – Different standards: Standards not identical to federal standards

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Numbers at a Glance

Federal OSHA budget	FY 2013
Federal OSHA	\$411,825,951
State plans 23(g) - federal 50% share	\$98,745,637
State plans 21(d) - federal 90% share	\$26,924,166
Total Federal OSHA Appropriation	\$537,495,754

Source: OSHA Office of Program Budgeting & Financial Management

Funding by State Plan programs	FY 2013
State plans 23(g) - 50% match*	\$98,551,937
State plans - additional 100% state funding	\$84,739,094
State plans 21(d) contribution - state 10% share	\$2,991,574
Total	\$186,282,605

*Effective July 1, 2003, the required match for Virgin Islands is waived up to \$200,000

Source: OSHA Office of State Programs

Employers under State Plan jurisdiction	FY 2013
Private sector	3,008,513
Public sector	119,422
Total	3,127,935

Sources: BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), 2012 Annual Averages

Census, County Business Patterns (CBP), 2012 (Private Sector)

Employees covered by State Plans	FY 2013
Private sector	46,360,630
Public sector	10,431,374
Total	56,792,004

Sources: BLS, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages (QCEW), 2012 Annual Averages

Census, County Business Patterns (CBP), 2012 (Private Sector)

Allocated State Plan Positions	FY 2013
Total Compliance Inspectors	1,272
• Safety 23(g)	837.21
• Health 23(g)	435.2
Total Consultants	160.28
• Safety 21(d) - State Plan only	23.35
• Safety 23(g)	62.51
• Health 21(d) - State Plan only	24.11
• Health 23(g)	50.31
Other Allocated State Plan Positions	
Total Staff	1,433

Source: State Plan FY 2013 Grant Applications

OSHSPA

Numbers at a Glance continued

Compliance Inspections	FY 2013
Safety	38,548
Health	11,888
Total	50,436

Compliance Inspections by type	FY 2013
Programmed/scheduled	27,740
Complaint	9,078
Referral	5,478
Accident	2,898
Other	2,944
Follow-up	2,298
Total	50,436

Compliance Inspection Data	FY 2013
Inspections with violations cited	30,296
Average violations per inspection with violations cited:	
• Serious/willful/repeated (S/W/R)	1.9
• Other than serious	1.3
Percentage of inspections with no violations	39%
Total current penalties	\$75,972,192
Average penalty per serious violation	\$1,043
Contested cases	4,954
Percentage of inspections with citations contested	10%

Source: OSHA Inspection Reports, State Plans FY 2013

Consultation Onsite Visits - State Plan states only	FY 2013
Consultation 21(d) - initial	22,448
Consultation 23(g) - initial	2,507
Consultation 21(d) - training	2,122
Consultation 23(g) - training	90
Consultation 21(d) - follow-up	2,012
Consultation 23(g) - follow-up	80
Total	29,259

Source: OSHA Office of Small Business Assistance

Consultation Onsite Visit Data	FY 2013
Total serious hazards identified	63,532
Average # of serious hazards identified per visit	4.33



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Alaska

Division of Labor Standards and Safety — AKOSH

Enforcement

The past year has seen an increase within Alaska of employer awareness of complying with standards. Many employers now understand the benefits of consultation and training services of the Alaska OSHA (AKSOH) program. Enforcement has continued to refer employers to consultation services and to follow through with aid from consultation.

One of the large breakthroughs in a unique industry involves employers who have hazards in avalanche zones, including mountain guides, skiing, and other outback activities associated with an avalanche hazard. In May 2014, a call for interested stakeholders was met with enthusiasm from members of the industry. This is an ongoing effort to help increase safety for both employees within the industry and their customers. Many industry leaders came forward to discuss alternatives to ensure they can comply with AKOSH standards that affect their industry.

Another breakthrough with awareness is collaboration with the Municipality of Anchorage for demolition permits that are issued. The newly issued permits states:

I as an employer acknowledge the requirements of Alaska Statute AS.18.31.200 (b) & (c) of the asbestos requirements, and further acknowledge AKOSH's authority to enforce the asbestos Standards 29CFR1926.1101

This demo permit must be posted when demolition or renovations are ongoing. This will alert employees and contractors and possibly cause a topic of interest during a safety meeting.

AKOSH, in conjunction with Homeland Security, was able to have a presence in the rebuilding efforts of Galena after the tragic flood of 2013. The presence has made safety awareness known and allowed workers to be trained on site.

Awareness, awareness training, and recognition have been topics with employers and public works in the past year. An increase in requesting aid from AKOSH has excelled. Other state departments have seen a need for accountability in the assurance of safety for their reporting. For instance, the division that has compliance officers inspecting fish processors has requested training of the AKOSH 10 course for seafood processing. This has also triggered the other divisions that have investigative officers in the field that are exposed to these types of hazards.



AKOSH is focusing on boosting safety awareness in the skiing and outback industries.



AKOSH helped in the rebuilding of Galena, Alaska, after a spring flood destroyed the community in June 2013.



Consultation is working to educate the seafood processing industry about safety hazards.

Consultation Outreach

Youth Outreach

AKOSH's Youth Employment Safety and Training program has been operational for six years. The program's goal is to promote safety awareness and educate young people on strategies that can be implemented as part of an injury prevention program in Alaska's youth workforce. Outreach of this program extends to students enrolled in traditional and nontraditional schools such as Alaska Job Corps, construction academies, military youth academies, and youth correctional facilities.

In recent years, the youth program has expanded the delivery of services to students living in rural Alaska to places such as Kodiak, Ketchikan, Valdez, and Homer. Thousands of young people living in the most rural parts of Alaska gain an understanding of the importance of safe and healthy work practices on the job and at home.

In addition to promoting a safe and healthy working environment for young workers, each year the Youth Program hosts an OSHA 10-hour Construction Workshop specifically for young adults (ages 17-25). At a reduced rate, young people who are interested in pursuing careers in the construction or trades industry now have an opportunity to earn their OSHA-10 certification from certified OSHA professionals.

Employer Outreach

During National Safety Month, the AKOSH Youth Program hosts a workplace violence prevention seminar for employers who hire youth. Employers from various industries gather to discuss critical steps in keeping Alaska's young workers safe and protecting them from acts of workplace violence.



Whether it's attending job fairs or conferences, hosting seminars, speaking engagements, or conducting classroom presentations, the AKOSH Youth Program's purpose is to decrease the number of youth injuries and fatalities on the job.

VPP

Alaska OSHA's VPP program continues to maintain the highest standards for participation in the program. There are 11 participants at the Star level.



A SHARP presentation for Mat-Su Health Services, Inc., was held July 2, 2014.

SHARP

Alaska's SHARP program has grown 33 percent in 2014 to 16 sites. Participants vary from assisted living centers to auto body shops, but all share the common value of employee health and safety. AKOSH supports these employers with on-site visits and training, while providing the added benefit of exemption from scheduled enforcement activity.

CHASE

The Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Program was created to provide a partnership between licensed contractors and AKOSH to take an active approach in reducing injuries, illnesses, and fatalities within Alaska's construction industry.

On March 7, 2014, Cornerstone General Contractors, Inc., in Anchorage became the newest company recognized under the Alaska CHASE Program. There are currently 12 CHASE employers in Alaska.

The Alaska Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Dianne Blumer (front row, third from the right) approved Cornerstone General Contractors, Inc., in Anchorage for the Construction Health and Safety Excellence Program.

Partnerships

The Alaska consultation and training program continues to work on the state Seafood 10-hour training course, which was developed in a partnership with Trident Seafoods, Inc.

This training has been offered to all seafood companies and consultants conducted 13 classes in the following locations: Akutan, Anchorage, Cordova, Dillingham, Dutch Harbor, Ketchikan, Kodiak, and Valdez.

Training and Education

Training and education services offered by AKOSH extend to numerous employers across the state in various industries, including health care, retail, food services, manufacturing, transportation, and construction. At no cost to employers, AKOSH consultants conduct on-site, topic-specific training sessions to educate employees on safety awareness as they relate to OSHA standards.

During fiscal year 2014, AKOSH's 10-hour Seafood Safety and Training Certification program conducted 15 Seafood training sessions at various seafood processing plants across the state, training 235 mid-level managers on OSHA regulations related to the seafood industry.

Additionally, five OSHA 10-hour Construction and four OSHA 10-hour General Industry training sessions were conducted, with a total of 165 employees receiving their OSHA 10-certifications.

Signature Projects

The 33rd annual Governor's Safety and Health Conference was held March 4-6, 2014, in Anchorage with the theme of "Choosing to Make a Difference." Noteworthy safety professionals conducted 30 safety-related courses, workshops, presentations, and seminars. OSHA 10-hour Construction and General Industry courses were offered with 52 participants receiving their OSHA-10 certification cards – 28 in Construction and 24 in General Industry. More than 60 vendors in the safety community participated in the event and more than 300 people attended.



The Governor's Denali Peak Performance Award presentation to the Alaska OSHA program for participation in the recovery efforts in Galen, Alaska.

Awards and Recognition

The Governor's Denali Peak Performance Award is a program that recognizes excellence in public service. Thousands of state employees have been recognized since the program's inception for their dedication to excellence in their jobs. This year, five AKOSH consultation and enforcement employees received this award for going above and beyond the call of duty to go to Galena, a remote part of Alaska, after severe flooding and live in tent camps to help workers and residents avoid injury and illness during cleanup operations.



The tent camp in Galena, Alaska, where rebuilding is under way following flooding in 2013.

The Alaska OSHA Consultation and Training section's booth during the 33rd annual Governor's Safety and Health Conference in Anchorage.

Arizona

Division Of Occupational Safety and Health — ADOSH

Enforcement

The Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health (ADOSH) enforcement program continues to be strong with the addition of a new director and inspection staff. ADOSH conducted 1,158 inspections during fiscal year 2013. Most of the inspections were planned. National Emphasis Program inspections focus on falls, trench/excavations, silica, and employers with high experience modification rates. Approximately 20 percent of the total enforcement inspections are dedicated to local emphasis programs.



Assistant Director Jessie Atencio (middle) highlighted the importance of preventing heat stress on Telemundo media.

Signature Projects

Heat Stress Campaign: Arizona’s Heat Stress Campaign continues to grow in outreach activities with partners in our communities. Materials on heat stress and recognizing signs and symptoms were distributed by compliance and consultation staff. Local radio stations in Phoenix, Tucson, Yuma, Kingman, and Lake Havasu were all pitched to communicate our “Water, rest, shade” message.

In collaboration with federal OSHA, associations, organizations, and local government officials, billboards were used in high-traffic areas throughout metropolitan Phoenix. The billboards provided drivers with a valuable message on heat stress, along with ADOSH’s toll-free number to call for more information.

In mid-July, ADOSH was invited to speak on a local Telemundo program called “Enfoque.” Enfoque, a local version of the station’s national program, focuses on area events or important messages to the community. As a result of the event, ADOSH consultation received requests for other outreach training in multiple businesses with employees who spoke English as a second language.

To cap off the campaign, ADOSH used its Alliance partnership with AzUCA and Team Fishel, which is an underground utility contractor. An active construction site was selected and two videos were shot on location with our message of “Water, rest, shade,” including recognizing signs and symptoms.

The first video focused on the importance of working outdoors and taking necessary precautions to ensure that water, rest, and shade were made available to any employee.

The second video provided the signs and symptoms of heat stress and what to do if someone was having an event. Both videos were produced in English and Spanish and made available on YouTube for employers and employees to use for training.

Hispanic Outreach: As a commitment to incorporate more Hispanic outreach training, our consultation department participated in the annual Mexican Consulate’s “Labor Rights Week.” Consulates throughout central and southern Arizona were visited by bilingual trainers and consultants as they spoke about what rights employees had, as well as ways to file a complaint. Promotional ADOSH items were handed out to attendees as were printed materials in Spanish.

Chicanos Por La Causa and ADOSH have been working for the past three years on providing education on heat stress to their Head Start and elementary teachers, as well as identifying chemicals used in the workplace. The collaboration is an effort to promote signs and symptoms of heat stress in the minds of the teachers as they would be in the direct sun during recess or extracurricular activities with the children in their respective schools. Teachers often use or bring in chemicals to the workplace that may be harmful or toxic to others. Therefore, it was important to provide the attendees with what the OSHA Hazard Communication standard required.

National Stand Down for Fall Protection

June 2-6, ADOSH worked with construction and general industry partners to take a moment for fall protection awareness. More than 7,500 employees took part in the event during the week. The director and assistant director were invited to many events throughout the state, in which employees spoke about the importance of fall protection and training provided on a peer-to-peer basis over fall protection prevention. In appreciation of the sites that invited the director and assistant director, ADOSH created letters of appreciation for employers and employees who participated in the event.

Voluntary Protection Program: ADOSH's Voluntary Protection Program recently welcomed a new employer into the program with the designation of STAR award. Currently, there are 35 VPP (general industry and construction) participants recognized as STAR sites. Safety and health professionals on our VPP sites continue to facilitate mentorship, ADOSH Advocate articles, and occasional sample worksites where OTI/UC-San Diego classes may visit as a way to reaffirm knowledge gained from a particular class that is taught.

New STAR participants and sites include Loven Contracting., Inc. – Cottonwood Hospice Facility; McCarthy Building Company's Banner Estrella Hospital; and Chandler Waster Water Facility. Throughout the year, 11 other sites have maintained VPP status: Raytheon Missile Systems Palo Verde site, Honeywell Aerospace Tucson site, Cintas Corporation Chandler site, Honeywell Aerospace Deere Valley site, Raytheon Missile Systems Rita Road site, Hunter Douglas Horizontal Blinds, Frito Lay Distribution Center, and Johns Manville. Each new site embodies VPP's four core elements: management commitment and worker involvement, hazard prevention and control, worksite analysis, and training. Best practices drive continuous improvement at all sites audited this year.

Partnerships

Rate Reduction Awareness Program: In its sixth year, the Rate Reduction Awareness Program (RAPP) continues to be available to employers struggling with injury and illness rates that are above the national average for their NAICS code in the most current Bureau of Labor Statistics listing. The program has seen 13 employers take the challenge of becoming better at safety through routine consultation surveys and site-designed training.

Over the past year, three of the 13 have successfully completed the program with decreased injury/illness and DART rates. ADOSH observed that the average rate reduction in injuries/illnesses for the three companies was 30 percent from where they previous



Phoenix-based Insulfoam successfully completed its second VPP STAR recertification.



Yuma-based company Yuma Cogeneration accomplished its second successful VPP STAR recertification.

started the program. Proving that increased hazard recognition, focused training to ensure workforce had basic knowledge of hazards in the workplace, and management involvement in the process was key in driving down the rates.

As a five-year goal, the ADOSH Consultation department is tasked with driving down rates for existing employers in the program to a 50 percent reduction in injury/illness rates for their industry. Having those that successfully completed the program, we are confident that the exposure to ADOSH services will allow them to reach our measure, regardless if they are in the program.



Harris Rebar of Tucson, Ariz., participated in the National Stand Down event, June 2-6.

Public Entity Partnership Program: This is the first year of the new partnership program appropriately named P.E.P.P. The program was drafted to encourage public, local, and state governments to participate in a three-year program that focuses on reducing injury/illness rates for their high-hazard areas. Together with quarterly consultation visits and tailored training, ADOSH is looking to reduce the injury/illness rate by 15 percent, implement two best practices in each department, increase worker involvement with hazard identification and training, increase communication between management and employees, and attend ADOSH webinar training.

Alliances

Over the course of the year, ADOSH has formed two new alliances. The Arizona Chapter of the Associated General Contractors, Arizona Builders' Alliance, and the Arizona Utility Contractors Association both were signed. Both alliances will work with ADOSH to provide safety and health training material to sub-contractors and members. The two will work to generate feedback on ADOSH compliance inspections as a way to improve our service to the industry-external customers. During campaign events such as Heat Stress and the National Stand Down For Fall Protection, ADOSH will use members to show support for them and also ask to provide material on the event to their employees and beyond.

Additional Outreach

ADOSH has been working with communities in Arizona to provide outreach training with our two-day Safety Summit events. Within the past year, ADOSH worked with the Maricopa County Sheriff's office to enhance and reinforce OSHA standards and best practices. Mohave Community College and the Small Business Development Center in Kingman, Ariz. hosted a two-day Safety Summit that encouraged students and employees to attend.

To wrap up the year, ADOSH worked with Sinagua Middle School in Flagstaff, Arizona to bring the local community a safety training focused around public workers. Keynote speaker John Michael-Keyes used the I Love U Guys foundation's approach to preparing and implementing a program in the event an active shooter enters a school.

All events saw an average of 185 employers and employees in attendance. Those that attended were highly likely to attend the next ADOSH Safety Summit, as they saw it as a way to be up to date on OSHA standards and best practices.



A safety training for public workers was held in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Connecticut

Division of Occupational Safety and Health — CONN-OSHA

Signature Projects

Connecticut OSHA (CONN-OSHA) provides technical assistance to state and municipal disaster recovery teams following the aftermath of severe weather events. CONN-OSHA assists with work zone safety, hazard recognition, handing out personal protective equipment, providing informal training, and passing out reference material.

CONN-OSHA management also works cooperatively with local area offices of federal OSHA. CONN-OSHA and federal OSHA are members of the Debris Management Task Force at the State Emergency Operations Center. CONN-OSHA is participating with other state agencies to meet the criteria for inclusion into the Federal Emergency Management and Accreditation Program.

CONN-OSHA coordinates the Breakfast Roundtable Discussion Group on a monthly basis. This discussion group began as a way to inform employers and employees about the latest safety and health information. The Breakfast Roundtable meetings have been held since 2003, where various safety and health topics have been presented.

Enforcement

For fiscal year 2013, CONN-OSHA responded to the death of a private citizen who was crushed when he fell into an unguarded trash compactor, while the compactor was in operation at the City of New London Transfer Station. The inspection determined that there was employee exposure to the same hazard. As a result, this office levied a willful violation to the City of New London for plain disregard relating to fall protection.

Also this year, CONN-OSHA responded to a referral involving a serious injury to a temporary worker at a publicly owned golf course. The worker attempted to clean out a lawn tractor while the tractor's cutting system was still in operation. The investigation determined that the seat safety interlocks were disabled by the employer. A willful violation was issued under the general duty clause for intentionally disabling the safety interlocks on the mowers.



A citizen was crushed after falling into an unguarded trash compactor.

Outreach

The CONN-OSHA *Quarterly* newsletter is distributed to approximately 1,700 public and private sector employers/employees through an electronic distribution list. The *Quarterly* covers emerging safety- and health-related topics, as well as recent changes that occur in the OSHA standards. The CONN-OSHA staff members use their professional experience in contributing articles for the newsletter.

CONN-OSHA is a member of the Connecticut School Indoor Environment Resource Team for the indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Tools for Schools (TFS) Program. TFS is a program developed by the Environmental Protection Agency to improve air quality in schools through the adoption of sound indoor air quality management practices. CONN-OSHA provides formal training and guidance to school districts on identifying, correcting, and preventing indoor air quality problems.

CONN-OSHA is a representative for the Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Committee. The mission of the committee is to identify and offer solutions relative to safety and health for Department of Labor employees.

The committee's responsibilities include establishing procedures with the employer concerning safety incidents (accidents and illnesses), evaluating accident and illness prevention programs, and instituting training programs to reduce hazards in the workplace.

CONN-OSHA staff members continue to support and participate with the "Young Worker Safety" team and promote that curriculum.

Alliances

CONN-OSHA provides training, attends, and participates in trade shows with the following alliances: Atlantic States Rural Water & Wastewater Association (ASRWVA), Connecticut Association of Street & Highway Officials (CASHO), UCONN Connecticut Transportation Institution Technology Transfer Center (T-Square), Connecticut Highway Steel Supervisors' Association (CHSSA), State of Connecticut, Department of Energy & Environmental Protection (DEEP), Connecticut Interlocal Risk Management Agency (CIRMA), and State of Connecticut, Department of Transportation (DOT).

Hawaii

Occupational Safety and Health Division — HIOSH

Program Overview

Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Program (Chapter 396, HRS) staff members conduct the following activities, with the goal of encouraging compliance with the law and administrative rules:

1. Compliance inspections and investigations: HIOSH staff members conduct programmed inspections of high-hazard workplaces, as well as investigations in response to accidents, complaints of safety and health hazards in the workplace or discrimination, and referrals.
2. Consultations and on-site training: HIOSH consultants perform workplace audits and evaluations and make recommendations to improve a site's safety and health management system in response to requests from employers. This service is free and confidential.
3. Certifications are issued to qualified individuals: These programs are 100 percent state or fee funded. OSHA does not permit federal funds to be used for these types of activities.
 - a. Explosives and Pyrotechnics – Certificates of fitness are issued to people qualified to handle explosives, fireworks, and special effects for movie and theatrical productions.
 - b. Certified Safety and Health Professionals – Certificates are issued to people who perform third-party workplace safety audits to qualify businesses for a reduction in workers' compensation premiums and limited enforcement inspections.
 - c. Hoisting machine operators – Certificates are issued to operators of cranes and other hoisting equipment, with requirements for continued training and testing.

