

OREGON HEALTH & SAFETY RESOURCE

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GOSH
CONFERENCE
2003

Special Edition

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Administrator's Message

The new year brings a fresh outlook, changes, and, hopefully, a moment to reflect.

You will notice some changes in how we present *Oregon Health and Safety Resource* to you each quarter. The 'look' of *Resource* stayed consistent through most of the 1990s. Many of our readers suggested that it was time for a new approach. And we listened.

With this issue of *Resource*, we welcome a new governor, Ted Kulongoski, a leader who is familiar with the challenges we face in providing effective public services in Oregon during a lean economy. At this same time, we welcome a new director to the Department of Consumer and Business Services, Cory Streisinger. Cory served as legal counsel to Neil Goldschmidt during his term as governor and also served for a decade as general counsel to the Port of Portland.

Over the past seven years, we have seen considerable progress in occupational safety and health in Oregon. We have seen more employers embracing the value of safe and healthful workplaces. We have seen a considerable increase in the number of employers who have become truly self-sufficient in their safety-and-

health management. And we have watched as their efforts had a considerable positive effect on their bottom lines.

We have seen injury rates steadily decline and fewer occupational fatalities, reaching record lows during times of record high employment. In short, more Oregon workers are going home at the end of their shift in the same condition as they arrived for work.

I would like to ask that you join in the first "Safety Break for Oregon" on Wednesday, May 14. The day will provide an opportunity for employers throughout the state to sit down with their workers and discuss how important safety is to the "workplace family." The day will also serve as a reminder for employers that working safely is security in a turbulent economy.

In December, I attended a meeting in Portland where 1,300 business, labor, and government leaders came together to lay groundwork for a new business plan for Oregon — a plan to get us back on our feet. During the many speeches, only one state government organization was mentioned by name as an example of a regulatory agency that is doing things right. It was Oregon OSHA. The reference was an unsolicited endorsement and reinforces the commitment of the members of Oregon OSHA, who bring that commitment to work every day. Please read more about our accomplishments in the annual *Report to Stakeholders* included in this issue of *Resource*.

While we're looking ahead, our focus hasn't changed — all workers in this state should go home after work in the same condition they were in when they came to work. We need to continue to look for ways to help Oregon workplaces. We have come a long way and have made significant progress, and I ask for your help in keeping Oregon in a position of leadership in occupational safety and health. ■



Peter De Luca

RESOURCE

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*If you have questions about the information in **Resource**, please call (503) 947-7428.*

For general information, technical answers or information about Oregon OSHA services, please call (503) 378-3272 or toll-free within Oregon, (800) 922-2689.



Safety Break for Oregon

Oregon OSHA, along with safety and health partners throughout the state, would like businesses in every industry to take part in the first “Safety Break for Oregon” on Wednesday, May 14. Businesses can mark the event in a number of ways aimed at educating community members that safety and health in the workplace can keep your business strong during a changing economy.

The idea for the event comes from industry members who advise Oregon OSHA. “Several industry partners suggested a great way to raise awareness about workplace safety in Oregon would be having businesses in the state take a fifteen-minute break to talk about safety,” says Kevin Weeks, public information officer for Oregon OSHA. “What emerged from this idea of taking a ‘coffee break for safety’ is to choose a day where the entire state can recognize how important it is to work safely and make the investment in workplace safety and health management. It is what keeps people coming home safely at the end of the day.”

Oregon OSHA is providing assistance to help employers create an event in their workplace, but how the event is observed is up to partners. “This campaign is driven by employers across the state who agree to take part in the event,” says Weeks. “We are here to provide technical help to make your event a success.”

An “Event Outreach Kit” will be available on the Oregon OSHA Web site to help employers and workers think about ways they can host an event. The kit is also full of great ideas to help answer the question “what should I do and where do I start?” and provides talking points to help launch a conversation about safety in your workplace.