Operational Status Agreement

In September 2010, OSHA opined that the Hawaii program was not meeting OSHA requirements and indicated that it would de-certify the program if Hawaii did not take immediate action to restore staff to benchmark levels and fix major financial, enforcement, consultation, and reporting shortcomings.

In return for help with training and conducting inspections, HIOSH gave up its 18(e) status and was reclassified by OSHA as an 18(b) state. An operational status agreement (OSA) was signed on Sept. 21, 2012. The plan was for HIOSH to gradually re-assume enforcement over the majority of the private sector in the state over the next three years. During fiscal year 2013, HIOSH had jurisdiction over the public sector, construction outside of secured military bases, and transportation and warehousing. For more information about the OSA, visit <http://dliir.state.hi.us/labor/osa/>.

During most of this fiscal year, the division was not fully staffed (there were eight safety inspectors, six health inspectors, and two consultants).

Highlights

In April, HIOSH in partnership with the American Society of Safety Engineers, hosted the governor's biennial Pac Rim Conference, the largest such gathering in the Pacific with more than 500 attendees. Local, national, and international safety and health speakers covered a variety of topics of interest to the occupational safety and health community.



HIOSH conducted 477 inspections in 2013, with a continued focus on falls.

Fall Protection Emphasis Program (FPEP)

In fiscal year 2013, HIOSH conducted 477 inspections, 352 safety and 125 health. Nearly 2,500 violations were identified of which 63 percent were classified as serious, 0.2 percent were classified as willful, and 1.6 percent were

classified as repeated. Total penalties assessed were \$1,264,998. Sixty-one percent of the inspections were conducted in the construction industry. HIOSH's two consultants did 127 visits at a variety of general industry and construction jobsites.

Illinois

Safety Inspection and Education Division — IDOL-SIED

The Illinois state plan covers the public sector and is enforced by the Illinois Department of Labor – Safety Inspection & Education Division (IDOL-SIED). It became a developmental plan Sept. 1, 2009, and had a two-year extension to complete the comprehensive developmental steps. In July 2011, the 21(d) On-Site Safety & Health Consultation Program was adopted by the division and incorporated the 23(g) public sector consultation program of the Illinois state plan.

Signature Projects

The majority of the Illinois state plan's projects have been aimed toward meeting the aforementioned comprehensive developmental steps as well as a few additional elements, including:

- The administrative rules were updated to incorporate various elements of 1903, 1904, and 1911, and published in the May 30, 2014, Illinois Register.
- The Illinois Field Operations Manual (IL FOM) was updated in January 2014 to meet the administrative rule requirements.
- The Illinois Whistleblower Investigations Manual was developed and approved in August 2014.

With the hiring of four additional safety inspectors, the full complement of critical field staff is complete.

Another significant project that was beyond the scope of the aforementioned developmental steps involved the combining of the Safety Inspection & Education Act and the Health & Safety Act into the new Occupational Safety & Health Act. This was signed by Gov. Pat Quinn on Aug. 11, 2014, and will become law Jan. 1, 2015, establishing the Division of Occupational Safety and Health.

Enforcement

During fiscal year 2013, the enforcement team conducted 825 inspection activities, which was lower than previous years due to staffing, hiring freezes, and sequestration of funds (resulting in a temporary layoff of staff). The enforcement team consists of nine safety inspectors, four industrial hygienists, two enforcement assistant managers, a division manager, and two administrative assistants.

Consultation

For fiscal year 2013, the consultation team conducted 610 private sector visits and an additional 33 public sector visits. This was relatively equal to previous years' visit totals. The consultation team consists of five safety consultants, five industrial hygiene consultants, two supervisors, a division manager, two office associates, and two administrative assistants.

Outreach

In fiscal year 2013, the "Look Back B4 U Back" campaign was developed and implemented to raise awareness of back-over prevention programs. The majority of the public sector fatalities in 2012 were from back-over accidents. The accidents were not focused in one area of our constituency, but over the broad spectrum of public sector employers. The campaign included posters, safety cards, presentations, and direct contact opportunities with our focused inspections.

The grain handling issues in Illinois were brought to the forefront with a number of recent fatalities occurring across the state in this industry. The consultation program did a focused outreach to the major grain handling companies in Illinois. The staff provided to them resource materials and educational opportunities designed to prevent future mishaps.



The "Look Back B4 U Back" campaign was designed to prevent back-over accidents.



Indiana

Occupational Safety and Health Administration — IOSHA

Introduction

The Indiana Occupational Safety and Health Administration (IOSHA) executive staff, including the deputy commissioner of labor, identified key areas of improvement that will help the agency function at a more efficient and effective level as it seeks to carry out the compliance responsibilities and agency mission of advancing the safety, health, and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace.

IOSHA has dramatically improved its intake process (processing phone calls, complaints, and inquiries) and the overall timeliness to open a complaint investigation. IOSHA will now focus on other critical components of the process, specifically improving the time from opening an investigation to issuance of safety orders as appropriate. The goal is to bring the process more in line with national averages.

Ensuring staff participate in advanced training is key to develop skilled, professional, and independent compliance officers for IOSHA. IOSHA's focus will be to create a well-documented and consistent training regimen for all new compliance safety and health officers (CSHOs) that both use and supplement the federal compliance training directive. IOSHA's overarching goal will be to deliver effective training to CSHOs and place them into service in as minimal time as possible. One specific area IOSHA has identified for CSHO training needs is hazard recognition. IOSHA staff are developing and will deliver a hazard recognition training class this fall. This training will use several pictures from files that will help best illustrate hazards in a flashcard-style format.

IOSHA has been focused on updating information technology systems implementing a replacement to the CSHO Application – called OSHA Express – and converting to Windows 7. In addition, IOSHA has been upgrading communication tools such as cellphones and air cards, and exploring better Internet connectivity for field staff.

The total number of inspections performed by IOSHA has been short of target for at least the past two years. One significant reason for the shortfall in inspections is employee turnover and the addition of many new staff members. It is IOSHA's expectation that as many of these new employees are brought up to speed in their ability to operate independently, inspection counts will be positively affected. IOSHA's newer management team will continue to look for opportunities to get CSHOs trained as timely as possible to improve inspection efficiency.

Another objective is to improve the quality and organization of information in our investigative files. The use of comprehensive checklists and greater attention and feedback to CSHOs about file completeness is already showing improvement.

Workplace Injuries, Illnesses, and Fatalities

There were 115 fatalities in Indiana workplaces in 2012. This represents a historical low number of fatalities in Indiana. The overwhelming majority of workplace fatalities were attributed to transportation-related incidents (49.6 percent). These types of incidents included motor vehicle incidents, pedestrians struck by vehicles in a work zone, and nonroadway incidents involving vehicles. The second most frequent cause of workplace fatalities was contact with objects and equipment (18.6 percent). No. 3 on the list was falls, slips, and trips (13.3 percent). Finally, workplace violence represented 12 percent of the total work-related fatalities. What the data suggests is that the traditional workplace (shop floors, construction sites) is getting safer. Yet, transportation incidents and workplace violence pose the greatest threat to workers.

Indiana passed legislation effective July 1, 2012, that prohibits texting while driving. Distracted driving and overall motor vehicle safety in construction zones must be a top priority. The Indiana Department of Labor's initiative on distracted driving is well illustrated on its website. IOSHA seeks partnerships with agencies such as the Indiana Department of Transportation and external business and trade associations to continue to promote transportation safety. IOSHA adopted and utilizes the CPL 02-01-054, Inspection and Citation Guidance for Roadway and Highway Construction Zones Directive.

The Indiana Department of Labor implemented a late-night retail workplace violence initiative, where agency representatives, police, and retailers developed a series of safe practices and policies to prevent late-night retail violence from occurring. This initiative continues to develop through outreach and education by the Indiana Department of Labor's workplace safety and health consultation division, INSafe. IOSHA also remains committed to investigating late-night retail outlet incidents, particularly at convenience stores.

IOSHA also continues emphasis in traditional areas in trenching, scaffolding, and fall prevention, where fatalities are known to occur.

There were no fatalities in the health care and social assistance industry and there was a large reduction in fatalities for construction of buildings, traditionally one of the most dangerous jobs in the state with a fatality rate of 10.7 per 100,000 (per the Bureau of Labor Statistics 2010 data for the overall construction industry).

The state nonfatal workplace injury and illness rate for Indiana in 2012 was 4.0 per 100 workers. This rate is also a historical low for the state, as well as a one-year decline of 7 percent.

Improvement in nonfatal workplace injuries and illnesses were experienced by nearly all major Hoosier industry categories in 2012. With a 2012 rate of 3.1 per 100 workers, the Indiana construction industry also achieved a historical low rate. In addition, the Indiana Department of Labor's emphasis industries of agriculture, health care, and transportation all experienced declines in the nonfatal workplace injury and illness rates in 2012.

Emphasis Programs

IOSHA has adopted all of the National Emphasis Programs (NEPs) for this time period, with the exception of Commercial Diving. IOSHA also adopted three local emphasis programs (LEPs) covering scaffolds, fall protection and trenches. IOSHA has successfully completed each prior NEP developed by federal OSHA.

Enforcement - Notable Cases

S-K JV Indianapolis (Deep Rock Tunnel Project): The Deep Rock Tunnel project is located in Indianapolis. On June 13, 2014, one employee suffered a fatal head injury while operating a locomotive 300-plus feet below the surface and approximately eight miles into the tunnel. This case is ongoing.



In April 2014, IOSHA joined the Indiana Department of Transportation for Work Zone Safety Awareness Week.

Columbia City Water Department (Public Sector): IOSHA investigated Columbia City Water Department (CCWD) on two occasions for trenching and excavation citations. The investigation resulted in seven serious repeat and 11 serious violations. Penalties of \$18,300 were levied. CCWD agreed to develop safety and health programs and train all its employees who have a safety responsibility in an OSHA construction safety 10-hour. CCWD also agreed to provide competent-person training for all supervisors. Finally, CCWD agreed to allow OSHA to perform two follow-up random inspections over the next six months. This case has been settled.

Pilkington: Pilkington is an auto glass maker located in Shelbyville. A worker fatality in 2010 prompted an investigation from IOSHA. Subsequently, a follow up inspection was performed in 2012. The follow-up inspection resulted in 19 serious, four repeat, and three knowing violations within the lockout/tagout and machine guarding standards. The follow-up inspection of Pilkington resulted in proposed penalties of \$453,000. IOSHA recently reached an agreement with Pilkington, which included fines from an additional complaint inspection for a record \$495,500 in total fines paid. This is the highest monetary penalty ever levied by IOSHA.

Indiana State Fair: On Feb. 8, 2012, three employers were issued safety orders as a result of the stage collapse that occurred in August 2011 at the Indiana State Fair. Mid America Sound Corporation was issued one safety order, including three knowing violations, as a result of a lack of proper engineering

specifications and inspection in the erection of the stage. International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) and Theatrical Payroll Services, Inc., was issued one safety order, including three serious and one nonserious violation, for improper anchoring of the stage and lack of proper fall protection. The State Fair Commission was issued one safety order and included one serious violation for not conducting a proper life safety evaluation of the event. All three cases were settled as of March 2014.

Exotic Feline Rescue: IOSHA conducted an investigation at Exotic Feline Rescue in response to an employee who had been mauled by a tiger while cleaning the animal's cage. A \$17,000 fine was issued to the rescue center. Currently, the case is before the Indiana Board of Safety Review and settlement negotiations are continuing.

TOA: A female worker of TOA died following injuries she suffered from severe burns from the use of a spot welder. In response to a workplace fatality, IOSHA conducted an inspection and issued citations in June 2014 and a \$35,000 penalty to the automotive parts manufacturer.

Vertellus: IOSHA CSHOs are currently conducting a process safety management investigation of an explosion resulting in the release of and employee exposure to benzene at Vertellus. During this investigation, another explosion occurred and released carbon dioxide and resulted in a vacuum implosion of a bulk storage tank. Due to the complexity of this incident, the inspection has required the use of four of IOSHA's most experienced CSHOs.

Voluntary Protection Program

In addition to inspections, IOSHA also performs other important functions. A key standout is the Indiana Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). The program is growing, as there are more than 70 worksites certified in VPP in Indiana. The program is estimated to deliver 80 to 90 total certified sites within the next two years.

In April 2014, a third position was added to help manage VPP. IOSHA expects to add seven sites during the federal fiscal year 2014. VPP staff members also spend time visiting different areas of the state to discuss and promote the program, safety management systems practices, and safety excellence.

The Indiana VPP team relies heavily on Special Government Employees (SGEs) to assist in evaluations, re-evaluations, mentoring, and workplace safety and health outreach and education. Using SGEs has reduced the burden on enforcement resources as more and more companies become committed to exemplary health and safety

management systems through VPP. The Indiana Department of Labor estimates that each SGE used for a VPP evaluation or re-evaluation yields a cost savings of approximately \$2,500 to the agency. This savings can then be reinvested by IOSHA to ensure it maintains a robust enforcement program.

Along with the assistance of Indiana VPP site Nucor Sheet Mill, as well as federal OSHA, the Indiana Department of Labor hosted an SGE training session in August 2013, in Crawfordsville. Fourteen additional SGEs were added to Indiana's resource pool as a result of that training. Industrial hygiene training was provided by VPP staff and two personnel from Nucor Sheet Mill during that same week. SGE training has been held at Indiana locations in conjunction with OSHA Region V each year for the past five years. In May 2014, the VPP staff assisted with the SGE training conducted at Eli Lilly in Indianapolis, during the VPPPA Region V Conference. Thirteen SGEs were added from this class. SGE training was also coordinated in Orleans, in July 2014. The training was hosted by Indiana VPP site PAOLI. Staff have secured VPP site Raytheon as a host site for the SGE training class that will be held in 2015.

Working together, VPP staff and SGEs have coordinated day-long training sessions for the Indiana SGEs and personnel from VPP-certified sites. Three sessions for SGEs, contacts from VPP sites, and contacts from sites interested in achieving VPP certification in the northern, southern, and central regions of the state were held during calendar year 2013. These education sessions seek to provide an accurate and consistent approach to performing evaluations and share best practices from VPP sites. To ensure VPP sites remain fatality free, the VPP evaluations emphasize a focus on areas such as fall protection, electrical safety, and fork truck safety, including reviewing pedestrian walkways, confined space, contractor safety, and control of hazardous energy.

In May 2014, the Indiana VPP manager and deputy commissioner addressed more than 400 participants at the Voluntary Protection Program Participants Association (VPPPA) Region V conference in Indianapolis. The VPP manager and VPP team leader conducted workshops during this event and at the Indiana Safety and Health Conference and Expo in February 2014. The VPP staff assisted the VPPPA board with the conference by encouraging VPP sites to develop and submit presentations for workshops, stuff conference bags, donate items for give-a-ways, become sponsors for the conference, and become moderators for workshops. VPP continues to provide an effective platform for

workplace safety and health education and outreach in Indiana.

During federal fiscal year 2013, the Indiana VPP team conducted 16 evaluations. Four of the 16 were new VPP sites, while 12 were re-certifications of existing sites.

Education and Outreach

The Indiana Department of Labor partnered with the [Indiana Chamber of Commerce](#) and the [Central Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers](#) to host Indiana's largest workplace safety and health conference. More than 900 participants attended the conference in Indianapolis Feb. 18-20, 2014.

During the week in which the conference was scheduled, Gov. Michael R. Pence proclaimed the week Workplace Safety and Health Week, a week in which employers, employees, and safety and health professionals were recognized for their contributions to help make Indiana workplaces safe and healthy. The 2014 conference featured more than 50 educational breakout session topics, including motor vehicle safety, workplace violence prevention, electrical safety, and many other topics.

Also during the 2014 Indiana Safety and Health Conference & Expo, Commissioner of Labor Rick J. Ruble presented the Governor's Workplace Safety Award to nine Indiana companies. The award provides recognition for companies based on best practices for eliminating workplace injuries and illnesses. The award salutes those organizations for which safety and health have been made a top priority. Representatives from the Indiana Department of Labor and Central Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers evaluate the submissions. For more information, go to www.in.gov/dol/2381.htm.

More information about the Indiana Safety and Health Conference and Expo is available at www.INSafetyconf.com.

Nearly half of the workplace fatalities in Indiana in 2012 were transportation-related incidents. These incidents occurred in all major industries, including agriculture, construction, manufacturing, transportation, and warehousing.

In April 2014, the Indiana Department of Labor partnered with the Indiana Department of Transportation for Work Zone Safety Awareness Week. While work zone safety is important at all times during the year, this week generally occurs at the beginning of the road construction season. The initiative underscored the hazards associated with work zone construction activities. The week-long awareness campaign featured media launch (in which Commissioner of Labor Rick J.

Ruble spoke), public service announcements, social media messaging via Facebook and Twitter, and the development of stakeholder-specific publications – construction, transportation, and motorists. The agency sent a mass email to more than 5,000 trucking owner/operators to remind them of the importance of work zone safety and the effect they have on these workers. A similar direct-mail letter was sent to about 150 trucking fleets.

To match the agency's activities, the Indiana Department of Labor also updated its Work Zone Safety website at www.in.gov/dol/2835.htm.

The Indiana Department of Labor and Indiana Department of Transportation worked together to develop a distracted driving working group. The working group consisted of representatives from the Indiana Department of Labor, Indiana Department of Transportation, Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles, Indiana State Police, and the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute's Traffic Safety Division.



Young people in Indiana were challenged to develop a social media message to promote the dangers of texting and driving.

The working group developed and implemented a strategy focused on reaching out to young drivers, the group most likely to be involved in a texting while driving crash. The strategy consisted of an awareness campaign using social media with \$5,000 scholarship prizes for the winners.

The contest, DRIVE NOW. TXT L8R INDIANA, asked high school and college students to develop an anti-distracted-driving message with the tagline "DRIVE NOW, TXTL8RIN" and spread that message on Vine, Twitter, and Instagram.

The contest kicked off in April 2014 during the National Distracted Driving Awareness Month and ran through May. During the contest period, more than 10,000 media impressions were made.

Winners were selected in both college and high school categories for each social media platform and for both largest message reach and most creative/effective messaging. Each winner was presented a scholarship by Lt. Gov. Sue Ellspermann at a ceremony in the Indiana Statehouse atrium. Scholarships were funded through National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) grants and all scholarships were paid to college savings 529 accounts. More information about the campaign is at www.in.gov/dol/2760.htm.

IN-TIME Initiative

The Indiana Department of Labor signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Indiana State Police and is involved as an active voting member of the Indiana Traffic Incident Management Effort (IN-TIME). The IN-TIME is to have first responders from all disciplines follow agreed upon multi-lateral policies and procedures while remaining focused on an “Open Roads Philosophy.” IN-TIME strives to re-open roads to normal traffic flow as efficiently and safely as possible in order to minimize the often deadly secondary crashes that occur when traffic unexpectedly stops or slows.

The IN-TIME group also works to provide a common framework for development of traffic incident management policies and training programs for the various responder disciplines – including police, fire, EMT, and tow truck drivers. Representatives from the Indiana Department of Labor attend IN-TIME trainings to gain a better understanding of traffic incident management and to ensure first responder safety remains a priority when clearing an incident. More about the IN-TIME initiative is at www.in.gov/intime.

Iowa

Occupational Safety and Health Administration – IOSHA

Signature Projects

43rd annual Iowa Governor's Safety and Health Conference

Iowa will hold its 43rd Governor's Safety Conference in the Capitol on Oct 23-24. Iowa OSHA will continue to award three scholarships to exceptional students in the occupational safety and health field. There is also recognition of an individual due to their significant contributions to Iowa employees and employers during their career in safety and health. Continuing education courses for certified safety professionals, certified industrial hygienists, and occupational health nurses will continue to be offered. Numerous breakout sessions, including live demonstrations of fall protection, will be featured during the conference.

Outreach

Safety Video Catalog

In addition to free training on safety and health topics offered by our consultants, Iowa OSHA Education offers an extensive selection of safety education videos that can be borrowed free of charge for public use, allowing for self-paced learning on a variety of topics. A few of the most popular video topics include:

- Asbestos Awareness
- Confined Space
- Ergonomics
- Hotel and Housekeeping
- Workplace Violence

A complete list of available videos can be found at www.iowaworkforce.org/labor/iosh/consultation/safetyvideocatalog.pdf.

Partnerships

Three new partnerships were signed in fiscal year 2013. Iowa OSHA construction partnerships currently cover 2,700 employees on 10 active partnership sites. Partnerships have consistently experienced injury and illness rates well below the national average. Best practices and initiatives are shared at participating sites. The partnerships continually try to improve employee involvement in health and safety practices on site. OSHA focus four training is mandated at all participating sites, and all signing contractors designate a representative for the site safety committee.

Alliances

Iowa OSHA currently has two formal alliances. The Iowa Renewable Fuels Association (IRFA) and Iowa OSHA meet on a quarterly basis with ethanol and biodiesel manufacturers to participate in education, training, and to discuss best practices. The other alliance is with the Master Builders of Iowa (MBI), where we partner and communicate on a regular basis to bring safety and health awareness and injury reduction to the construction industry. We participate with conferences, training such as the Falls Stand Down, and identify ways to work with contractors on an individual basis.

Voluntary Protection Program

Iowa promotes the VPP program with more than 45 sites actively participating with a goal of 50 sites in the near future. We had four new sites entered into the VPP STAR program this year. Monsanto's Independence facility became VPP STAR in February. Three resident contractors – Clausen Supply Company, Koehler Electric, and Thompson Construction – all became VPP STAR at the LyondellBasell chemical manufacturing facility in Clinton.

Kentucky

Occupational Safety and Health Program — Kentucky OSH



Signature Projects

The Kentucky Labor Cabinet's Division of OSH Education and Training has a very active partnership branch. On Aug. 19, 2013, the division's Construction Partnership Program (CPP) entered into a partnership for the Louisville Bridges project, the largest undertaking in the history of the program. It is a formal site-based partnership with general contractors Walsh Construction Company and WVB West End Partners, including approximately 200 subcontractors, several unions, and 1,200 employees. The signing ceremony included a large media event highlighting the significance of the project.

The \$2.6 billion project is Kentucky's largest transportation infrastructure improvement and is one of the biggest underway in the nation. It encompasses six separate work sites, including the construction of two new bridges and their approaches, rehabilitation of the seven-lane Interstate 65 John F. Kennedy Memorial Bridge, as well as reconstruction of the Kennedy Interchange where I-65, I-64, and I-71 come together in downtown Louisville. The downtown crossing connects downtown Louisville and Jeffersonville, Ind., running parallel to the existing Kennedy Bridge. The downtown crossing includes more than 60 overpasses and bridges and more than 60 retaining walls. The second bridge is eight miles upstream and connects Prospect, Ky., and Utica, Ind. The bridge will be a 2,500-foot cable-stayed bridge across the Ohio River and requires nearly 16 million pounds of steel. The east end crossing includes 20 additional bridges and infrastructure improvements and a 1,700-foot traffic tunnel under U.S. 42. Both bridges are expected to be open to traffic in late 2016.

Several days of training were conducted for partnership staff members before the first on-site audits. The training included a full day of orientation for each bridge project and a weeklong OSHA Training Institute (OTI) maritime safety course. The OTI course addressed maritime hazards and standards that are not routinely covered by partnership staff members but are covered under this partnership.

The three spans, shown above, are all part of the Ohio River Bridges Project.

Photo credit:
Louisville-Southern Indiana Ohio River Bridges Project



Kentucky officials, Walsh Construction Company, and WVB West End Partners entered into a partnership for the biggest infrastructure project in the state. It includes two new bridges, a tunnel, and several major highway upgrades.

Enforcement

In October 2013, the Division of OSH Compliance health branch conducted an inspection at an ice cream manufacturing facility where employees experienced a short-term exposure to methylene chloride at 288 parts per million (ppm), 2.3 times the maximum airborne concentration Short Term Exposure Limit of 125 ppm. The overexposure resulted in 12 serious violations of the methylene chloride standard. Two citations with 15 serious violations and one other-than-serious violation were issued to the employer with a penalty of \$93,350.

In December 2013, the OSH Compliance health branch conducted an inspection at a steel mill where an explosion occurred. There were no injuries in the explosion but it was found the company violated a formal settlement agreement with the Labor Cabinet to fix the problem of water leaking into the molten metal ladles to prevent explosions. The violation was considered willful. A separate serious violation was found for large accumulations of hydrated lime concentrated in the upper levels of the basic oxygen unit. One willful and one serious citation were issued to the employer with a penalty of \$77,000.

Fall Protection: Construction fall protection violations continue to top Kentucky's most cited standards for the fifth year in a row. In 2013, 29 CFR 1926.501, duty to have fall protection, was cited 140 times and Kentucky's state-specific residential fall protection regulation was cited nine times. While this number has decreased, down from 191 fall protection citations in 2013, Kentucky remains focused and vigilant to reduce fall hazards in the Commonwealth through enforcement and education.

Reporting: The Kentucky OSH Program has a state-specific injury reporting regulation that is more stringent than OSHA's. Employers are required to report hospitalizations of two or fewer employees as well as all amputations to the Division of OSH Compliance. In fiscal year 2013, the Division of OSH Compliance received 109 hospitalization reports. Fifty-seven inspections were conducted, resulting in one willful serious violation, two repeat serious violations, 60 serious



The Kentucky Labor Cabinet participated in a training on workplace violence, which covered active shooter situations and self-defense.

violations, and 20 other-than-serious violations. Total penalties issued were \$498,800. Fifty-two amputations were reported in FY 2013. Forty-one inspections were conducted with two repeat serious violations, 39 serious violations, and 15 other-than-serious violations. Total penalties were \$321,900.

Outreach

Workplace Violence Prevention: The Kentucky Labor Cabinet, in conjunction with the Kentucky Safety and Health Network, Inc., hosted the Workplace Violence Prevention Safety Day in Louisville. Experts from the FBI, Bullitt County Sheriff's Department, Kentucky Fire Commission, and Eastern Kentucky University presented training on various workplace violence topics. Participants examined ways to train and prepare for an active shooter situation as well as how to anticipate actions from law enforcement responding to an active shooter. Instruction addressed security vulnerability assessment and self-defense techniques. The free, full-day training also presented training addressing de-escalation techniques for health care settings, late night retail, delivery driver safety, and school security assessment. The capacity event was extremely popular.



Consultants in Kentucky distributed posters to raise awareness about fall protection and training.

Fall Prevention Campaign: The Division of OSH Education and Training developed and led a 2013 Fall Prevention Campaign that centered on raising awareness of fall hazards, training, collaborating with partners, and briefly stopping work to offer training. Consultants distributed campaign posters and stickers, met with employers, and provided training. Kentucky partnered with unions and associations to spread the message.

The multi-week campaign launched with press releases in English and Spanish that were picked up in both print and radio media. The news release was followed with promotion and distribution of campaign materials. Weekly fliers addressing fatalities among Kentucky construction workers, aerial lifts, scaffolds, steel erection, protective equipment and rescue, residential construction fall protection, and ladders were developed and sent out each week to the OSH Program's 4,000-plus email distribution list. The fliers and campaign message were also promoted via social media on the Labor Cabinet's Facebook page and Twitter account.

Fliers and other outreach materials were shared with retail stores such as Lowe's, Home Depot, lumber supply stores, and equipment rental facilities. Fall prevention campaign posters, in English and Spanish, were posted at all 49 state parks. To obtain further awareness, consultants worked to spread the campaign to other outlets such as gas stations, convenience stores, and banks. The campaign's final flier asked employers and employees to get involved and join the campaign. By repeating the email blast and social media promotion, awareness was raised on the topic of fall protection and it help set the stage for other aspects of the campaign.

An August safety stand down was conducted in conjunction with OSHA's Region 4 office. This practice again raised awareness among the contractor community and employees. Employers were asked to voluntarily stop work for one hour to conduct safety training focused on the prevention of falls in the workplace.

Kentucky developed free online training modules – Introduction to Fall Protection and Introducción a la Protección Contra Caídas En Español – that are available at laborcabinetetrain.ky.gov. The module covers topics such as the common causes of falls, when fall protection is required, philosophies of fall protection, and details on the common ways to provide fall protection. Course attendance grew significantly as the campaign created awareness and demand for the module. The Labor Cabinet also dedicated a webpage to the 2013 Fall Prevention Campaign.

Heat Stress: In 2013, for the third straight year, the Kentucky Occupational Safety and Health Program continued its support of OSHA's heat-related illness campaign. In 2011, the first year of the campaign, the Division of OSH Education and Training deployed all field staff to businesses and industries across the state to conduct educational briefings on heat-related illness awareness. In 2012, the division implemented a similar strategy. Consultants once again hand-delivered information and provided cost-free instruction for employers and employees on recognizing the signs and symptoms of heat-related illness and how to handle such emergencies. The heat stress outreach has been extremely successful and, over the past two summers, affected more than 100,000 Kentucky employees. In 2013, the Division of OSH Education and Training published a module covering heat stress on its eLearning site. The module, Heat Stress Awareness for Construction and General Industry, covers the types of heat illness, risk factors associated with heat stress, the prevention of heat-related illness, and what to do if a worker starts showing signs of a heat-related illness. The module has been popular and heavily viewed.

Partnerships

Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program: SHARP success and growth continued in 2013. Five new companies were added in 2013, bringing the total number of Kentucky companies participating in the SHARP to 21 – the most in the history of the program. Several more companies are in line to join the SHARP in 2014 and beyond.

Construction Partnership Program: CPP entered into a unique project at the National Corvette Museum in Bowling Green. The site made national news when, in the early morning hours in February, a giant sinkhole opened inside the museum and swallowed eight historically significant Corvettes. The contractor employed to stabilize the sinkhole, recover the vehicles, and repair the unusual situation immediately contacted the Division of OSH Education and Training's Partnership Branch and inquired about

the possibility of a partnership. Though smaller in scope than what Kentucky usually accepts into the CPP, the division decided to bring the site on board because of the opportunity to learn about and observe construction techniques routinely not seen by partnership staff members.

The CPP program has 13 active sites representing nearly \$5.1 billion in total project costs.

Voluntary Protection Partnership: Since 1997, Kentucky has developed a detailed, rigorous, and stringent VPP process designed to identify companies that are truly the best of the best relative to occupational safety and health performance in the workplace. In 2013, two new companies joined the VPP program: Kimberly-Clark in Owensboro and Cintas in Grayson.

The growth of the VPP program puts the total number of VPP participants at 12 – the most VPP participants at any one time in the program’s history. The partnership branch continues to mentor several other companies striving to become VPP participants while also working closely with current participants to ensure continued success.

Work is under way to improve the delivery of employee perception surveys to VPP participants and applicants by using Adobe Connect software.

The Division of OSH Education and Training uses the same software for its eLearning functions. The new method of delivering employee perception surveys is currently in the testing phase and will significantly reduce division travel costs and time.

eLearning Program: The Labor Cabinet’s web-based eLearning program, www.labor-cabinetetrain.ky.gov, continues to grow since its launch in 2011. Activity grew by nearly 200 percent in 2013 with more than 21,500 views to the eLearning modules and webinars.

The eLearning library added several webinars and courses in 2013, including a Spanish-language “Introducción a OSHA” module. All eLearning material is free. The website was created, designed, and developed solely by Labor Cabinet staff. Division of OSH Education and Training consultants compose all course content in addition to performing their full plate of regular duties. A division training development specialist assists with presentation and production details.

30th annual Governor’s Safety and Health Conference and Exposition: The Labor Cabinet, in conjunction with the Kentucky Safety and Health Network, Inc., presented the 30th annual Governor’s Safety and Health Conference and Exposition in Louisville May 6-9, 2014. The event, the largest safety and health exposition in the commonwealth, featured pre-conference courses, concurrent workshops, and outstanding keynote speakers.

Scholastic Achievement for Education Awards, or “SAFE” awards, totaling \$46,000 were presented at the conference to 12 university students enrolled in the areas of occupational safety and health, industrial hygiene, or a closely related field. Kids Chance of Kentucky presented scholarships to children of Kentucky workers killed or seriously injured in work-related incidents.

Thirty-five Kentucky companies received the Governor’s Safety and Health Award at the event. The award recognizes employers and employees who together achieve a required number of hours worked without experiencing a lost-time injury or illness. An additional 21 companies received the Governor’s Safety and Health Award at their facilities. Combined, the companies represent more than 8,500 employees and more than 67.5 million hours worked without a lost-time incident.



Cintas in Grayson joined the VPP program in 2013.

Maryland

occupational Safety and Health Program — MOSH

Enforcement

Maryland (MOSH) investigated the fatality of a tree trimmer. The victim was working approximately 30 feet above the ground trimming branches from a pine tree. The victim lost his balance and contacted energized power lines located approximately 4 feet from the tree he was working in. The lines were energized at 7,200 volts and the injuries sustained were fatal. The company was issued 11 serious citations and one other-than-serious citation in violation of Maryland's Tree Care and Removal regulations. The owner of the company was also criminally charged under Maryland's High Voltage Line Act. A referral was made to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for licensing violations.

In early January 2014, the owner of the company pleaded guilty to the charges against him for violating Maryland's High Voltage Line Act. The employer received one year imprisonment, a monetary fine, and one year of probation once released from jail.

MOSH is investigating the fatality of an employee who fell from a water tower. The employee was attempting to work on cell/radio antennas when he fell approximately 180 feet from the tower. MOSH is working with federal OSHA and local experts to determine the exact circumstances surrounding the employee's fall. MOSH requested the assistance of a retired fire lieutenant who was highly trained in tower and vertical rescue and safety procedures. MOSH secured a Go Pro camera in order to maintain communications with the climbing crew and instruct the climbers on exactly what measurements and photos were needed. The expert and an assistant climbed the tower and took numerous measurements, videos, and photographs that will aid the inspection team in determining what events led to the employee's fall. The case has not been closed as of this report.



MOSH participated in the National Stand-Down for Fall Protection in Construction.

Outreach

MOSH has a Facebook page: <http://www.facebook.com/MOSHSafety>. MOSH posts various updates from the agency, including training material, upcoming seminars, and critical information from OSHA. The agency also has two YouTube videos:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-R_MlxU7Os

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l5vV-18ZVp0>

One video gives an overview of what MOSH is and our mission. The other details our MOSH Consultation Program and gives the viewer an idea of what to expect during a MOSH Consultation visit. The two videos and the Facebook page have been well received by the public.

The Training and Education Unit offers free educational seminars to the public on a variety of topics, including fall protection, heat stress, GHS, confined spaces, excavation, and workplace violence. MOSH also speaks to employees on jobsites about safety and health issues. One topic that MOSH spends a lot of time on is teen safety, as each year hundreds of teenagers join the Maryland workforce. MOSH spoke to more than 300 teens during nine separate speaking engagements about the dangers of being a teen employee and ways they can protect themselves while working. Over the past nine months, MOSH has offered 68 educational seminars to more than 1,500 attendees and spoken to another 4,000 employees at various speaking engagements, including local conferences and trade shows.

Partnerships

The MOSH Cooperative Compliance Partnership (CCP) program signed six new partnerships, bringing our total to 69 since the program began in 1997. The CCP unit managed 12 active CCP sites in the past year, totaling more than \$2.7 billion in new construction with near-zero injury and illness rates. Nearly 450 employers participated in site inspections covering more than 4,100 employees. The CCP unit was able to perform 25 site visits and identify more than 300 safety and health hazards. The unit is currently evaluating several more applications for potential partnerships in the next year.

National Project Participation

In June, MOSH participated in the National Stand-Down for Fall Prevention in Construction. With falls historically being the leading cause of workplace fatalities in the construction industry, MOSH placed an emphasis on this week during all outreach activities and enforcement inspections. MOSH sent out nearly 6,000 emails to employers throughout the state announcing the week's activities and events scheduled by MOSH. During the week, MOSH held two free seminars for the public on fall protection. Three speaker requests were held where fall protection was discussed with 290 people, 220 of which were teenagers that would soon be entering the workforce. The MOSH Cooperative Compliance Partnership (CCP) team discussed the campaign at all of its inspections during the months leading up to the stand-down. The CCP team spoke at two of our sites during the week, providing information and demonstrations to several hundred employees. Two other CCP sites held training and demonstrations during the week where several hundred employees were impacted.



Sites in Maryland held training to participate in the National Stand-Down for Fall Protection in Construction.

Michigan

Occupational Safety and Health Administration — MIOSHA

Signature Projects

Reinventing Performance in Michigan (RPM)

In 2013, Michigan Gov. Rick Snyder launched the Reinventing Performance in Michigan (RPM) project. The goal of the project is to help make Michigan a top 10 business-friendly state. Goals include a 25 percent improvement in satisfaction with regulatory processes, a 50 percent reduction in processing times, ensuring 100 percent of customer facing regulatory material is verified for utility, and a 50 percent reduction in mandated forms.

MIOSHA inventoried 744 forms and documents for review. The majority of MIOSHA's documents and forms are informational and do not add to the regulatory burden for businesses and customers. A Rules, Forms, and Legislative Committee reviewed MIOSHA's forms and documents and identified 78 forms or documents to be updated. Staff members are reviewing these documents and making the requested updates.

In addition, MIOSHA has several projects under way to improve efficiency and provide quicker service. These include streamlining the Informal Settlement Agreement (ISA) process by moving to a Web-based electronic process in place of the current paper process and streamlining the procedure for submitting and responding to Freedom of Information requests. A longer-term project is looking at the current two-step appeal process to determine whether both steps are still useful.

New Five-Year Strategic Plan

In 2013, MIOSHA developed a new five-year strategic plan to guide enforcement and outreach activities during fiscal years 2014-2018. This is MIOSHA's fourth plan.

The new plan helps guide our resource strategies in helping to protect worker safety and health. It includes the industry sectors for increased outreach and enforcement to the list of high-hazard industries, support activities for transportation, accommodations, warehousing and storage sectors. Increased outreach efforts are planned for agricultural operations, the public sector, and temporary service agencies. All of the compliance and outreach efforts are designed to reduce the unnecessary injuries and illnesses occurring in these industries.

The MIOSHA Strategic Plan Implementation Team developed the overall strategic goals and emphasis areas. The team reviewed Bureau of Labor and Statistics and workers' compensation data, inspection experience, workplace trends, and other information to identify areas to be covered. Workgroups throughout MIOSHA developed annual strategies.

Stakeholders across Michigan were also asked to provide feedback. In 2012, three Strategic Plan Focus Group meetings were held for general industry, labor, and construction. Following development of the draft plan, a stakeholder meeting was held to hear feedback from nearly 75 representatives from businesses, employee organizations, universities, trade associations, and government agencies.

Since implementation of MIOSHA's first strategic plan in 1999, overall trends in injury and illness rates for the targeted industries and fatalities showed steady decreases. Michigan's overall injury and illness rate has dropped from 8.1 in 1999 to 4.1 in 2012. MIOSHA program-related fatalities fell from 87 to 27 during that same period.

Emphasis Programs

Wood Products Manufacturing: This industry was selected for outreach and enforcement activities in 2014 as it continues to have an above-average injury and illness rate. In 2011, wood products manufacturing had a total recordable case rate of 5.3 injuries and illnesses per 100 workers per year, compared to the state average of 3.9. To help reduce this rate, MIOSHA launched a local emphasis program (LEP) and will conduct at least 10 programmed inspections in wood products manufacturing during fiscal year 2014.



Cants (Cant is the logs) being transferred via a conveyor with unguarded chain and sprockets.

Residential Construction Initiative: MIOSHA launched a residential construction initiative to assist employers in protecting their workers from the most common serious hazards associated with residential construction. The initiative is in effect from May 15, 2014, through May 15, 2015. MIOSHA developed this initiative with the Home Builders Association of Michigan. The initiative includes an LEP that focuses inspections on the top five serious hazard categories, a new one-stop residential page on the MIOSHA website, training seminars, and a “Building Up Residential Safety Day” on Aug. 14, 2014. The Building Up Residential Safety Day is an invitation for residential employers to participate in a one-day opportunity in which enforcement officers and construction consultants conduct safety and health surveys at jobsites with no citations and no penalties.



The Residential Construction Initiative helps companies focus on the top five serious hazards.

MIOSHA Training Institute (MTI): Since its inception in 2008, MTI training has been provided to more than 16,300 individuals and certificates have been issued to more than 857 students. The first Level Two Boot Camp was conducted in fiscal year 2013 and received positive feedback from attendees. The Level Two Management Boot Camp is designed for general industry and construction supervisors, managers, and safety coordinators and provides in-depth information on the administration and management of workplace safety and health systems. The boot camp compressed the series into a six-day session, allowing attendees to receive the training in a faster, more consistent manner and reduced their travel time and costs.