Our ultimate goal at Oregon OSHA is to make workplace safety such a standard part of your daily work and business philosophy that you won't need to think about safety just one day every year — you do it every day! Additional information about how to become involved – and energized – about the Safety Break for Oregon is available on Oregon OSHA's Web site, www.orosha.org. For answers about Safety Break for Oregon, call (503) 947-7428. ■

Don't forget Worker Memorial Day and National Safety Month!

Also on the calendar for the first half of 2003 are Worker Memorial Day and the annual National Safety Month observance in June, which includes National Workplace Safety Week during the final week of the month, June 22-28.

Worker Memorial Day is annually observed on April 28. The first Worker's Memorial Day was observed in 1989, and April 28 was chosen because it is the anniversary of the passage of the 1970 *Occupational Safety and Health Act* in the United States and the day of a similar remembrance in Canada. Members of organized labor groups around the globe now mark April 28 as an International Day of Mourning for workers who have died in the workplace. ■

Important dates for your calendar:

April 28	Worker Memorial Day
May 14	Safety Break for Oregon
June 2003	National Safety Month
June 22-28	National Workplace Safety Week

Peter De Luca named to NACOSH

Peter De Luca, administrator of Oregon OSHA, has been named to a two-year term on the National Advisory Council on Occupational Safety and Health (NACOSH).

The 12-member committee advises the U.S. Secretary of Labor and U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services on occupational safety and health programs. U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao announced the appointment of the new members of NACOSH on December 31.

“The federal government and the American people benefit tremendously from the knowledge and experience that committee members bring to the table,” said Secretary Chao. “They share their unique talents and expertise on safety and health, and they help us ensure that we are doing everything possible to reduce injuries, illnesses, and fatalities in the workplace.”

John Henshaw, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Labor in charge of the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration, nominated De Luca for the seat. Oregon is one of 26 U.S. states and territories that provide regulatory enforcement of workplace safety and health standards through a state agency working in unison with the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

“This is a great recognition for the state of Oregon and the Department of Consumer and Business Services,” said De Luca. “The nomination of an Oregon resident to this committee demonstrates the high regard that OSHA holds for what Oregon OSHA accomplishes by bringing business, labor, and government together to create safer workplaces.”

Oregon OSHA’s ability to regulate industrial safety by establishing partnerships has received national attention. So have workplace injuries in Oregon, which have been reduced

20 percent during the past five years.

“Many safety professionals throughout the country are amazed at how Oregon does it when it comes to regulating industries and managing a workers’ compensation system,” said De Luca. “Oregon OSHA has a highly effective consultation team that assists employers in becoming self-sufficient through education, training, and outreach. And for those times when we must ensure compliance with the *Oregon Safe Employment Act*, we are a professional and strong enforcement program. Education and enforcement are equal partners in our regulatory strategy. You cannot have success with voluntary compliance without an effective enforcement program. We also place a high value on quality customer service, educating our customers, and providing the resources employers need to make their workplaces safer.”

NACOSH has two members each from the areas of management, labor, and the occupational-health professions, and four members representing the public. Two of the health representatives and two of the public members are designated by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, and all are appointed by the Secretary of Labor. Members of NACOSH serve two-year terms.

De Luca has served as Oregon OSHA administrator since 1996. ■



Division One changes take effect in January

By Dave McLaughlin, Oregon OSHA

Oregon OSHA adopted several changes to Division 1, "General Administrative Rules," that went into effect on January 1, 2003. These changes reflect revisions federal OSHA published in its standards for recording and reporting occupational injuries and illness; Oregon OSHA must adopt rules that are at least as effective as the federal OSHA standards.

The biggest change is in the recording of hearing loss on OSHA 300 logs. None of these changes affect the occupational noise exposure rules in OAR 437-002-1910.95 and OAR 437-004-0630. The changes pertain only to recordkeeping. It is also important to note that when Oregon OSHA talks about decibels (dB) in relation to an audiogram or an employees' hearing level, that decibel reading is the average of the measurements at the 2000 Hz, 3000 Hz, and 4000 Hz levels.