MTI boot camp graduates are recognized at the 2014 safety conference.



Carpenters tying off for the Residential Construction Initiative.

Connecting MIOSHA to Industry: MIOSHA is continuing its very successful initiative, “Connecting MIOSHA to Industry.” The goals are to support active safety and health systems, decrease workplace safety and health hazards, expand partnership opportunities, and, therefore, increase the competitiveness of Michigan employers. Overall, the initiative is linking MIOSHA’s legislative mandates with opportunities to interact with employers and workers to create collective ownership for the safety and health of Michigan’s workforce. Special outreach activities include coffee with MIOSHA opportunities and the annual Take a Stand Day event.

Enforcement

MIOSHA conducted 5,267 safety and health inspections/investigations during fiscal year 2013 with 63 percent conducted in the construction industry and 37 percent in general industry. Of the 13,133 violations issued, 57 percent were classified as serious/willful/repeat.

Significant Cases

In fiscal year 2013, MIOSHA issued significant or novel cases, including:

Iron Steel Pipe and Tube Manufacturer: In November 2012, the General Industry Safety and Health Division conducted a planned partial inspection in response to an injury report indicating

finger amputations. The company manufactures cold drawn tubes and piping for use in various industries from automotive and aircraft components to oil and natural gas. As a result of the inspection, two willful-serious, two serious, and one other-than-serious violations with penalties totaling \$151,000. The most serious violations included lockout/tagout and unguarded pinch points.



Employees enter the bunk area to attach slings to steel and are exposed to multiple unguarded pinch points from the falling steel bars, pulling carriage, and pusher bar above. These actions have resulted in one fatality and finger amputations.

Automotive Supplier: In December 2012, the General Industry Safety and Health Division investigated the fatality of an employee inside a robot work cell that was struck from behind by a transfer robot, causing fatal injuries. During the fatality inspection, the safety officer identified other serious hazards that were addressed in a comprehensive companion inspection. The two cases resulted in six serious, seven repeat serious, 15 other-than-serious, and three repeat other-than-serious violations with penalties totaling \$177,700. The most serious violations included machine guarding, power presses, lockout/tagout, electrical, and unguarded pinch points.

Paper Product Manufacturer: In January 2013, the General Industry Safety and Health Division conducted a re-inspection at a facility that manufactures paper products, including paper plates, cups, bowls, and bags after a 2010 investigation resulted in more than five serious violations. The re-inspection resulted in eight serious and six repeat serious violations with penalties totaling \$117,800. The most serious violations included machine guarding, lockout/tagout, electrical, cranes, conveyors, and unguarded pinch points.

Wastewater Treatment Explosion: In September 2013, the Construction Safety and Health Division issued 29 serious citations to four companies that were involved in an explosion at a wastewater treatment plant. One contractor employee died and a different contractor employee was injured in the explosion. The employees were using a torch to remove the lid from a large digester tank when

the explosion occurred. Three subcontracting employers and the controlling employer were issued citations. The General Industry Safety and Health Division issued a serious citation to the owner of the facility. The total combined proposed penalties were \$126,000.

Outreach

MIOSHA's Consultation Education and Training (CET) Division focuses its outreach efforts on those companies with the greatest need. CET Division consultants provided the following outreach services during fiscal year 2013:

- 3,971 safety and health consultations
- 928 onsite surveys – 21(d) and 23(g)
- 2,478 training sessions for 23,306 participants
- 100,631 pieces of literature distributed
- 1,662 videos were loaned

In fiscal year 2013, the ninth annual "Take a Stand Day" was a great success. "Take a Stand Day" provides an opportunity for employers to receive a special one-on-one consultation with no citations and no penalties. A total of 200 requests were received in the CET Division and assigned to both enforcement and consultation staff. This event provides all MIOSHA staff an opportunity to "connect with industry."

The Michigan Voluntary Protection Program (MVPP) assists employers and employees by providing a mechanism and a set of criteria designed to evaluate and recognize outstanding safety and health management systems. The program is designed to establish a cooperative relationship between management, labor, and MIOSHA. MVPP participants implement safety and health management systems that provide protections beyond what is required by MIOSHA standards. In fiscal year 2013, there were three new MVPP companies.

MIOSHA awards CET grants on an annual basis for the development and implementation of safety and health training and services to supplement CET division activities. In fiscal year 2013, awards totaling \$865,000 were given to 19 grantees.

Michigan Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (MSHARP) is a cooperative program between businesses and government that recognizes Michigan employers and employees committed to creating a workplace culture that makes safety their top priority. MSHARP provides an incentive to employers to emphasize accident and illness prevention by anticipating problems, not reacting to them. In fiscal year 2013, MIOSHA had 27 MSHARP companies, including three new companies and one renewal.

MIOSHA Social Media

The CET Division uses electronic media extensively to improve outreach and external communication:

Oct. 30, 2009: First MIOSHA Facebook page post. Currently, there are 1,179 MIOSHA Facebook followers.

Nov. 7, 2011: First issue of the MIOSHA eNews – a monthly electronic newsletter. Currently, there are 3,928 MIOSHA eNews subscribers.

May 10, 2012: First tweet sent from MIOSHA's Twitter account. MIOSHA tweets two times a day Monday through Friday. Currently, there are 565 MIOSHA Twitter followers.

Staff members continually encourage all MIOSHA customers to join our email distribution list. The list is used to announce the release of the latest monthly issue of the MIOSHA eNews. All MIOSHA staff members are encouraged to add an invitation in their email signatures to “Follow” us on Twitter, “Like” us on Facebook, or both.

Staff members monitor the MIOSHA Twitter and Facebook pages and respond to questions within 24 hours.

Hazard Communication/Globally Harmonized System (GHS)

In fiscal year 2013, the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard was aligned with the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). MIOSHA put in place a number of training tools to help employers meet the Dec. 1, 2013, training deadline. From the MIOSHA website, employers have access to a modifiable version of a PowerPoint program with speaker notes and three narrated training modules. In addition, CET scheduled and conducted 15 free employer (train-the-trainer) GHS sessions. A total of 844 attendees participated in these sessions.

Coffee with MIOSHA

MIOSHA held “Coffee with MIOSHA” events at different locations statewide in 2013. These two-hour events provided an informal opportunity for employers and workers to meet with MIOSHA representatives (consultative and enforcement) to ask questions, obtain information on program services and resources, learn about MIOSHA Training Institute (MTI) opportunities, and establish rapport. All eight of the scheduled Coffee with MIOSHA events were successfully completed. Total attendance was approximately 500.



Monroe County Community College sponsored Coffee with MIOSHA in Monroe.



Elzinga & Volkers Inc. contractors signed a partnership to protect workers during construction at the Spectrum Health ICC Beltline Project.

Partnerships

Six new construction partnerships were signed in fiscal year 2013. MIOSHA construction partnerships have consistently experienced injury and illness rates well below the industry average. Innovative best practices and safety initiatives are shared and posted on the MIOSHA website. The partnerships continuously develop new strategies to encourage employee involvement and create a more collaborative culture with workers and employers.

MIOSHA continues its partnership with the Ford Motor Company and the United Auto Workers (UAW). The partnership agreement strives to continuously reduce work-related injuries and illnesses at the company's Michigan manufacturing locations by optimizing the resources of the partners in the development and administration of plant health and safety standards. Four MIOSHA Day visits were conducted in fiscal year 2013.

Alliances

Alliances are a written agreement between MIOSHA and organizations committed to workplace safety and health. An alliance provides the opportunity for organizations and MIOSHA to work together to reach out, educate, and lead the state's employers and employees in improving and advancing workplace safety and health. In fiscal year 2013, there were a total of 16 active alliances, including five new alliances and one renewal. The new alliances included: American Society of Safety Engineers – Greater Detroit Chapter; Health Care Association of Michigan; Operating Engineers Local 324 Journeyman & Apprentice Training Fund, Inc.; University of Michigan, Center of Occupational Health and Safety Engineering; and U.S. DOL OSHA, Toledo, Cleveland & Lansing Area Offices, MIOSHA, and the Consulate of Mexico in Detroit.

Minnesota

Occupational Safety and Health Administration — MNOSHA

Signature Projects

Discrimination prevention

Minnesota OSHA's (MNOSHA's) senior discrimination investigator is an inaugural member, representing OSHSPA, on the national Whistleblower Protection Advisory Committee and its 11(c) Work Group. MNOSHA's Compliance unit includes an active discrimination team. The three discrimination investigators opened 45 discrimination cases and concluded 54 cases in federal fiscal year (FFY) 2013, increases of 10 percent and 108 percent, respectively, from the prior federal fiscal year. While most cases were not determined to be meritorious, MNOSHA was able to achieve reduced disciplines for three of the complainants, back pay of more than \$4,100 for another and \$10,000 in back pay and compensatory damages for a third complainant, all without the need for formal hearings. In response to the 2012 federal memo concerning employer safety incentives, investigators are more attuned to workers' compensation issues in the workplace.

Investigators responded to 168 other stakeholder inquiries, an increase of 22 percent from the prior year.

Residential construction

Minnesota OSHA continues to ensure employers are complying with the fall-protection standards in construction. In the past three years, approximately 25 percent of construction inspections resulted in residential fall-protection citations. In federal fiscal year 2013, MNOSHA had a 35 percent increase in residential fall-protection citations from FFY 2012. Along with inspections, MNOSHA has conducted five outreach sessions to more than 166 employer representatives specifically about fall protection in residential construction. During FFY 2013, MNOSHA continues to cover residential construction in its Construction Seminar programs. MNOSHA has also conducted two Construction Seminars in Spanish that focused on fall protection and included residential construction. In addition, an MNOSHA representative attended a board meeting at St. Paul College in St. Paul, to aid in establishing goals and objectives related to residential contractor training through the college.

Emphasis Programs

In 2013, MNOSHA conducted inspections under 18 local and national emphasis programs. MNOSHA's key areas of inspection emphasis continued to be workplaces with high injury and illness rates as determined by the federal Data Initiative, workers' compensation information, and data obtained from the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Seventy-three percent of MNOSHA's 2,479 programmed inspections were conducted in the above-stated emphasis programs. Seventy-two percent of inspections conducted in these emphasis programs resulted in citations issued.

Grain elevators

MNOSHA Compliance conducted 25 inspections of grain elevators in FFY 2013, resulting in 118 citations and \$84,225 in penalties. Given the results of those inspections, MNOSHA Compliance added grain elevators as a local emphasis program in FFY 2014.

Window washing

MNOSHA Compliance added a local emphasis program for window-washing activities in FFY 2011. The emphasis program directs investigators to initiate an inspection when they observe employees engaged in window-washing activities. Since the inception of the emphasis program, MNOSHA Compliance has conducted 101 inspections and issued 78 citations totaling more than \$247,000 in penalties. In comparison to previous fiscal years, data now indicate an increased number of employers in compliance. Also, the percent of inspections with citations has decreased from 48 percent in FFY 2011 to 36 percent in FFY 2013.

Minnesota



In 2013, MNOSHA conducted 2,479 programmed inspections under 18 local and national emphasis programs.

Enforcement

At a precast concrete culvert plant, a temporary employee fell approximately 6 feet from a casting deck to the bottom of the mold. The employee sustained serious injuries and was not able to work for two weeks. MNOSHA Compliance issued three willful and two serious citations to the concrete plant employer, a total of \$170,800 in penalties. The willful violations included the failure to barricade or cover floor openings, allowing entry into a permit-required confined space when hazardous conditions not allowed under the entry permit were present, and failure to enforce lockout/tagout procedures.

An employee was fatally injured after coming into contact with an unguarded router bit on a CNC machine. The employer was cited for lockout/tagout violations, as well as the failure to guard the router bit. The citations resulted in \$80,800 in penalties.

Outreach

Seminars, training

Minnesota OSHA Compliance conducted 104 presentations to 3,101 participants. Ninety-eight percent of outreach presentations were in emphasis industries, including construction with a focus in excavation and residential construction. Two presentations were given to the Minnesota Grain and Feed Association, specifically about the grain-handling standard, with 70 participants. Five outreach training sessions specific to trenching operations were presented to more than 207 employer representatives.

MNOSHA Compliance conducted five Construction Seminars developed to assist members of the construction industry who are responsible for worksite safety to stay current with MNOSHA Compliance standards. The seminars also provide a citation-free forum for employees of the construction trades and their employers to discuss issues and experiences with the speaker, their peers, and MNOSHA Compliance investigators.

MNOSHA Compliance continues to work with a Construction Seminar Focus Group to select safety topics and presenters for each event. The group comprises various representatives from the construction industry, including insurance agents, company safety directors, and safety consultants. In total, the Construction Seminar presentations attracted 258 participants. The topics were residential fall protection, MNOSHA update and GHS, cranes and derricks in construction, electrical worksite safety, and vehicle safety.

Immigrants and “hard-to-reach” employers, employees

MNOSHA continues to strive to improve communication with immigrant and “hard-to-reach” employers and employees. MNOSHA employs two investigators who are fluent in both English and Spanish. It has updated its right-to-know handouts and MNOSHA workplace inspections booklet that are offered in Spanish and has translated 16 of its Minnesota-specific documents into Spanish. In addition, MNOSHA provides written materials to immigrant and other hard-to-reach employers in coordination with the Department of Labor and Industry’s community services representative.



MNOSHA offered Spanish-language classes to workers about fall protection and to employers about how OSHA conducts inspections.

MNOSHA hosted 33 participants at its first Construction Seminar offered in Spanish, which focused on fall protection. It gave another presentation in Spanish for new employers about what to expect during an OSHA inspection.

Conference participation

Minnesota OSHA continues to participate in major safety conferences throughout the state, including staffing information booths at four separate exhibitions.

Quarterly newsletter

In addition to its subject-specific publications, MNOSHA continues to publish its quarterly newsletter “Safety Lines.” Some of the topics covered during the past year included: the most frequently cited standards; Workplace Safety Consultation services for small businesses; the Minnesota Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program; the annual workplace safety report from the Department of Labor and Industry’s Research and Statistics unit; partnerships with Associated General Contractors of Minnesota and with the Minnesota Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors; methicillin-resistant staphylococcus aureus (MRSA); an area youth construction program; grain handling; personal protective equipment; safety alerts; chemical hazards associated with cleaning and housekeeping; the Safety Grant program; an imminent danger intervention; special emphasis programs; preparation for an inspection; respirators; a crane safety alert; fall protection; logging; heat stress; MNOSHA’s year in review; the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling; and answers to MNOSHA’s frequently asked questions.

Partnerships

Minnesota STAR (MNSTAR) Program/ Voluntary Protection Program (VPP)

In FFY 2013, four new organizations in Minnesota achieved full MNSTAR status. In addition to these new participants, four employers received full recertification, with the associated five-year



MNOSHA ended 2013 with 35 employers achieving MNSTAR status.

exemption from routine compliance inspections; two employers achieved the established one-year conditional goal and received the remaining four years of certification; one MNSTAR participant was required to withdraw from the program; and one merit participant had its status extended for an additional three years.

FFY 2013 ended with the MNSTAR program comprising 35 employers: One is a construction participant and the remainder are general industry participants. Of these employers, 33 are full MNSTAR participants and two are working in a merit status.

On average, general industry participants in the MNSTAR program were 51 percent below the current U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) rates for total recordable cases (TRC) and 68 percent below the current BLS rates for days away from work, job transfer, or restrictions (DART) cases. The MNSTAR construction participant, a resident contractor at a MNSTAR participant's site, was 9 percent below current BLS rates TRC and 100 percent below the current BLS rates DART cases.

Participants benefited from the MNSTAR Program with an approximate \$1.5 million total cost savings.



MNOSHA established a cooperative safety and health partnership with contractors constructing a four-lane bridge spanning the St. Croix River between Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Construction Health and Safety Excellence (CHASE) Minnesota

In FFY 2012, MNOSHA signed newly revised construction safety and health partnerships with the Minnesota Chapter of Associated Builders and Contractors (MN ABC) and with Associated General Contractors (AGC) of Minnesota. The partnerships are designed to help reduce the number of injuries, illnesses, and fatalities at participating construction industry employers.

The partnership is managed by both associations and has three levels. Level 1 requires the employer to maintain the minimum requirements of a safety and health program. Level 2 requires a more comprehensive safety and health program. Level 3 is MNOSHA's Cooperative Compliance Partnership (CCP) program, whereby MNOSHA Compliance will provide compliance assistance for a specific project. To qualify, contractors must be at Level 2 for a minimum of one year and can then apply for participation in the CCP program for construction projects expected to last at least six months, but fewer than 18 months.

In FFY 2013, MNOSHA signed Cooperative Compliance Partnership agreements with eight Level 3 individual contractors for specific construction sites.

St. Croix Crossing

MNOSHA also entered into a partnership agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and a contractor for the construction of the piers for the St. Croix Crossing project. The pier project consists of the construction of five river piers to a height of 15 feet above nominal river elevation. The St. Croix Crossing project is a major construction project replacing the 80-year-old Stillwater (Minnesota) Lift Bridge with a four-lane bridge spanning the St. Croix River and connecting two expressways between Oak Park Heights, Minn., and St. Joseph, Wis.

This partnership establishes a cooperative effort to ensure safety and maintain an open line of communication between MNOSHA and the contractors on the worksite.

Nevada

Occupational Safety and Health Administration — NV OSHA

Signature Projects

Construction projects have started to recover in the state of Nevada. This includes both commercial and residential construction. Construction continues to be a special emphasis industry for the Safety Consultation and Training Section (SCATS).

Fall Protection Programs

Fall protection awareness continued to be a high priority for SCATS. The National Safety Stand Down to prevent falls in construction was a major success that allowed us to partner with several construction firms, such as The Penta Building Group and Martin-Harris Construction, at multiple events, reaching more than 1,000 employees. Local media coverage also helped raise awareness among employers and workers about the hazards of falls, which account for the highest number of deaths in the construction industry.

Safety and Health Practitioner Certificate Program

SCATS continued its Safety and Health Practitioner Certificate Program to elevate the standard of safety in Nevada, and to recognize those who have completed a curriculum of 27 classes within three years. The certificate is recognized by the Institute for Safety and Health Management, an accredited safety and health professional certification organization, and fulfills certain requirements for CSHM and other designations. The program has enrolled more than 1,702 registrants, and graduated 462 as of June 30, 2014.

OSHA 10- and 30-Hour Construction Training

Nevada enacted legislation in 2009 that made it mandatory for all construction workers engaged in construction activities in the state to have an OSHA 10-Hour construction card and supervisory employees to have an OSHA 30-Hour construction card, which both last for five years after the completion of the class. SCATS recently created a free refresher course to accommodate the high volume of employees whose cards are approaching expiration.

Outreach

Major Industries

SCATS continued its emphasis on the big three industries in the state: construction, manufacturing, and hotel/casinos. Consultants conducted a total of 624 surveys and identified 5,827 hazards. SCATS continued to fulfill its vital mission of protecting the people of Nevada. SCATS continued to see an increase in demand for its services in the geothermal, wind, and solar industries.

SilverFlume: The Nevada Secretary of State recently implemented the SilverFlume business portal to facilitate the licensing of new businesses and the license renewal for existing businesses. SCATS helped with the development of the safety and health module for the SilverFlume. The Silverflume business portal has proven to be a valuable marketing tool to save time and money in SCATS efforts to capture new clients. Many new Nevada businesses can benefit from the free services provided by SCATS. Silverflume introduces SCATS' services to Nevada employers during the initial steps of setting up their business in Nevada by allowing employers to request that a SCATS representative contact them. SilverFlume has already generated 500 requests for information and generated potential leads for dozens of companies.



Construction workers for Martin Harris Construction stop work for training on fall protection during the National Fall Protection Stand-Down.



SCATS trainers present the latest recipient of the Safety and Health Practitioner Program.

Training and Education

SCATS conducted 317 training classes and reached more than 7,250 students and 3,000 employers. Twelve percent of these training classes were conducted in Spanish. The training section of SCATS has had a major effect on the safety of Nevada employers and employees. Nevada saw the loss of a large part of its trained workforce as a result of the recent recession. Consequently, as jobs return to the state, training is more important than ever. Our website (www.4safenv.state.nv.us) allows employers, employees, and job seekers to access information on resources available and classes offered. It also provides one location to sign up for training. One of the many resources offered by SCATS to help employers is the lending library of DVDs and videos on a variety of health and safety topics.

Hispanic outreach: SCATS continued to increase its efforts in this vital area through enhanced class offerings and events. The 10th annual Nevada Hispanic Safety Month highlighted classes and services offered by SCATS, as well as provided additional opportunities for a direct effect on the safety of the Hispanic community. Our outreach activities included partnering with the Latin Chamber of Commerce on events, radio and TV interviews, print articles, and other media ads. SCATS recently translated the most commonly visited pages from its website into Spanish to allow greater access and ease of use for this growing community. This allowed the training schedule and other valuable resources to be provided in a language that is more easily understood. With more than 12 percent of our classes taught in Spanish, we keep expanding our offerings.

Marketing: SCATS is constantly working to improve our customers' experiences. Our website (www.4safenv.state.nv.us) allows our customers to easily access workplace safety resources and materials in English and Spanish, find training class schedules, sign up for free classes online, and request an on-site consultation. SCATS is also an active member of many chambers of commerce throughout the state. Our affiliations with many other state and federal agencies such as the Small Business Development Center allow us better access to our target markets.

Partnerships

SHARP: SCATS currently has 29 SHARP and six pre-SHARP sites. One of our major partners is the Boyd Gaming Group, which currently has nine properties that have attained full SHARP status. Since entering the SHARP program in 2007, Boyd Gaming has reduced total workplace injuries by nearly 75 percent annually, and saved an estimated \$5 million in workers' compensation costs over a six-year period.



Basalite Concrete received its SHARP renewal.



The Orleans Hotel and Casino received its first SHARP award.

VPP: Another success story is Clearwater Paper, which entered the SHARP program in March 2012, attained SHARP status in March 2013, and then went on to enter VPP in 2014. This makes a total of nine sites in the Nevada VPP program. The state has received two more applications that are currently under review and will be processed in early 2015. Jess Lankford, chief administrative officer for Nevada OSHA, stated, "The agency is investigating ways to expand the program within Nevada."

EMPLEO: SCATS is an active participant in the Department of Labor's nontraditional partnership, EMPLEO (Employment Education Outreach), to reach the immigrant communities, particularly Hispanics. This group consists of many government agencies and companies that provide services to employers and employees. As part of the activities, SCATS representatives attended seminars, cross trained between agencies for proper redirection, and disseminated informational brochures. SCATS participated at many shows, conferences, and fairs through joint booth activities.

New Jersey

Public Employees Occupational Safety And Health — PEOOSH

Signature Projects

Enforcement Initiatives

The New Jersey PEOOSH five-year strategic plan outlines several strategic initiatives undertaken in an effort to reduce illnesses and injuries in high hazard public employee work environments.

These initiatives include:

- Highway work zone safety, trenching, and nursing homes/residential care facilities.
- Compliance staff members are applying special emphasis in these areas when conducting focused inspections at public facilities that engage in the above activities.
- New Jersey PEOOSH recently submitted documentation to federal OSHA in an effort to finalize New Jersey PEOOSH becoming a fully approved state plan for public employees.
- Compliance staff will be attending OIS training in September 2014. Following the training, NJ PEOOSH enforcement will be migrating to the OIS system in early October 2014.

PEOSH Fire Service Update

In fiscal year 2014, a series of presentations were provided called “PEOSH Fire Service Update.” This training was offered to all New Jersey fire departments as an opportunity to learn more about PEOOSH, PEOOSH regulations, the N.J.A.C. 12:100-10 Firefighter Standards, hazards specific to firefighting, and the PEOOSH On-Site Consultation and Training program. Thirteen sessions of the class were held at seven fire academies throughout the state to reach all geographic regions of New Jersey. Afternoon and evening sessions were held to accommodate both career and volunteer firefighters. In all, 190 firefighters attended the training.

As “Local Fire Protection” is one of PEOOSH’s goals in the annual performance plan, these sessions have provided an excellent opportunity to promote cooperative services and have led to many PEOOSH on-site consultations.

Outreach

Consultation and Training Services: New Jersey PEOOSH provides consultation and training services for public employers throughout New Jersey. These services are provided for all public employers, but high-hazard industries are the primary focus, including police protection, fire protection, nursing homes, and transportation services. In fiscal year 2014, New Jersey PEOOSH provided the following services:

- 50 on-site safety consultation visits
- 19 on-site health consultation visits
- 352 safety training sessions that reached 4,588 participants
- 33 health training sessions that reached 768 participants

New Jersey Department of Health (DOH) PEOOSH has provided technical assistance investigating health care acquired infectious legionella cases, and planning for the remediation, monitoring, and treatment of potable water systems in the associated facilities. New Jersey DOH PEOOSH had seven cases this spring in a variety of long-term care facilities, a significant increase relative to previous years.

New Jersey DOH PEOOSH has also assisted in the investigation and technical assistance for travel-related legionellosis in New Jersey.

OSHA Outreach Classes: Through the third quarter in fiscal year 2014, PEOOSH has conducted nine OSHA outreach classes, including four OSHA 10 Hour Construction, four OSHA 10 Hour General Industry, and an OSHA 7600 Disaster Site Worker Class. In all, 213 students were instructed in these topics.

PEOSH partnered with OSHA Region 2 staff to cosponsor several of these classes.

Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) Award

New Jersey PEOOSH presently has three public sector SHARP sites – a fire department, a police department, and a municipal complex. Several requests have been received from new public sector employers interested in pursuing the SHARP Award.

New Mexico

Occupational Health and Safety Bureau — NM OHSB



The New Mexico OHSB entered into an alliance with the state's Oil and Gas Association to reduce incidents at sites such as this oil well servicing operation in southeast New Mexico.

Signature Projects

The New Mexico Occupational Health and Safety Bureau (OHSB) engaged in significant activities within the oil and gas industry through area Service, Transmission, Exploration, and Production Safety (STEPS) Networks and a renewed Alliance Agreement with the New Mexico Oil and Gas Association (NMOGA). The Southeast New Mexico STEPS Network, NMOGA, and the bureau joined together to coordinate an Oil and Gas Safety Summit that included more than 400 radio advertisements and various presenters promoting worker safety and health in the industry. The bureau also participated in the Four Corners Oil and Gas Conference where more than 2,200 industry participants attended. New Mexico has also been working with representatives from oil and gas companies and power companies (both large providers and local cooperatives) in an effort to reduce electrical line contact incidents. The Rig/Heavy Equipment Move Task Force is working to develop and communicate best practices for the oil and gas industry in southeast New Mexico, where incidents and fatalities within the industry are predominately occurring.

Enforcement

New Mexico has historically experienced a high fatality rate in the oil and gas industry. As oil production in the state has nearly doubled in the past five years, the state has experienced an even greater number of fatal accidents within the industry. There were five fatal accidents during 2013 and four more by August 2014. In response, OHSB has assembled a task force to enhance its local emphasis program and increase enforcement presence within the industry.

Emphasis Programs

New Mexico has adopted federal OSHA's national emphasis programs for process safety management and for health hazards of hexavalent chromium and primary metals manufacturing. In addition, the state has developed several local emphasis programs.

Primary and fabricated metals: There are numerous primary metal and metal fabrication operations within the state's jurisdiction that have health and safety hazards identified in the OHSB strategic plan, most notably amputation hazards due to point of operations, ingoing nip points, rotating parts, and inadequate energy isolation programs, as well as excessive noise levels due to welding, cutting, and grinding activities. Welding operations expose employees to a variety of contaminants such as lead, cadmium, nickel, chromium, zinc, and iron metal fumes. Coating operations expose employees to a variety of airborne contaminants such as cadmium fumes, acid vapors, and spray paint vapors. Additionally, varied operations present confined space hazards, eye hazards, struck-by hazards, and amputation hazards.

Construction: While OHSB has engaged in numerous cooperative efforts and enforcement that have resulted in reduced injuries and fatal accidents in the construction industry in recent years, the bureau

continues to place emphasis on programmed inspections based on long-term historical rates.

Oil and gas: The potential for serious accidents, catastrophic accidents, and worksite fatalities has been recognized for the oil and gas well drilling and servicing industry. Statistical data shows this industry accounted for a far greater percentage of workplace fatalities and serious accidents in New Mexico than would be expected for such a relatively small workforce.

Silica: OHSB has numerous operations and activities within the state's jurisdiction that inform employees about the hazards associated with silica. Employee exposure has been identified during inspections of such operations as concrete mixing, sand blasting operations, cinder/concrete block manufacturing, plastering, stone cutting, and other operations that disturb or release silica.

Waste management: OHSB initiated this local emphasis program in 2008 to address serious injuries and fatalities occurring in the waste management and remediation industry and has seen significant reductions in injuries. In 2005, the industry experienced an average days away/restricted/transferred (DART) case rate of 4.7, compared to the average DART of 2.4 for all industries nationwide. In recent years, DART rates have steadily fallen in New Mexico to near the average for all industries. Nationwide, the industry continues to experience rates greater than the average for all industries (3.0 and 1.9, respectively, in 2011). Hazards in this industry include caught-in or struck-by machinery, falls from vehicles, and struck-by vehicles. In addition, employees are exposed to hazards from confined spaces and energy sources that are not isolated during maintenance operations.

Nursing and residential care: OHSB initiated this local emphasis program to address high injury and illness rates in New Mexico hospital, nursing, and residential care industries that are anticipated to continue experiencing high employment growth rates and high injury and illness rates.

Alliances and Partnerships

Consulate of Mexico: New Mexico signed an alliance with the Consulate of Mexico in Albuquerque. The intent of the agreement is to establish a collaborative relationship with the consulate to provide information, guidance, and access to education and training resources to promote workers' safety and health rights.

VPP: In addition to the ongoing VPP activities within the state, New Mexico assisted Region VI federal OSHA with two on-site VPP audits. The companies audited were located in New Mexico and under federal OSHA jurisdiction. The bureau also participated in the award ceremonies and presented the Star awards to these companies.



Ryan Flynn, Environment Department secretary, left, and Mauricio Ibarra Ponce de Leon, Consul of Mexico, sign an alliance agreement.

Outreach

OHSB coordinated with New Mexico State University's Community Education Program to offer free workshops to local industry and government. The workshops included an overview of the Revised Hazard Communication Standard and a General Industry Standards 10-Hour course. Two additional Revised Hazard Communication Standard overviews were offered by the bureau and included participation from various industries and local government.

OHSB conducted a construction worksite visit accompanied by a University of New Mexico medical student. The visit was part of a cooperative program between the University of New Mexico and NM OHSB that has been in place for the past several years. In conjunction with the medical school's occupational health program, OHSB provides hands-on training in reviewing hazards at worksites. The program gives medical students an opportunity to view firsthand the conditions causing workplace injuries and illnesses.

OHSB met with representatives of the federal Department of Transportation and New Mexico Department of Transportation (NMDOT) to present information on how to use OHSB inspection information during NMDOT bidding processes. NMDOT is developing a contractor prequalification program to help the agency ensure that its contracts are awarded to qualified-responsive bidders. One of the proposed qualifying criteria is a contractor's standing with and adherence to established occupational health and safety regulations. OHSB provided NMDOT with instruction on the types of health and safety information available and how to access data that might be useful in the prequalification process. Once in place, the new prequalification system should help to ensure safer highway worksites.

New York

Division of Safety and Health — DOSH

Emphasis Programs

The Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH) has three active strategic planning committees. The overall goal of the committees is to reduce the fatalities, accidents, illnesses, and DART rates within targeted industries. Each committee reviews the recordable lost work time data within a specific industry to identify the most significant types of injuries and illnesses and the most hazardous worksites. As a result, specific employers are identified and offered a free consultation to help reduce not only the number of injuries but the seriousness of the incidents as well.

One common challenge within all three strategic planning groups pertains to the quality of information being obtained from the employer's Log of Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses (SH900). Improper reporting is still fairly common within all industries under PESH jurisdiction. One focus of each PESH strategic planning committee has been to provide outreach and training on recordkeeping compliance. PESH has recently completed a self-guided PowerPoint presentation describing the PESH recordkeeping rule. This presentation can be used as a training tool internally within PESH and shared with employers to help provide an overview of the requirements and strategies for accurate recordkeeping.

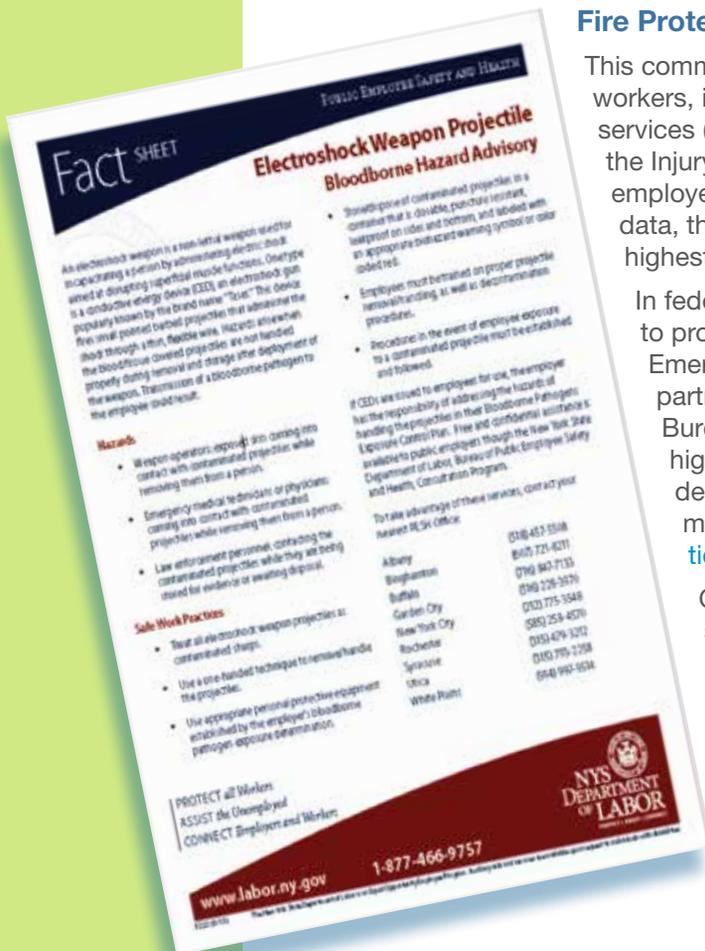
With accurate injury and illness data, queries have been developed that allow accurate trending of injuries and illnesses. Through this effort, the strategic planning committees have been able to develop site-specific training. In some cases, this data were used to estimate the cost of lost wages in an effort to help employers build the business case for implementing safety and health programs or specific training programs. The data from the SH 900 Log of Work Related Injuries and Illnesses (New York's equivalent to the OSHA 300 Log) and the SH900.1 Summary of Work Related Injuries and Illnesses have also been used to develop a list of facilities targeted for inspection.

Fire Protection/Ambulance Service

This committee continues to focus on reducing injuries and fatalities to workers, including both paid employees and volunteers who provide these services (NAICS 922160). The annual goal of this committee is to decrease the Injury and Illness Rate by 1.0 percent a year. By working with employers to improve the accuracy of their injury and illness reporting data, the committee is able to better identify the employers with the highest DART rates and the most significant types of injuries.

In federal fiscal year 2013, an online training kit was developed to provide fire departments with resources pertaining to the NYS Emergency Escape and Self Rescue Ropes law. The committee partnered with the Department of Homeland Security, Fire Protection Bureau to develop a webpage and an online training video that highlights various sections of the standard and includes live bail out demonstrations with suggestions on training programs and assessments. The training kit is at <http://www.labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/safetyhealth/firefighter-emergency-escape-systems.shtm>.

Other projects of interest that have positively affected the local fire service community include a series of public speaking engagements designed to address specific concerns. Informational letters were sent to fire chiefs statewide, inviting them to attend a two-hour presentation on topics specific to the fire service community. Ten venues were selected statewide during August 2014. Other projects include a question-and-answer factsheet specific to the fire service community and a factsheet designed to inform the fire service community about the dangers associated during fire overhaul. The factsheets will be distributed on the 2014 Fire Service Resource CD and at various meetings and conferences statewide.



Police Protection

The goal of this committee is to decrease the Total Recordable Injury Rate in county and local law enforcement agencies (NAICS 922120) by 1 percent per year for each of the five years committed. This group started in 2012 by obtaining the prior year's injury and illness data to build a database. This committee completed a Bloodborne Hazard Advisory factsheet on electroshock weapon projectile such as Taser products. The factsheet is distributed during conferences and consultations and is included on the updated 2014 Law Enforcement Resource CD. Members completed the 2012 injury and illness database consisting of injury data for each county in New York. Work was also started on a Police Protection committee website that will be found on the New York State Department of Labor's website.

Health Care

The PESH Healthcare Strategic Plan focuses on reducing the DART rate in county nursing homes, state-operated veterans' homes (NAICS 623110), and, most recently, residential facilities operated by the New York State Office of Mental Health (NAICS 623220).

From the beginning of the PESH Strategic Plan in 1998, reducing occupational injuries in long-term care has been a priority. The Log of Work Related Injuries and Illnesses has been collected from the onset for every public nursing home and has been entered into a database. This data shows that the majority of injuries fall into three groups – musculoskeletal injuries related to resident handling, workplace violence, and slips, trips, and falls. This committee has been involved in conducting Nursing Home National Emphasis Program (NEP) inspections, which focus on these three causes of injury. Eight NEP inspections have been conducted since the beginning of the program, resulting in two general duty violations (resident handling), two hazard alert letters (resident handling), and numerous other violations.

Members of this committee have been active in the New York State Zero Lift Task Force. The task force has a dual purpose. The first is educating health care workers, managers/administrators, lay people, and politicians about the injuries suffered while providing residential/patient care and the benefits to the patient, HCW, and organizations when effective safe patient handling programs are implemented. The second focus is to have legislation passed in New York requiring health care facilities to implement effective safe patient handling programs. PESH Strategic Plan Committee members have been involved in the task force's educational campaign. Members of

the strategic plan committee, in partnership with Kaleida Health, developed a safe patient handling video that demonstrates the many applications of safe patient handling technology. This can be seen at <http://labor.ny.gov/workerprotection/safetyhealth/safe-patient-handling.shtm> or a copy can be requested by contacting Stanley.barbara@dol.gov. In addition, this committee is working on a safe patient handling vendor guide.

Safe patient handling legislation was passed in spring 2014. This committee plans to assist health care facilities covered by this legislation meet the requirements of this new law.

Office of Mental Health (OMH), Residential Care – The committee has collected injury data much the same as with the nursing homes. Based on data collected, the majority of injuries in these facilities are related to workplace violence. New York has a workplace violence law, which is enforced by PESH. Compliance with this law is a major focus of this committee.

Crisis Response Team

In federal fiscal year 2014, the Crisis Response Team hosted its seventh annual 40 Hour Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Operations Level Training for 26 state employees, including seven Department of Labor employees who were new to the team. Each year, funding has been obtained by the Public Employees Federation training grant to cover the cost of the training. The International Chemical Workers Center for Workers Health and Education provides the training.

In a separate project, members of the DOSH Crisis Response Team assisted the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation with training by selecting health and safety topics for its hazardous materials sampling team. The International Chemical Workers Union was used again to provide the 40 Hour Hazardous Waste Site Operation training. The standard requires a three-day on-site training and exercise program, which was provided by the New York State Office of Fire Protection and Control where the team was trained to take samples in Level B personal protective equipment on a tanker truck and a rail car converted for training purposes.

During July 2014, the upstate New York counties that surround the Ginna Nuclear Power Plant conducted their annual exercise that combines a severe weather event with a plant release. Members of the Crisis Response Team attended to observe the Emergency Operations Center and the coordination of county decision makers.

In response to the PESH Hurricane Sandy After Action Report, a Concept of Operations document was developed that helps identify pre-planning and response strategies. This document also identifies agency and union contacts that will participate in conference calls during a response.

A lesson learned during Hurricane Sandy prompted the team to identify a user-friendly substitute to the bulky Dell laptops issued to the PESH staff. Team members are creating a disaster worker assessment form in a Microsoft Word fillable form format that will be used with tablets instead of computers.

Enforcement

Enforcement continues to be a major focus of the Public Employee Safety and Health Bureau (PESH). The number of inspections conducted in calendar year 2013 was 1,990: 1,437 were safety inspections and 553 were industrial hygiene inspections. The visits resulted in 4,334 Notices of Violations: three willful, 20 repeat violations, 3,438 serious, and 873 nonserious. During calendar year 2013, PESH investigated 25 discrimination allegations, the same as 2012.

High Profile Inspection

Two volunteer fire departments were cited for violations resulting from a line-of-duty death of one firefighter and the treatment and release of three other firefighters. The employer of the deceased was responding to a mutual aid call in January 2013. Initially, weather and site conditions created difficulties for the first responding department. Difficulties finding water created a short supply and staging on the side of a hill reduced the capacity of the portable pond, which led to multiple water shortages at critical times during the fire. Firefighters' safety and health were further compromised by a breakdown in communication, command, and by the departments not following their own written plans and procedures. The employer of the deceased

was previously cited for failure to conduct and document medical examinations under two previous PESH inspections. The deceased was not cleared to perform interior structural firefighting, which led to a repeat violation under this investigation. An additional repeat violation was issued for firefighters' fit testing being out of date. Other violations were also issued for an employee being allowed to wear a tight-fitting face piece respirator with facial hair and for fire brigade officers' training not being more comprehensive than the general membership.