Historically, hearing loss was recorded on the OSHA 200 or OSHA 300 logs when there was a difference of 25dB or more between a baseline audiogram and an annual audiogram. This is called a standard threshold shift (STS) or simply a shift.

Now hearing loss must be recorded when there is an STS of 10dB or more *and* the average hearing level on the annual audiogram is 25dB or higher. Both criteria must be met before a shift is recordable. Another change is that now you may compare a revised baseline audio-

gram with the annual audiogram; however, only an audiologist, otolaryngologist, or physician may revise a baseline.

Oregon OSHA added a non-mandatory appendix to Division 1 to assist in determining whether an STS must be recorded. You may be able to subtract decibels from the calculation of an STS depending on the employees' age. Oregon OSHA also added a second non-mandatory appendix to Division 1 to explain this process.

Other changes to Division 1:

- The delay on a work-related musculoskeletal disorders (MSD) checkbox column under Section M of the OSHA 300 log was extended until January 1, 2004. You must still record these incidents, but check either "Injury" or "All other illnesses" in section M.
- Minor changes were made to clarify when you must report an accident or fatality to Oregon OSHA.
- The instructions on how to compute the lost workday incident rate were removed from Division 1 and are now part of Oregon OSHA's recordkeeping packet (form 3353).
- There is a Word version of the OSHA 300 Log that can be downloaded from Oregon OSHA's Web site, www.orosha.org. ■

For answers to questions about standards, or for answers to technical questions, please contact Oregon OSHA's Standards and Technical Section, (503) 378-3272.

Training and education grants available

Oregon OSHA is pleased to announce that the Workplace Training and Grants Program is accepting applications for projects during 2003 until March 30. Grants are awarded to assist in developing education programs usable by an entire industry or a specific work process to reduce or eliminate hazards. These grants are not for individual companies to provide training for their employees.

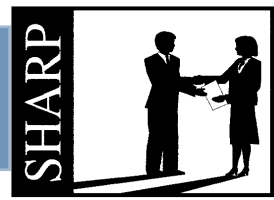
Applicants may be any employer or labor consortium, association, or other non-profit organization. Educational institutions may apply if they are affiliated with any of these listed groups. Funding for the grant program comes from the Worker Benefit Fund established by the Oregon legislature. Applicants may apply for up to \$40,000 per grant project, with matching dollars or in-kind contribution not required.

All safety topics are eligible for consideration; however, preference is given to those programs that support goals listed in the Oregon OSHA Strategic Plan,

available on the Oregon OSHA Web site, www.orosha.org.

A few examples of grant projects: lifting guidelines; a dairy farmers' checklist and video; pictograms for training people with a variety of learning needs on hazards in the workplace; a home builders' manual and videos in Russian, Spanish, and English; a pilot educational program for prevention of ergonomic-related injuries for nurses; and a CD-ROM interactive training program on preventing attacks by vicious dogs. Materials produced by grant recipients become the property of the Department of Consumer & Business Services, Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division. They are housed in the OR-OSHA Audiovisual Library and are available for loan to the public. ■

To receive an application packet for training and education grants, go to the Oregon OSHA Web site, www.orosha.org, and download an application packet. If you have questions, contact Kathy Mossbrucker, (503) 947-7992.



by Mark E. Hurliman, VPP/SHARP Program Manager

The Oregon SHARP Alliance was formed by Oregon SHARP company members who wanted to make Oregon a safer place to work and knew that SHARP is a great program to assist employers.

The mission of the SHARP Alliance is to promote safety-and-health management and cooperation among companies and government for the benefit of all workers in Oregon.

The Oregon SHARP Alliance advocates excellence in occupational safety and health, continuous growth of the SHARP program, and a positive relationship with Oregon OSHA.

The Oregon SHARP Alliance held its general-assembly meeting December 12 at Doncasters PED Manufacturing in Oregon City, a SHARP worksite. A panel of employees from five Oregon VPP sites presented "Employee Forum: Keys to Employee Involvement." There were 34 attendees.