The host department received citations under both the Fire Brigade Standard and the Respiratory Protection Standard.

Compliance Assistance

A narrated training PowerPoint presentation was developed that describes Opening and Closing Conference techniques for enforcement staff. The presentation was developed from information found within the PESH Field Operations Manual and addresses situations unique to the state program.

Outreach

PESH continues its efforts with outreach activities, which includes interventions, technical assistance, and training. During calendar year 2013, there were 213 total outreach activities.

There were 47 visits performed in the Fire Protection NAICS, 14 visits in the Police Protection NAICS, and six in the Health Care NAICS.

North Carolina

Occupational Safety and Health Division — OSHNC

Signature Projects

OSHA Express (OE)

In 2014, the North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Division implemented OE, a new data management system. OE replaced the old Integrated Management Information System (IMIS).

After several test runs to ensure there were no glitches and several weeks of hands-on training, OE went live April 25, 2014. The new system will help compliance safety and health officers do their job in a more productive and efficient manner. Through the use of OE, the inspection process will be advanced through the completion of forms and, when required, issuing citations. OE also assists in the information collection and management process. This is an important function since federal OSHA requires a state plan state to provide specific data for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

Emphasis Programs

North Carolina has seven special emphasis programs (SEP):

- Construction
- Logging and Arboriculture
- Food Manufacturing
- Long-term Care
- Health Hazards (lead, silica, asbestos, isocyanates, and hexavalent chromium)
- Accommodation
- Grocery and Related Product Merchant Wholesalers

As part of the ongoing strategic management planning process, which identifies industries with high injury and illness rates and fatalities, accommodation and grocery merchant wholesalers were added during the 2014 annual strategic management plan review. This was due to high days away, restricted and transferred (DART), and total recordable case (TRC) rates. During the 2014 annual strategic management plan meeting, new outcome goals and strategies were identified to ensure success in lowering DART rates and fatality rates based on the baseline established at the beginning of the five-year strategic management plan (2014-2018).

To ensure success in lowering injuries and illnesses and preventing fatalities in each special emphasis area, special emphasis programs committees have been established, made up of representatives from each OSH Division Bureau:

- Compliance
- Consultative Services
- Planning, Statistics, and Information Management
- Education, Training, and Technical Assistance

Each committee meets quarterly to discuss strategies involving outreach and training efforts, compliance inspections, consultation interventions, and other initiatives, such as the use of social media to increase hazard awareness in these program areas, thereby lowering the number of incidents. When a new special emphasis program is introduced, letters are sent out to those industries, alerting them to the special emphasis and providing information regarding outreach and training assistance. New safety and health management industry guides continue to be developed, maintained, or both for each special emphasis program.

Enforcement

Even though the East and West Compliance bureaus experienced a reduction in filled positions due to budget uncertainty, they still managed to conduct more than 4,200 safety and health inspections annually and handle more than 2,400 complaints through the complaint desk. To ensure adequate review of case file citations, a safety or health standards officer will be assigned to also review files before being submitted to the agency director.

Electrical Classification Charts for general industry and construction were developed as a guidance document for compliance officers when citing electrical hazards. The intent of the charts was to ensure consistency in classifying the most frequently cited electrical standards in construction and general industry. The charts were developed jointly by the Compliance Bureau Chiefs, ETTA's Standards Section along with a private electrical consultant. The Standards Section manages the charts and updates them as needed.

Outreach

Social Media: The North Carolina Department of Labor (NCDOL) introduced a Facebook page more than three years ago and has more than 300 "Likes." The page is used to promote safety and health awareness by showcasing OSH Division events such as safety award banquets, Star and SHARP celebrations, current safety and health issues, available publications, and other outreach efforts. Because of the success of Facebook, the department set up a Twitter account in 2012. More than 700 tweets have been sent promoting safety and health. The account includes more than 400 followers. The department also uses YouTube, billboards, and public radio to get out safety and health information.

Consultative Services: The Consultative Services Bureau identified and eliminated more than 5,400 hazards on about 1,200 visits to employers across North Carolina. Approximately 90 percent of the hazards identified were serious. The bureau manages the state-specific law that requires notification and response from employers who have a high experience modified rate; this year's survey had a 94 percent response rate.

Library: The department's library supports OSH and other NCDOL employees in their investigations, circulating consensus and other relevant standards as well as providing information resources as requested. During the past year, the library circulated more than 2,200 audiovisual items and responded to 2,500 internal and external requests and reference questions.

Training: ETTA's Training Section coordinates the free training provided to employers and employees in the state. During the past year, the OSH Division conducted more than 100 webinars and sponsored more than 200 training events that provided training to more than 10,000 employers and employees on safety and health topics. This included training by the OSH Division to more than 7,000 employees in the special emphasis programs areas in the last year. The OSH Division continues to offer more than 60 PowerPoint presentations on the NCDOL website that are routinely updated and can be downloaded and made site-specific by the end user. Also available is an online training calendar that allows easy registration for all courses provided by OSH.

The Train the Trainer program initiated a few years ago continues to be well received by employers and grows annually. During 2014, ETTA introduced its first refresher courses (NC 502 and NC 503) for the program, which is in line with OSHA's program.

A new two-day course was introduced in 2014 that is directed toward new safety and health personnel and is titled Complying with General Industry Standards – Beginners Level. The course has been well received so a similar course for construction is being developed with plans to introduce the course early next year.

Publications: Publications tend to fly off the shelves, as almost 60,000 publications were distributed within the past year due to the many and varied publications offered by the division. To continue to provide outreach assistance to employers, many new industry guides were introduced, including accommodation safety and health management program, grocery safety and health management program, workplace violence guidelines and program, medical and dental office safety and health management program, and a guide on 1-bromopropane. New example compliance programs for regulated and unregulated chemicals were added to the long list of other example programs available on the website.

Standards: ETTA's Standards Section stayed busy answering more than 5,000 public inquiries relating to standards. The section also reviewed or updated more than 75 technical documents and materials such as compliance directives, field operations manual chapters, operational procedure notices, PowerPoint presentations, and administrative procedures notices. To assist compliance officers, a field information systems handbook was developed that includes references to technical documents. A new Operational Procedures Notice was also developed on "Suitable Facilities for Drenching or Flushing the Eyes or Body." All compliance officer resources are available on the One Stop Shop, an online collection of policies, procedures, and training materials.

Recognition Programs

North Carolina strongly believes in promoting the recognition programs that support companies striving to be the safest workplaces in the state. Outreach efforts in these areas continue to build each of the respective programs.

North Carolina offers three recognition programs to employers in the state:

- Star Program
- Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP)
- Safety Awards

The Star Program recognizes and promotes effective safety and health management systems. A company that attains Star status is considered to have one of the safest workplaces in the state. By 2014, North Carolina had more than 150 Star sites.

The SHARP Program recognizes small and high-hazard employers that have developed and maintained effective safety and health programs. In 2014, the program introduced a new SHARP Program for Logging. The state currently has more than 150 SHARP sites and continues to grow.

The Safety Awards Program celebrated its 68th year with another successful season by hosting 30 banquets across the state. In 2014, more than 2,480 Gold Awards were presented to employer sites with a total lost workday case rate (lost and restricted workdays included) at least 50 percent below the state average for its industry; 500 Silver Awards were presented to employer sites with a lost workday rate at least 50 percent below the state average and 90 Million-Hour Awards were presented to employer sites that accumulate 1 million employee hours with no injuries or illnesses involving days away from work.

Partnerships and Alliances

Partnerships are established with general contractors on a wide variety of construction sites to prevent injuries, illnesses, and fatalities as described in the strategic plan. Quarterly consultative type walk-throughs are conducted to identify hazards, promote best practices, and educate employees, OSH personnel, and the construction workers. Each OSH Division bureau is represented during the walk-throughs in consultative mode. Due to limited resources, partnerships are kept to a minimum with only one or two partnerships at a time. North Carolina will begin its next new partnership with Skanska USA in September on a new heart and vascular hospital building construction project located in Raleigh.

The OSH Division establishes alliances with organizations and companies to promote education and outreach primarily in the special emphasis areas. Currently, the OSH Division has 10 active alliances promoting injury and illness prevention in long-term care, construction, health hazards, logging, arboriculture, and public sector special emphasis areas. Attempts continue to be made to attain alliances with organizations in the other special emphasis areas.

On a special note, as part of the Manager of Environmental, Safety and Health (MESH) certificate program that the OSH Division co-sponsors with two of our alliances, North Carolina State University-Industrial Extension Services and the Safety and Health Council of North Carolina, an Industrial Hygiene MESH was introduced to encourage more focus on health hazards in the state.

Oregon

Occupational Safety and Health Division — Oregon OSHA

Signature Projects

Interactive online training

Oregon OSHA is rolling out a series of interactive online trainings that incorporate animation, video, and question and answer to engage participants. One of the first offerings covers the topic of ATV safety and includes moving graphics to show center of gravity changes, best practices, and common hazards. Some other new trainings coming in this format will cover topics such as the Global Harmonization System, confined spaces, accident investigation, and portable ladders. Oregon OSHA has had more than 6,000 participants for its online trainings in 2014.

An interactive online application was launched in September 2014 to educate workers about fall distance. The tool shows workers how far they could fall and free fall when using a shock-absorbing lanyard. The app includes three scenarios, each with a 6-foot shock-absorbing lanyard and a 3.5-foot shock absorber.

Enforcement

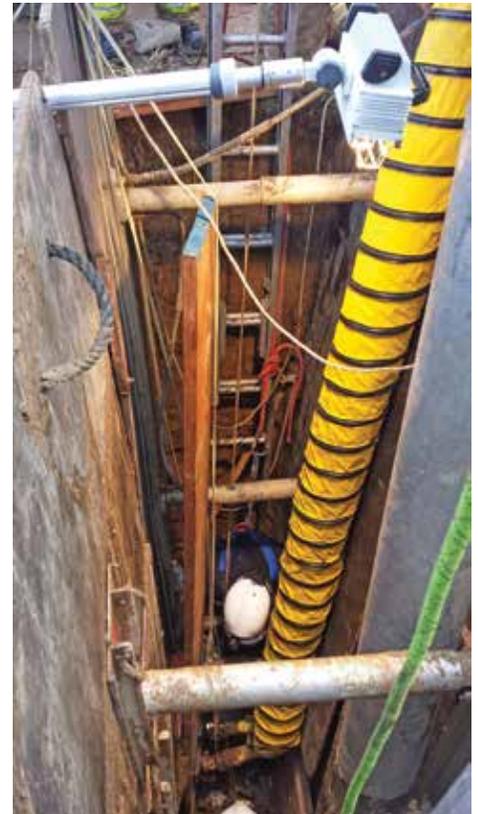
Worker survives trench collapse



Oregon OSHA cited Apollo Drain & Rooter Service of Gresham, \$5,600 in July for two serious trenching violations after a worker was rescued from a collapse in Beaverton. The employee was lying on his side on the bottom of the trench, digging behind the shoring with his legs and arms outside the shoring when the collapse occurred.

The employees were repairing a broken sewer line in the 11-foot-deep trench at the time. The shield system was installed two feet from the bottom in type C soil. The tabulated

data required the shield be installed from the bottom to the top of the excavation for such soil and, in any case, the employee should not have been outside the shield. The workers also dug underneath a nearby paver driveway to accommodate a homeowner, which contributed to the collapse. The worker was pinned under the debris for more than three hours before he was pulled out of the trench and later made a full recovery.



After more than three hours, a worker was rescued from a trench collapse.

Photo credit:
Tualatin Valley
Fire & Rescue



Arc flash incident burns two workers

Oregon OSHA investigated an accident in which two utility workers were burned – one severely – following an arc flash incident. A worker was installing a meter that was fully energized, while a second worker acted as a safety watch. When the meter did not fit into the socket, the worker, who was not wearing gloves or a face shield, decided to modify the socket cover. During this process, it's likely a bolt made contact with the energized socket, resulting in an arc flash.

The employer was cited for not requiring employees to de-energize or guard the energized parts of the meter base and socket during the process. The second citation item was for not having a competent person inspecting sites where the meter men worked. Both were serious violations and totaled \$4,400.

Sanctuary worker killed in cougar attack

WildCat Haven was cited \$5,600 for two serious violations after an animal keeper was attacked and killed at a sanctuary in Sherwood. The investigation found the sanctuary violated its two-person safety procedure and cage latches did not fully secure dangerous cougars.

The keeper was attempting to clean one of the cages at the sanctuary when one or more cougars attacked her on Nov. 9, 2013. The victim was working alone at the facility.

The second violation identified an inadequate latch design on the cougar cages. If the locks were not fully closed, they could inadvertently pop open. In order to fully secure the latch, keepers were required to enter the cage and attach a carabiner onto the latch's lock fitting. The enclosure itself was also poorly designed with no separate entry door. As a result, cougars in two separate chambers needed to be secured in order to safely enter.

Worker killed operating an aerial lift on cell tower project

An installation technician operating an aerial lift was thrown from the platform and died when the lift tipped over. After the technician and a co-worker hooked up a cellular antenna system on a 55-foot power pole, they lowered the boom on their Genie 65S articulating boom lift and stepped off the platform.

While the co-worker hooked up a meter to verify that the system was working, the technician got a camera, returned to the platform, and began raising the boom to photograph their completed work. He was operating the lift on an eight- to 10-degree slope with counterweight on the



An electrician suffered serious burns after an arc flash incident in 2013.

downhill side. Although he was wearing a body harness for fall protection, he did not attach his lanyard to one of the manufacturer's approved anchorage points on the platform.

As the technician raised the platform to its maximum height with the boom retracted, the lift suddenly tipped over, throwing him 10 feet from the platform. Oregon OSHA cited the company \$7,000 for violations relating to fall protection and not following the manufacturer's instructions.



An aerial lift tipped over on a sloped surface, throwing the worker 10 feet. He did not survive the accident.



Partnerships

Oregon OSHA worked to strengthen relationships with old and new stakeholders to facilitate future projects. Alliances with the Oregon Restaurant and Lodging Association, Oregon Home Builders Association, and the Oregon Coalition for Healthcare Ergonomics have created ongoing relationships that have produced newsletter articles, conference presentations, and quarterly meetings. New relationships were built with the Hood River Growers Association, Pacific Northwest Chapter of International Society of Arboriculture, and members of the logging community to increase capacity for future endeavors.

In April 2014, Oregon OSHA entered into an agreement with the Oregon Health Authority to continue funding for the Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology and Surveillance program after NIOSH discontinued its grant. The data provided to Oregon OSHA includes information about adults who have elevated lead levels in their blood from an occupational exposure. The reports allow Oregon OSHA to inspect worksites to determine how the exposure occurred.

Oregon OSHA has worked to build connections with longstanding stakeholders, including partners in other divisions of the agency, to increase collaboration and cooperation across the state.

Outreach

Safety Break for Oregon

More than 75 organizations participated in Safety Break for Oregon on May 14, 2014, by hosting training events, award presentations, and safety fairs. Oregon OSHA coordinates the one-day safety event to promote the value of safety and health in preventing on-the-job injuries and illnesses.

The Oregon SHARP Alliance sponsored a pizza luncheon giveaway to encourage participation in the event. The alliance also helps educate employees about best practices by offering trainings and financial support to other Oregon OSHA conferences.

Social media

Oregon OSHA continues to grow its Facebook page, which has nearly 600 followers. The page has been used to raise awareness about topics such as heat stress and excavation cave-ins, along with promoting events, job openings, and program information.

Publications

Oregon OSHA has produced a new guide for the death care industry on the occupational hazards of handling, lifting, and transporting bodies – [Occupational hazards for the death care industry](#). The publication, created in partnership with experts in the industry, will cover hazards related to exposure to tuberculosis and aspects of embalming, the cremation process, and the associated chemical hazards and ventilation issues.

The project arose out of an initial concern by the Oregon Health Authority, which was interested in learning more about tuberculosis exposures from industry experts. The conversation later led to Oregon OSHA consultation activity at mortuaries and the need for a publication.

Puerto Rico

Occupational Safety and Health Association — PR OSHA

Signature Projects

Spanish Citation

In an effort to reach more high-hazard industries, Puerto Rico (PR) OSHA changed its policy from writing citations in Spanish and English to Spanish only. This change took place June 10, 2013, with the intention of reducing the time our occupational safety and health officers (CSHOs) spent on clerical tasks. This will help officers spend more time in the field than in the office.

The Bureau of Inspections has indicated that this effort has rebounded in a significant increase in inspections and less time spent writing up case citations.

Enforcement

Safety and Health Inspections (private and public sector)

To achieve our goal of assuring a reduction in hazardous exposures, injuries, illnesses, and fatalities, PR OSHA staff conduct programmed inspections of high-hazard workplaces, as well as investigations in response to accidents, complaints of safety and health, and referrals.

In fiscal year 2013, PR OSHA conducted a total of 1,711 inspections: 1,255 in safety and 456 in health. PR OSHA reached an increase of 13.3 percent of the planned goal of 1,510 inspections. A total of 1,298 (76 percent) were conducted in the private sector and 413 (24 percent) in the public sector.

PR OSHA conducted two significant enforcement inspections in safety and health, during fiscal year 2013. As a result of these inspections, PR OSHA issued 15 serious violations, four repeat violations, four other than serious violations, and three failure-to-abate violations. The total penalties were more than \$700,000. Most of the citations issued were related to high levels of lead in air and blood, not implementing lockout procedures, and lack of training.

PR OSHA issued 3,787 violations during fiscal year 2013, an increase of 484 violations compared to the previous year. The violation break down was 1,595 serious violations, 33 repeat violations, and 2,159 other-than-serious for a total proposed penalty of \$1,487,939.00.

Discrimination Complaints: PR OSHA has the responsibility to investigate all complaints of discrimination under 11(c) filed in Puerto Rico. Four discrimination complaint investigations were completed within 90 days, with an average of 33 calendar days to complete the investigation.

Emphasis Programs

Special (SEP)

Motel industry in the private sector: A new initiative was implemented as a pilot program, which became effective June 11, 2013. The purpose of this initiative was to conduct programmed inspections in the motel industry to address bloodborne pathogens and personal protective equipment in that industry.

Local (LEP)

General medical services in the private sector: PR OSHA inspected 59 establishments, an increase of 46 percent in comparison with fiscal year 2013. A total of 116 violations were issued: 42 serious violations and 74 other-than-serious violations.

Limited- and full-service restaurants in the private sector: During fiscal year 2013, PR OSHA inspected 376 establishments, identifying 374 serious violations, 476 other-than-serious violations, and one repeat violation.

Emergency preparedness and management offices in the public sector: During fiscal year 2013, PR OSHA inspected 61 establishments. There were a total of 137 serious violations, 153 other-than-serious violations, and three repeat violations identified.

Public sewage and water treatment plants

industry: During fiscal year 2013, PR OSHA inspected 35 establishments. A total of 40 serious violations and 19 other-than-serious violations were found. This LEP was concluded during fiscal year 2013, at the close of the LEP cycle. PR OSHA developed a series of trainings taking into consideration the most common standards applicable to the hazards found during our inspections and developed training sessions that were offered to personnel who labored in this industry.

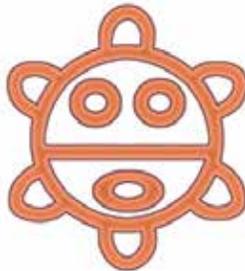
National (NEP):

Highly hazardous chemicals (HHCs): PR OSHA Adopted and implemented the NEP for inspecting facilities with highly hazardous chemicals.

Outreach

SHARP: During fiscal year 2013, there were two new sites approved in the program: Oficina Dra. Janet Rivera and Simmons Caribbean Bedding Inc.

Continued participation in the SHARP program was approved for the following sites: Laboratorio Gaudier and Laboratorio Clínico Chegar II.



Training and Education Initiatives

An agreement with the Puerto Rico Fire Department was developed to provide PR OSHA employees fire extinguisher use, first aid, CPR, and hazardous materials trainings.

As inspections in Emphasis Programs and the Construction Industry have progressed, the PR OSHA Voluntary Protection Program Division provided 10 open session trainings during fiscal year 2013. The training development was based on the most prevalent hazards found during our inspections.

The consultation personnel have been training and prepared to provide the 10 and 30 hours outreach training for both general industry and construction industry.



Puerto Rico site receives SHARP designation.

During this fiscal year, PR OSHA Voluntary Protection Program Division conducted a total of 84 training sessions for private and public sector employers and informational material were delivered as part of these training.

Construction Industry general training: The participation in this training was: 156 employer representatives, 41 employees, and 22 students and general public. A total of 266 informational materials (booklets) were distributed at the training session.

Safety and health programs and worker involvement in safety and health matters:

Seven open trainings were offered with the participation of 447 employer representatives, 73 employees, and one student.

Safety and health in the nursing homes

industry: Four formal training sessions were delivered in Arroyo, Canóvanas, and Aguadilla, with a participation of 264 employer representatives and 25 employees.

Voluntary Protection Program: PR OSHA's VPP currently has 17 participants approved at the Guanín level (Star equivalent). During FY 2013, PR OSHA evaluated and re-certified two sites for the Guanín level: Pfizer Consumer Products and Stryker Puerto Rico, Ltd.

Public Sector On-site Consultation Program:

PR OSHA conducted 30 public on-site consultation visits, 11 more (157.89 percent) than projected for fiscal year 2013. Thirty on-site visits, 17 safety and 13 health, where 53 hazards were identified.



The Door to Door in the Construction Industry initiative encourages on-site consultations.

Private Sector 23(g) On-site Consultation Programs (Onsite Consultation Visits): PR OSHA conducted 172 on-site consultation visits, 36 more (126.47 percent) than what was projected for fiscal year 2013. A total of 795 serious hazards were identified in the inspection.

Door to Door in the Construction Initiative: The Door to Door Construction Industry initiative is designed to promote safety and health through on-site consultation visits to general contractors in construction projects. During fiscal year 2013, eight new construction projects were evaluated and accepted in this initiative.

Due to the reduction of projects, contractors, and workers in this industry, the Door to Door directive was updated to include projects with 25 or more employees lasting for at least six months. General contractors participating in this initiative agree to abate all the hazards identified, improve their safety and health program, and receive an on-site consultation visit at least every three months.

A new banner concept was developed to be placed in the project, which reads: “Construyendo con Seguridad” (Building Safety).

We continued providing employers and employees with information, guidance, and trainings that will help employers and employees build and maintain a safe worksite.



Eight new companies joined the Door to Door in the Construction Industry initiative in 2013.

South Carolina

Occupational Safety and Health Administration — SC OSHA

Signature Projects

Adult Blood Lead Epidemiology & Surveillance (ABLES) Program

South Carolina Occupational Safety and Health Administration (SC OSHA) and South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to reduce work-related illnesses from lead exposure and to ensure safe and healthful workplaces.

Through this agreement, SC DHEC agrees to inform SC OSHA of workplaces where employees have blood lead levels that equal or exceed 25 µg/100 g of whole blood. SC OSHA will then provide SC DHEC with a response of the findings from the conducted inspections.

SC OSHA conducted inspections with R E Cook Inc. (a painting contractor), Conbraco Industries Inc. (a metal valve and pipe fitting manufacturer), Seminole Equipment Inc. (a highway, street, and bridge contractor), and 707 Gun Shop Inc. (an indoor gun range).

Through this coordinated effort, SC OSHA was able to identify 37 serious and six other-than-serious violations of OSHA standards. Citations were issued resulting in penalties totaling \$15,875.

Statistics

The Survey of Occupational Injuries and Illnesses is a federal/state program in which employer reports are collected and processed by the agency from about 3,200 South Carolina establishments. This annual survey provides estimates of the number and frequency (incidence rates) of workplace injuries and illnesses based on logs kept by employers during the year. These records reflect not only the year's injury and illness experience, but also the employers' understanding of which cases are work related under recordkeeping rules promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), U.S. Department of Labor. The number of injuries and illnesses reported in any year can be influenced by the level of economic activity, working conditions, work practices, worker experience and training, and the number of hours worked. This year's survey showed that South Carolina's Injury and Illness Incidence Rate for Private Sector in 2012 was 3.0 workers per 100. The National Private Sector Injury and Illness Incidence Rate was 3.4 in 2012. Within the public sector, South Carolina's occupational injury/illness rate was 4.4 in 2012.



SC OSHA inspected 707 Gun Shop Inc., an indoor gun range, where employees had high blood lead levels.



Spent shell casings at the range.

Outreach

Consultation

The South Carolina OSHA Voluntary Programs consultation staff conducted 919 total visits resulting in 4,527 hazards being identified. During this year, South Carolina OSHA Voluntary Programs made 874 OSHA recommendations requiring implementation of written safety and health programs or improvements to existing written safety and health programs. South Carolina business saved \$1.6 million in fines as a result of voluntary consultations.

The consultation program uses customer satisfaction surveys to evaluate its effectiveness. A survey form is included with each report to the employer. During this federal fiscal year, 69 percent of the surveys were returned, indicating 100 percent of the employers were satisfied with the services and the services met the employers' expectations. Ninety-nine percent of the employers indicated that the recommendations were clear and understandable. The most helpful and best-liked areas of the visits were the Hazard Identification (72 percent) and Hazard Correction Advice (62 percent). The surveys revealed there were 34 percent first-time users of the consultation services. Of the number of responders that were surveyed, 98 percent strongly agreed that this service helped to improve workplace safety and health programs. This customer satisfaction survey will continue to be used to evaluate and improve services provided to employers in South Carolina.

Training

South Carolina OSHA Voluntary Programs (SC OVP) has a separate training division under 23(g)^o. It is responsible for on-site training of employers in South Carolina. During fiscal year 2013, a total of 461 training classes were conducted for private and public sector employers and employees. A total of 1,575 private sector employers and 4,528 private sector employees were trained; 1,753 public sector employers and 4,748 public sector employees were trained. In all, 12,604 employees and employers were trained.

The SC OVP training staff continues to participate in workshops and outreach projects with South Carolina Association of Counties, South Carolina Manufacturers Alliance, North Carolina State OTI Outreach Center, South Carolina Department of Transportation, Horry Georgetown Technical College, South Carolina Dietary Managers Association, South Carolina Metal Finishers Association, Low Country and Piedmont ASSE, South Carolina Association of Children's Homes, Professional Construction Estimators Association, Upstate Veterinary Association, and

the Home Builders Association.

Both the SC OVP manager and the outreach coordinator gave 25 outreach speeches to various organizations throughout the year.

Also this year, SC OSHA participated in the Southeastern Workforce Protection

Conference in cooperation with SC Manufacturers

Alliance and National Safety Council. The conference was well attended and is scheduled to also occur in 2015.

SHARP

The Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP), modeled after the federal OSHA program, recognizes employers who operate an exemplary safety and health management system. Acceptance of a worksite into SHARP from South Carolina OSHA is an achievement of status that singles out the employer among business peers as a model for worksite safety and health. Upon receiving SHARP recognition, a worksite is exempt from South Carolina OSHA Compliance programmed inspections during the period that SHARP certification is valid under most circumstances. In South Carolina, there were two new SHARP sites and nine sites working towards SHARP status. As of June 30, 2014, South Carolina OSHA SHARP program had 11 program participants. The newly recognized businesses are URS Aiken in Aiken, and Cintas #216 in Greenville.

Stand Down

South Carolina OSHA co-sponsored, along with 11 other groups, the statewide Fall Protection Stand-down that took place on June 7, 2014. Construction employers were asked to shut down the jobsite and discuss the prevention of these types of injuries by having a training session, toolbox talk, or another safety activity, such as conducting safety equipment inspections, developing rescue plans, or discussing job-specific hazards. The following companies participated: Choate Construction, Gilbane Construction, Harper Corporation General Contractors, KBR Group, MB Kahn, McCrory Construction, Nucor Berkeley, Nucor Building Systems, Skanska Construction, Thompson Construction, and Trident Construction.



Warning signs for employees sandblasting lead paint from a bridge.



The Robert Bosch facility in Anderson was accepted into South Carolina's VPP Palmetto Star program on June 12, 2014.

Standards

The South Carolina OSHA Standards Division assists many employers, employees, and compliance personnel who desire to eliminate safety and health workplace hazards. The Standards Division responded to 2,329 phone calls and emails as part of outreach and compliance assistance during fiscal year 2013.

Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Palmetto Star Recognition

The VPP Palmetto Star Recognition program promotes comprehensive workplace safety and health management systems through cooperative relationships among management, labor, and OSDHA. The Robert Bosch facility in Anderson, S.C., celebrated its acceptance into South Carolina's VPP Palmetto Star program on June 12, 2014. Operating since 1985 and with 1,350 employees, the Anderson facility is the second Bosch plant to reach VPP status out of more than 70 facilities in North America. South Carolina currently has 40 Palmetto Star sites.

Enforcement

Enforcement is an integral part of the South Carolina State Plan and includes intervention in both private and public sectors. In fiscal year 2013, South Carolina OSHA conducted 1,006 inspections/investigations. During this period, 846 (84 percent) safety-related inspections and 160 (16 percent) health-related inspections were conducted.

Statistics show the following:

- 698 planned inspections
- 149 complaint inspections
- 41 accident and fatality inspections
- 26 referral inspections
- 52 follow-up inspections
- 18 unprogrammed-related inspections
- 21 programmed-related inspections

During these inspections, 1,993 violations were issued. Of these violations, 1,395 (70 percent) were serious violations, 591 (30 percent) were other-than-serious violations, and seven (0.4 percent) were repeat violations. Adjusted penalties for these violations were \$562,946.00.



Employees at RE Cook Inc. work on a melting deck/ metal transfer area of the foundry.

Tennessee

Occupational Safety and Health Administration — TOSHA

Signature Projects

Tennessee OSHA, with the Tennessee Chapters of the American Society of Safety Engineers, co-sponsored the 37th annual Tennessee Safety & Health Congress. The event, held at the Gaylord Opryland Hotel, was attended by more than 750 attendees and 140 exhibitors. The event included an exhibit hall and more than 60 classes and seminars covering a variety of workplace safety and health issues. The purpose of the Safety & Health Congress is not only for attendees to have an educational experience through the classes and exhibit hall, but also to network and learn from each other to create safer workplaces across the state.



Employees of Delta Airlines' Memphis Technical Operations display their new Tennessee Volunteer STAR (VPP) flag.

Emphasis Programs

Tennessee's emphasis programs target resources on specific hazards in the workplace. These programs have produced measurable results and made a real difference in the workplace. The following is a partial list of these programs:

Excavation safety: All compliance officers, including industrial hygienists, are trained to identify cave-in hazards and are authorized to conduct inspections and interventions when they observe such hazards. Tennessee has investigated one fatal injury from a cave-in since 2005.

Noise: During fiscal year 2014, noise exposures were reduced for employees and improvements were made to hearing conservation programs across the state. All compliance officers, including safety compliance officers, are trained to identify and evaluate employees' exposure to workplace noise.

Carbon monoxide: Tennessee OSHA's special emphasis program on carbon monoxide exposure resulted in the reduction or elimination of carbon monoxide exposure to 686 employees during fiscal year 2014.

Fall protection: All compliance officers, including all industrial hygienists, have received specific training in the identification and abatement methods of fall hazards. TN OSHA investigated five fall-related fatalities in fiscal year 2014.

Amputations: Tennessee OSHA's special emphasis program on amputations has resulted in a significant downward trend in these injuries over the past five years.

Enforcement

During fiscal year 2014, Tennessee OSHA performed 1,698 workplace inspections. During these inspections, 6,327 hazards were identified and penalties of \$2,050,525 were assessed. Unpaid penalties are assessed a late fee of 10 percent at 30, 60, and 90 days and statutory interest is assessed until the penalty is paid. Unpaid penalties are forwarded to the state attorney general's office for collection.

The Tennessee days away, restricted, and transferred rate (DART) and total case incident rate (TCIR) continue to mirror the rates for the nation. The 2012 Tennessee DART rate for both private and public sector is 1.9 (National average = 1.8). The 2012 Tennessee TCIR is equal to the national average of 3.7.

Consultation

Tennessee OSHA performed 428 consultation visits and identified 3,291 hazards. As required by statute, penalties are not assessed for violations identified by the consultation program.

VPP/Volunteer STAR

During fiscal year 2014, the Tennessee Volunteer STAR Program conducted 13 safety and health evaluations. Two were initial VPP evaluations and 11 were re-certifications of existing sites.

Tennessee OSHA continues to maintain the standards for VPP participation at a world-class level. Participation in the program involves a rigorous review of documentation, thorough on-site evaluations, and interviews with employees in order to ensure that the site is fully implementing the elements of the Volunteer Star Program.

The Tennessee Department of Labor and Workforce Development continues to use special governmental employees (SGEs) on VPP evaluations. Using SGEs has reduced the burden on enforcement resources as more and more companies become committed to exemplary health and safety management systems through VPP.

For calendar year 2013, nine of the Volunteer STAR sites experienced a TCIR of 0.0 and 14 experienced a DART rate of 0.0. The Tennessee Volunteer STAR sites continue to maintain injury and illness rates more than 65 percent below their respective current national averages. As a result, during the period from 2011 to 2013, the Tennessee Volunteer STAR sites have avoided nearly 1,300 recordable cases and 800 DART cases by implementing an effective safety and health management system.

There are currently 40 Volunteer STAR sites.

SHARP

During fiscal year 2014, three new participants were added to the Tennessee OSHA Consultation SHARP Program. The SHARP program is designed for smaller employers. To be eligible for SHARP participation, the employer must have a DART rate and a TCIR below the average for its industry, operate a single-fixed worksite, have a minimum of one-year operating history, and have an effective safety and health program in place. TOSHA's SHARP sites have effective management commitment and employee involvement. Tennessee's sites all have management styles as different as their processes, but these

two core values must be in place. Many of these sites do not have a full-time safety and health manager, and some have fewer than 10 employees at the site, demonstrating that it takes the workforce, not just one person, for a company to be a leader in workplace safety and health.

As of June 30, 2014, the Tennessee OSHA SHARP program had 18 participants.

Stand-Down

From June 2-6, Tennessee OSHA participated in the 2014 Fall Protection Safety Stand-Down. The purpose of the National Fall Prevention Stand-Down is to raise awareness of preventing fall hazards in construction. The Safety Stand-Down was a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about safety. This year, the focus was on fall hazards and the importance of fall prevention was reinforced. In Tennessee, more than 15,000 employees participated in this year's stand-down.

Heat Advisory

During the summer months, TOSHA performed outreach activities aimed at educating workers on the hazards of heat-related illness. Newsletters and various publications were used to educate employers and employees of the precautions that should be taken to prevent heat-related injuries and illnesses.

Newsletter

This year, Tennessee OSHA's quarterly newsletter, "Together with TOSHA," became an electronic publication published on the Web and made available to all. The newsletter covers a variety of safety and health topics. Current and past newsletters are available on the Tennessee OSHA website.

Safety Fest

Tennessee OSHA partnered with the Oak Ridge Business Safety Partnership to put on the third annual Safety Fest TN. The event took place Sept. 8-11, 2014, at the New Hope Center. The event included an array of safety and health courses, all offered for free. Tennessee OSHA provided several speakers and sponsored a booth in the exhibit hall.

Training

During fiscal year 2014, Tennessee OSHA trained more than 7,400 employers and employees over a course of 275 sessions covering a wide range of workplace safety and health topics ranging from Basic Safety to the OSHA 30-Hour General Industry Course. Tennessee OSHA maintains training partnerships with several organizations, including the Associated Builders and Contractors, the Tennessee Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the University of Tennessee, the Associated General Contractors, the Tennessee Road Builders Association, and several state community colleges.

On-Farm Training

In July, TOSHA personnel partnered with other state and federal agencies to conduct a series of training sessions in Adams. Topics addressed in the training included heat stress recognition and prevention; tobacco baler and harvester safety; housing and field sanitation standards; proper wage payment; farm labor contractor regulations; worker protection standard certification; and green tobacco sickness identification and prevention.

Legislative Changes

During the 2014 legislative session, the Tennessee “Right-to-Know” Law (TCA 50-3-2001) workplace chemical list requirement was revised. The chemical list must now contain the product identifier and the location where the chemical is normally used or stored. Employers are no longer required to list each ingredient separately.

In addition, TOSHA will adopt the Electric Power Generation, Transmission and Distribution final rule on Jan. 1, 2015.



Tennessee OSHA conducts on-farm safety and health training.

Utah

Utah Occupational Safety and Health – Utah OSHA

The tradition of protecting our workers and improving workplace safety and health is nothing new in Utah. By the 1950s, two decades before the creation of federal OSHA, Utah had promulgated standards and safety orders addressing some of the most serious threats to workers' safety at that time. This approach was again evident in 1973 when Utah enacted the Utah Occupational Safety and Health Act, giving Utah OSHA the mandate to administer all laws and lawful orders to ensure that every employee in the state has a workplace free of recognized hazards.

Emphasis Programs

Local Emphasis Program - Construction

As of Aug. 1, 2014, Utah OSHA Directive 2014-001, Local Emphasis Program (LEP) for the Construction Industry is in effect.

In 2012, construction-related fatalities accounted for 64 percent of all OSHA reportable fatalities in Utah. The leading causes of death during this period in the construction industry were:

1. Falls from elevation
2. Struck-by
3. Caught-in between
4. Electrocutation

The goal of this directive is to establish an enforcement initiative to reduce the incidents of injury, illness, and fatalities among workers in the construction industry by focusing on the "Big-4" (noted above) construction hazards.

Local Emphasis Program - Amputation

As of Sept. 1, 2014, Utah OSHA Directive 2014-002, Local Emphasis Program for Amputations will be in effect.

The goal of this directive is to identify and reduce the incidents of workplace hazards that cause or are likely to cause amputations. The failure to properly apply machine guarding techniques and the failure to adequately control associated energy hazards during servicing and maintenance activities are the primary causes of amputations.

Utah OSHA initiated these programs to reduce the incidents of injury, illness, and fatalities throughout the construction and general industry and to solicit their cooperation to achieve better and continuously effective safety and health programs.

The Utah Labor Commission and Utah OSHA will commit a number of resources to address these issues, including enforcement, outreach, training, on-site consultation, and alliances.

Outreach

SHARP

The Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP), modeled after the federal OSHA program, recognizes employers who operate an exemplary safety and health management system. Acceptance of a worksite into SHARP from Utah OSHA is an achievement of status that singles out the employer among business peers as a model for worksite safety and health. Upon receiving SHARP recognition, a worksite is exempt from Utah OSHA Compliance programmed inspections during the period that the SHARP certification is valid under most circumstances.

Utah recognized its first SHARP employer in 2004 and now has 14 employers in the program, including four that were added in 2014. These newly recognized businesses include Closure Systems International, Litehouse Inc., MOM Brands Company, and Sandy City Fire Departments #31, 32, 33, 34, and 35.

Voluntary Protection Program (VPP)

The VPP promotes comprehensive workplace safety and health management systems through cooperative relationships among management, labor, and OSHA. Admission to VPP status constitutes Utah OSHA's official recognition of company management and employees with outstanding occupational safety and health management systems.

Utah OSHA's current VPP sites are:

ConocoPhillips, Firestone Building Products, Frito Lay, GE Healthcare, Morton Salt, Pacific States Cast Iron Pipe Company, and Simmons Manufacturing Company.

Workplace Safety Grant Program

Every year, the Utah Labor Commission accepts applications for grant projects or initiatives demonstrating a commitment to workplace safety. Some of the proposals may include:

- Development of workshops and training
- Implementation of specialized safety programs
- Increasing effort and resources for existing programs
- Collaborative workplace safety training between organizations

The Workplace Safety Committee of the Labor Commission has identified key priorities upon which to focus safety prevention efforts for the upcoming year. The focus is with industries and occupations that have higher incidences of workplace accidents and fatalities, such as construction, manufacturing, and highway safety, as well as projects that help Utah employers maintain safer work environments regardless of language and cultural barriers.

Entities eligible to apply for a grant include Utah businesses, community-based organizations, Utah nonprofits and local associations, and educational institutions. During the 2013-2014 award period, more than \$500,000 in workplace safety grants were awarded throughout the state.

Partnerships

The function of Utah OSHA consultation is to help identify safety and health hazards in the workplace and provide recommendations for correction. The goal is to educate and assist employers and their employees in promoting safety and health in the workplace to prevent injuries and illnesses. Utah OSHA consultation helps accomplish this without issuing citations or penalties, and offers its services to both public and private sector employers, with priority given to small business employers in high-hazard industries.

Success Stories

The partnerships forged through Utah OSHA Consultation's engagement with businesses throughout the state yield overwhelmingly positive results that make workplaces safer and save employers both time and money. Several notable success stories are featured online at <http://laborcommission.utah.gov/divisions/UOSH/successStories.html>.