The SHARP Alliance holds general-membership meetings quarterly, on the second Thursday of March, June, September, and December. Each meeting has a training session as well as the membership meeting. The meetings are held throughout Oregon and are open to members and non-members. The Oregon SHARP Alliance board of directors meets on the second Thursday of February, May, August, and November.

The next SHARP Alliance general-membership meeting will be March 13 at KahNeeTa Resort in Warm Springs. The topic of the morning session is "Lockout/Tagout," and the speaker will be industrial hygienist Curt Shaw. The morning session runs from 9 a.m. to noon, with the general assembly meeting in the afternoon, 1-2:30.

On June 12, the SHARP Alliance meeting will be at Georgia-Pacific's Pulp and Paper facility in Toledo. The general-assembly meeting will run from 9 to 10:30 a.m. and will be followed by "Introduction to a VPP Site," presented by Toledo employees of Georgia-Pacific.

The presentation will cover how a VPP site manages health and safety and will include a tour of the facility.

Editor's Note:

In the center section of the March Resource, to make space for our annual Report to Stakeholders, Safety Notes and our quarterly Spanish/English safety feature have been omitted. Both features are extremely important to our readers, and they will return in the Summer 2003 Resource.

Welcome NEW first-year SHARP employers:

- **Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority**
- **Tualatin Valley Water District**

The Oregon SHARP Alliance is an advocate for excellence in occupational safety and health, continuous growth of the SHARP program and a positive relationship with Oregon OSHA. Its goals include:

- Promoting the achievement of SHARP recognition.
- Assisting companies who are already in the process of becoming SHARP.
- Assisting all companies in Oregon in safety-and-health management.
- Providing input to Oregon OSHA on activities, rules, and strategic planning.
- Serving as a resource to other members of the Oregon SHARP Alliance.

Full membership is open to companies that have received SHARP recognition from the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division and who are in good standing with Oregon OSHA. Membership is by company, organization, unit, or designated representative. Associate membership is open to any individual, company, governmental organization, or other entity that supports the mission, purpose, and goal of the Oregon SHARP Alliance.

The Oregon SHARP Alliance is a potential tool to help companies improve their safety-and-health management systems. The members of the SHARP Alliance can provide coaching, mentoring, and networking opportunities. Find out more about the Oregon SHARP Alliance on their Web site, www.sharpalliance.org. ■

“To advance and improve workplace safety and health for all workers in Oregon.”

Introduction

This report is designed to communicate to Oregon OSHA (OR-OSHA) customers the activities undertaken during the previous year to promote and advance safety and health for all Oregon workers. This report shares Oregon OSHA successes and helps you see where we are headed in the future.



Peter De Luca
OR-OSHA Administrator

2002 Report to

Stakeholders

March 2003

What is OR-OSHA?

The federal *Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970* (OSHA) became an official part of national labor law on April 28, 1971. Its purpose was – and is – to ensure, so far as possible, that every working man and woman in the nation has safe and healthful working conditions.

Oregon passed its own occupational safety and health legislation in 1973, the *Oregon Safe Employment Act* (OSEAct), and since then has operated under a state plan agreement with federal OSHA.

Oregon OSHA’s mission is “to advance and improve workplace safety and health for all workers in Oregon.” Oregon OSHA strives to accomplish its mission by administering the OSEAct through the following programs:

- A **comprehensive enforcement program**, ensuring that Oregon’s occupational-safety-and-health rules are carried out in the workplace
- A **consultative services program**, offering no-cost on-site safety-and-health evaluations by trained professionals
- A **Standards and Technical Section**, providing technical assistance

to employers and workers, and amending and adopting Oregon’s occupational safety and health rules

- A **Public Education and Conference Section**, reaching employers and safety professionals through conferences, seminars, workshops, and rule forums

Oregon OSHA works toward making every contact with the public a learning experience.

Oregon OSHA’s Strategic Plan

Oregon OSHA is dedicated to improving safety and health in the workplace through helping employers and employees develop and implement comprehensive safety and health programs.