Virginia

Occupational Safety and Health Program – VOSH

Signature Projects

The department is using its Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) and consultation resources for a new program called Virginia “Building Excellence in Safety, Health, and Training” (BEST). This program is the result of a strategic partnership agreement the department is developing, in conjunction with the Associated General Contractors, to adapt VPP principles and OSHA Challenge concepts that will work for the construction industry. The Challenge program outlines the requirements needed to develop and implement effective safety and health management systems through incremental steps. Virginia BEST, reflecting the Challenge concept, will have three levels of participation to encourage construction employers to implement comprehensive safety and health management systems.

The department is also discussing with the Virginia Department of Corrections (DOC) a pilot strategic partnership to substantially increase DOC participation in VPP. Virginia VPP currently has the only two correctional facilities in the country as STAR worksites – Augusta and Lunenburg correctional facilities. The VOSH/DOC partnership implements the OSHA Challenge concept with three levels of participation to encourage individual correctional facilities, and standalone organizational units within DOC (power plants, water treatment facilities, etc.) to implement comprehensive safety and health management systems.

Enforcement

The VOSH Asbestos Program is working with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in response to an incident involving the disturbance of asbestos-containing materials that occurred during renovations at a large apartment complex in Alexandria. On April 2, 2014, the EPA ordered the owner of the apartment complex and its asbestos removal contractor to stop work until they complied with National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants for Asbestos (“Asbestos NESHAP”) regulations regarding demolition and renovation activities involving asbestos-containing materials. The alleged violations were discovered during a series of inspections conducted by the EPA at the apartment complex starting in mid-January 2014 and continuing through March 2014.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, the Alexandria Health Department, the Virginia Department of Health, City of Alexandria officials, along with the VOSH Asbestos Program, have been working with the EPA to ensure that the order is enforced and that public health is protected. Sampling data obtained from select apartment units and common areas where asbestos-containing materials were removed thus far do not indicate an immediate public health concern.

The VOSH Asbestos Program also initiated an inspection to determine compliance with the worker safety and health standards. The VOSH investigation is ongoing and is open as of this date. The EPA and VOSH Asbestos Program are monitoring the renovation activities, including the abatement of regulated asbestos-containing materials at the complex.

Outreach

The 18th annual Virginia Occupational Safety and Health Conference was held Oct. 9-11, 2013, at the Embassy Suites Hampton Roads – Hotel, Spa, and Convention Center in Hampton, Va. The conference participants engaged in safety and health training sessions, among others. Safety and health training, equipment, and related products were displayed to 244 attendees and demonstrated at 35 vendor exhibits.

Among the session topics were workplace violence, ergonomics and the graying workforce, strains and the injured worker, recordkeeping, testifying in court, and trenching and excavation safety. Concurrent sessions also highlighted the VPP and SHARP programs and the labor laws of Virginia.

The keynote speaker was John Henshaw, former assistant secretary of labor for OSHA, who spoke about the current issues in safety and health.

The conference continues to improve the variety of training sessions offered at an affordable price to employers, employees, and safety and health professionals in Virginia. Major contributors for this annual event included Colonial Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, the Virginia State Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Central Virginia section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association, and Drive Smart Virginia.

Consultation Services provides safety and health consultation to private and public sector employers with priority given to companies that have 250 or fewer employees and have high-hazard NAICS codes. In 2013, with funding by federal OSHA, consultants provided on-site safety and health services to 601 private sector employers. The total visit numbers were slightly higher than 2012, as the program was able to fill existing vacancies. Consultants also conducted 46 activities in Safety and Health Program Assistance, as well as 58 activities in other outreach activities. Consultants also conducted 18 formal training sessions, 106 interventions, and 40 promotional visits.

The Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) provides incentives and support to small, high-hazard employers to work with employees to develop, implement, and continuously improve safety and health programs. Participants in the SHARP program must have one year of operating history, and have Days Away Restricted/Transferred (DART) and Total Recordable Cases (TRC) below those of the latest published national average for that industry. As of August 2014, there are 18 participants in the SHARP program.

The Virginia Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) welcomed two new Star sites to the program, bringing the total to 41 sites and re-certified eight existing sites as Star during 2013. More than half of the current Star worksites were actively involved in mentoring new sites.

The Virginia VPP Program has hired additional staff that included a VPP manager, an office administrator, and four regional coordinators. Virginia's VPP program plans to increase the number of active VPP sites, continue the growth of current Star sites, develop the VPP staff to fully engage VPP sites and employers in maximizing the value of VPP to the Commonwealth's workforce, and expand the number of active private industry volunteers to serve as site mentors and advocates for VPP.

Public Service Announcements: The department launched a public service announcement campaign to educate businesses and workers on workplace safety in hazardous occupations. With the help of several industry partners, the department has sponsored the new series of messages on safety and health issues facing Virginia workers. Topics include trenching and excavation, overhead power lines, heat stress, reverse signal, and fall protection. This campaign highlights a new public service announcement every six weeks and encourages workers to think about safety while on the job.

Washington

Division of Occupational Safety and Health — DOSH

Signature Projects

Cell Tower Enforcement

Fall protection issues in the telecommunications industry, more specifically with cell towers, are of nationwide importance given the large number of fatalities that have occurred in recent years. Issues in Washington that have contributed to fall hazards include climbing spaces obstructed by antenna mounts, climbing pegs removed because they hinder installation of antennae mounts, and the safety climb mechanisms not maintained according to manufacturer specifications. Also, the complexities involved in tower ownership and the multiple employers that work on cell towers have further complicated resolution of these fall hazards.



DOSH is locating all towers across Washington to focus on falls in the industry.

The Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) has taken unique steps to actively address this important issue. First, DOSH is locating cell towers across the state and is conducting proactive inspections. DOSH is using the Order of Immediate Restraint process to shut down unsafe towers and ensure employees are not exposed to hazards until the hazards have been addressed and corrected. Second, DOSH is also rewriting the Telecommunication rules, Chapter 296-32 Washington Administrative Code (WAC), with stakeholders to ensure that the codes reflect the most up-to-date safety and health practices for this industry.

Public Website Redesign

DOSH recently launched a redesigned public website. The new design focuses on the top tasks of customers, allowing quick and easy access to important information. A “Getting Started with Safety & Health” section has been added that consolidates and re-organizes information that was previously scattered and duplicated throughout the site. This will help employers understand how to develop their safety programs. Improvements were also made in the way safety and health rules are presented: one file for the entire rule, with jump links to sections for easier navigation. The new website offers multiple ways to navigate through the site, such as top tasks, an A-Z index, by industry, a “fly-over” menu along the top, and an expandable menu on the left-hand side. The site is at www.Lni.wa.gov/safety/.

Compressed air/tunneling rulemaking to resume in 2014

In 2011, DOSH met with a compressed atmospheres stakeholder group consisting of nearly 50 external members to discuss updating the current rules relating to compressed air work (Chapters 296-36 WAC, Compressed Air Work, and 296-155 WAC, Part Q, Underground Construction). These rules, adopted in 1960, are extremely outdated and require the agency to issue multiple variances each year in order for tunneling contractors to perform work safely given current industry advancements and modern technologies. The agency has made addressing the problem a priority because of the cumbersome, costly, and time-consuming nature of these variances for the employer and the department, and because of an increasing number of tunneling projects throughout Washington. Accordingly, the group voted unanimously to update the current standard. DOSH initiated the formal process to make rule revisions in September 2012. Stakeholder meetings continued throughout most of the following year and are scheduled to resume in late 2014, when the first round of draft rule revisions have been completed.

The new rules will address a number of key areas in which the current rules are out of step with industry standards and best practices while providing greater protection for workers. For instance, the use of automatic controls in decompression chambers, once common practice and required by current rules, has fallen out of favor to the use of staged decompression with manual controls and a skilled manlock operator. Another example is past compressed air projects required pressurizing an entire tunnel with all workers operating under hyperbaric conditions. Tunnel boring machines have radically changed this practice, largely minimizing the need to put humans in harm's way. However, many projects using newly emerging capabilities made possible by such advancements require hyperbaric interventions well in excess of the current 50-PSI limit. Other technologies, such as diver attendant recompression transport and new technical diving gas mixtures, did not exist when the current rule was adopted and must be incorporated into the new standards.

Additionally, current decompression tables used do not reflect recent advancements in medical knowledge regarding nitrogen gas bubble formation during decompression. DOSH is using current research and international standards from noted international hyperbaric occupational safety and health authorities to determine better practices going forward. Stakeholders include hyperbaric contractors and labor organizations from the Brightwater Conveyance System and Sound Transit projects.

State Route 530 landslide consultation response

Forty-three people died and eight people were rescued near the small community of Oso, when the worst landslide in U.S. history engulfed a rural neighborhood March 22, 2014. The landslide sent mud and debris across the North Fork of the Stillaguamish River, engulfed 49 homes and other structures, and buried an area of approximately one square mile with mud, soil, and rock 30 to 70 feet deep. It dammed the river, causing extensive flooding upstream as well as blocking State Route 530, the main route to the small town of Darrington (population 1,347), approximately 15 miles east of Oso.

More than 100 first responders from Snohomish County and other surrounding counties were dispatched to assist with emergency medical and search-and-rescue efforts, including the Navy's search-and-rescue unit stationed at nearby Naval Air Station Whidbey Island. Hundreds of personnel and volunteers worked around the clock on landslide recovery operations.

DOSH was among the many state and federal agencies that helped. Although no formal request for consultation assistance was requested, DOSH sent safety and industrial hygiene staff as a resource for technical expertise and to help with operations of the Emergency Management Command Center in Everett. DOSH staff also participated in a multi-agency task force that developed a health, safety, and environmental work plan for the site as it transitioned into a recovery and clean-up operation. Additionally, DOSH personnel volunteered their own time supporting all facets of the emergency operations.

Top 25 Hazardous Industries – 2nd Edition

In October 2014, DOSH released an update with many improvements to the Top 25 Hazardous Industries publication. A call to action has been added to many of the identified industries and resources have been highlighted to help focus employers' safety and health efforts specific to their industry. DOSH is also excited to share new information relating to worker hospitalizations and fatalities in Washington. This is the first time this type of data has been available in the U.S. workers' compensation claims, workplace incidents, and DOSH inspection information has been updated to include the years 2008-2012, covering the most recent recession. This and many other safety and health publications can be located online at www.Lni.wa.gov/FormPub.

Enforcement

Scheduled inspection at Steeler Inc. uncovers many hazards

Steeler Inc. is a Seattle-based steel-frame manufacturer that makes interior and exterior framing products. A scheduled inspection was opened in January 2013 with this employer. A thorough walk-around was conducted, identifying numerous violations. These violations included three repeat serious violations for an 11-foot-high open-sided platform, not maintaining electrical wiring in good condition, and not maintaining the written lockout/tag out program. Twenty-one other serious violations were identified during the inspection with hazards ranging from unguarded rotating parts, in running nip points, and unguarded projections. Other serious violations included several for the forklifts in use and using ladders improperly. The penalty issued for this inspection totaled \$64,020.

This inspection is an example of why it is important to do active scheduled inspections. With numerous hazards identified, it was only a matter of time before an inspection due to an accident would have to be conducted with this employer.

Mandatory hospitalization reporting leads to lumber company citations for 51 serious safety and health violations following major injury incident

Located in the heart of the Columbia River Gorge, SDS Lumber Company is one of the three largest employers in Bingen. SDS partners with another company to manage about 70,000 acres of timberland to manufacture into lumber products. SDS harvests the timber and, at the mill, turns it into lumber, plywood, veneer, and other products. In March 2013, an employee of SDS Lumber was trying to clear a jam of veneer pine located on the out feed of a dryer while the chain drives were still running. The employee removed a guard and was using a 16-foot pike pole to clear the jam, reaching through the moving chains. Both of the employee's arms became entangled in the chain and sprocket located on the out feed. Safety and industrial hygiene inspections were opened with the employer to address the injury and several other hazards were identified while on site.

It was found that in order to do a proper lockout/tagout when these jams occurred, the operator would have to control the energy at several different places within the plant. By the time a proper lockout/tagout could be done, the jammed veneer could catch fire in the dryer, causing damage to the equipment and the plant. Operators reported to DOSH they were repeatedly under pressure to clear jams by reaching in without shutting down the equipment. The employer had a lockout/tagout procedure for the production line but stated it only be used during maintenance downtime. Consequently, the employer was cited for a willful violation for improper lockout/tagout.

The safety inspector identified 29 other serious violations ranging from lockout/tagout issues to machine guarding. The industrial hygienist identified 21 serious violations, which included violations for combustible dust, lead, formaldehyde, and confined space exposures. The total penalty for the two inspections was \$244,600 and the company was added to the Severe Violators Enforcement Program list. The employer has appealed these findings.

Willful violations cited to a division of the Department of Corrections while removing asbestos at a women's prison

Asbestos abatement contractors continue to be found with not only serious violations, but also willful violations. After receiving a referral concerning contamination from the removal of asbestos-containing floor tile and mastic, an inspection was opened at the Washington State Corrections Center for Women in Gig Harbor in June 2013. Correction Industries, a division of the Washington State Department of Corrections, trains offenders through on-the-job training to do asbestos abatement. The removal had already been completed at the time of the opening of the inspection, but two prison security cameras recorded the entire time as the tile and mastic were removed from the dining area. After reviewing the footage, the inspector identified four willful and two serious violations. The willful violations were for not using adequate water during the asbestos abatement, dry sweeping and shoveling of asbestos-containing material, not cleaning PPE with a HEPA vacuum before removing it, and not using respirators at all times when inside the regulated area. The two serious violations were for not removing contaminated clothing in the provided area and for not ensuring that the critical barrier fully enclosed the regulated area. The penalty for this inspection totaled \$141,000. However, this inspection is currently under appeal.

Spokane Falls Community College cited for a similar situation that caused the death of an employee at a sister campus

In 2009, an employee of Spokane Community College was fatally injured while working on pin-setting equipment at the college bowling alley. The college was cited for not ensuring proper lockout/tagout procedures. In June 2013, DOSH received a referral for the Spokane Falls Community College bowling alley, alleging that employees were reaching into the pin-setting machine without shutting off the machine. The two colleges are overseen by the same safety department and management.

The inspector documented that employees were reaching into the pin-setting machines without doing a proper lockout/tagout procedure and that management was aware of this situation but reluctant to put a stop to the practice of resetting the machines/clearing jams by employees. Consequently, the college district was cited for a willful violation for not using proper lockout/tagout procedures. A serious violation was cited for machine guarding. The total penalty assessed was \$58,500. This inspection has been appealed.

Outreach

Eye on Safety Campaign

In June 2014, DOSH initiated its new Eye on Safety campaign, which focuses on quick and engaging short videos of serious safety hazards. The first videos feature slips, trips, and falls. They are posted to the DOSH website and on YouTube. The newest video on ladder safety made its debut with a two-week run in all movie theaters across the state. It also appeared in Hulu and YouTube ads in Washington during a two-month period. The messages are short, well-crafted, and memorable with a website address at the conclusion to allow viewers to get more information: www.EyeOnSafety.info.

Globally Harmonized System

DOSH's Education & Outreach Services program has developed and launched a new eLesson on the Globally Harmonized System of chemical classification and DOSH rule updates. This eLesson is created in a way that uses methods of adult learning by providing a wide range of interactions, including a live training host/instructor to walk users through the lesson, information about the new SDS labels, the ability to click and directly access related website resources during the lesson, and a quiz to match GHS pictograms with their applicable hazards. This training tool can be used by individuals as well as employers wanting to provide information to all of their workers at one time. DOSH will develop more eLessons in the near future. This eLesson can be seen at <http://wisha-training.Lni.wa.gov/training/articulate/GSHHazCom/story.html>.



DOSH has a Hispanic Outreach Program to connect with Spanish speakers on safety and health issues.

Hispanic Outreach

The DOSH Hispanic Outreach Program is responsible for helping reduce the rate of injuries, illnesses, and fatalities in the Spanish monolingual workforce by providing information and training on workers' rights, hazard recognition, and correction and avoidance of unsafe work situations.

The Hispanic Outreach Program conducts outreach by:

- An outreach partnership with SeaMar Community Health Centers to conduct outreach in labor camps.
- The current OSHA 10 outreach conducted by DOSH Hispanic Outreach Program.
- Participating on the Pacific Northwest Latino Safety and Health Group
- Partnering with advocate organizations.
- Partnering with the Mexican Consulate, Ventanillas de Salud, and Consulados Móviles.
- Partnering with employee and employer organizations.
- Partnering with church and community groups such as Promotoras de Salud.
- Conducting radio interviews.
- Organizing and participating in health and safety fairs.

Wyoming

Department of Workforce Services – OSHA Division

Signature Projects

Wyoming OSHA once again provided partial sponsorship and key leadership for the 2014 Wyoming Safety and Workforce Summit and Governor's Safety Award Ceremony. The event drew more than 500 participants and included three keynote addresses by renowned speakers, 62 individual training sessions, and 11 health and safety awards presented by Wyoming Gov. Matthew H. Mead, including a Stop Work Authority award presented to a deserving individual. The Stop Work Authority, initiated by the Wyoming Oil and Gas Safety Alliance, enables employees in participating industries the authority to stop any process in which health or safety procedures are inadequate, or lacking for any reason, without reprisal.

Additionally, the compliance program implemented a LEAN process to enhance efficiencies for case file work. As a result, Wyoming OSHA has used technology to create electronic case files. This process has enabled the division to reduce the amount of time consumed printing case files, mailing from field offices and reduced paper consumption, physical storage space, and improved time of access for case file review by management.

The compliance program continues to struggle to maintain an experienced workforce due to turnover to private sector employers offering higher pay. Current challenges for the program are the implementation of the OSHA – Information System (OIS), discrimination investigation training, and completion of an update to the Wyoming oil and gas rules.

Enforcement

Since Oct. 1, 2013, the compliance program has conducted 199 health and safety inspections, including nine fatality and catastrophe occurrences, 66 formal complaints, 102 nonformal complaints or referrals, and 26 discrimination investigations. The compliance program is fortunate to have access to Wyoming workers' compensation data to create local emphasis program and programmed inspections. Local emphasis programs are construction, oil drilling and servicing, public sector employers with positive workers' compensation experience ratings, nursing and personal care facilities, and serious workers' compensation injury referrals.

Outreach

Recent legislation has enabled Wyoming OSHA to offer workers' compensation base rate premium discounts to employers willing to work with OSHA consultation or qualified private consultants. The program is set up on a four-tier structure with increasing discounts based on the level of achievement by an employer. The discounts are applied to the employer's workers' compensation account the calendar year quarter after a consultation occurs, if the employer complies with all elements of the program and abatement is satisfied. These discounts continue for three calendar years after which time the employer may reapply. Depending on the participation level the employer chooses, base rate premium discounts of 3 percent, 5 percent, 7 percent, or 10 percent can be applied. Audits and annual commitments are part of the program package. This program is new, but based on the number of employer inquiries, Wyoming OSHA anticipates the use of the program will be substantial.



Wyoming OSHA has 63 employers participating in VPP, SHARP, and EVTAP (pre-SHARP program).

Additionally, Wyoming OSHA continues to approve employer applications for the Safety Improvement Fund, which allows employers contributing to the Wyoming workers' compensation system to apply for up to \$10,000 to improve health and safety systems, with a 10 percent match. This program, created by legislative action in 2011, allows employers to purchase equipment that is above standard OSHA requirements or provide health and safety training. The Wyoming OSHA administrator and consultation manager review all applications and provide final approval.

At this time, Wyoming OSHA consultation has 63 employers involved in prestige programs – seven VPP employers, 43 SHARP employers, and 19 Employer Voluntary Technical Assistance Program (EVTAP) employers. EVTAP is a Wyoming-specific pre-SHARP program, which does not provide employers Compliance exemption status, and these employers are working toward entry into VPP or SHARP.

Partnerships

As a result of the success of the Wyoming Oil and Gas Safety Alliance (WOGISA) with Wyoming OSHA, which has been sustained since 2011, participation surpasses 1,000 members and new alliances have been achieved with the refining and construction industries. The Wyoming Refining Safety Alliance was established in 2012 and fully implemented in 2013 with all refineries in Wyoming participating and, most recently, the Wyoming Construction Safety Alliance was initiated in April 2014 and includes 99 members to date.

These alliances have been critical in building cooperation between industry sectors and Wyoming OSHA to advance efforts to ensure the health and safety of employees working in high-hazard occupations in Wyoming. In addition, Wyoming OSHA has collaborated with a new Transportation Safety Coalition in an advisory capacity to reduce workplace transportation fatalities. Transportation fatalities account for approximately half of all workplace fatalities occurring in Wyoming each year.



Forty-three employers in Wyoming participate in SHARP.

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Credits

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