To better serve the employers and employees of the state of Oregon, Oregon OSHA has developed a plan. The plan contains three goals Oregon OSHA hopes to achieve over a five-year period. Following is a brief description of the goals and accomplishments made toward achievement of those goals during federal fiscal year 2002 (FFY 2002), October 1 through September 30.

GOAL 1

Change the workplace culture in Oregon to increase employer and worker awareness of, commitment to, and involvement with safety and health.

Self-sufficiency and employee involvement are key elements of a workplace culture that values safety and health. This goal focuses on assisting employers in improving each of these elements and, in turn, improving their safety-and-health program.

Accomplishments

The Consultation Section plays a key role in providing **Safety and Health Program Assistance** to employers. Oregon OSHA is pleased to report that 74 percent of initial consultations conducted during FFY 2002 were comprehensive, and 25 percent of those consultations included a safety-and-health program assessment. Comprehensive consultations and safety and health program assessments provide employers detailed information regarding strengths and weaknesses of their operation from a safety perspective, identifying where improvements can be made. For the past several years, the Oregon OSHA Web site has offered a self-assessment tool for employers. The original version of the tool was replaced this year with a shortened version.

Oregon OSHA assisted employers in implementing and maintaining effective workplace **Safety Committees**. During FFY 2002, 98.5 percent of consultations (with employers who had an active safety committee) included a member of the committee. Employee involvement is a key element of an effective safety and health program. In follow-up surveys with employers, 89 percent of respondents indicated that contact with Oregon OSHA resulted in improved effectiveness of their safety committees.

Oregon's two safety-recognition programs, the **Voluntary Protection Program (VPP)** and the **Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP)**,

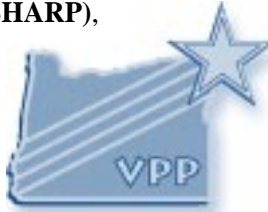
continued to enjoy high participation from employers.

As of the end of the fiscal year (September 30, 2002), Oregon had six VPP sites: Kerr-McGee Chemical, The Dalles; Georgia Pacific West, Inc., Toledo; Georgia Pacific West, Inc., Philomath; Frito-Lay, Beaverton; Georgia Pacific West, Inc., Coos Bay; and DPR Construction, Inc., Portland.

Interest in SHARP also continued to be strong, with a total of 74 SHARP certified companies as of September 30, 2002. Oregon OSHA is also working to interest long-time SHARP companies in advancing to VPP status.

Oregon OSHA places a strong emphasis on **Workforce Education**. The Public Education and Conference Section provides a wide variety of safety-and-health workshops. New offerings in FFY 2002 included a session on Oregon's new steel erection standards, a two-day "train-the-trainer" workshop, and a safety committee training session for small businesses. Ninety-nine percent of workshop attendees and 98 percent of conference participants rated the training as useful for improving safety and health in their workplace.

Along with educating those already in the work force, Oregon OSHA continued to focus on **Young Worker Education**, targeting young people and those just entering the work



force. Oregon OSHA had hoped to enter into a partnership with an educational organization to increase opportunities for educating young people about the benefits of safety and health. Due to uncertainty in educational funding, Oregon schools were forced to focus resources on basic educational necessities, and resources were not available for new projects. Oregon OSHA did, however, make presentations aimed at youth and provide brochures and other educational materials. The division also maintains a Web page for young workers, which provides information and a wide variety of resources for young workers and educators.

Oregon OSHA has a strong commitment to creating **Partnerships** with customers and stakeholders. Three partnerships were active during the year in providing safety-and-health educational opportunities:

The Joint Emphasis Program or JEP (a partnership with the construction industry, labor, and government) completed training sessions on health hazards in construction and developed training for Oregon's new steel erection rules.

The PESO Program developed six modules for Spanish-speaking construction workers; the topics include safety committees, accident investigation, hazard identification and control, ladder safety, fall protection, and scaffolding.

The Small Business Program partnered with the Oregon Employment Department to reach small businesses through meetings of the Employment Council around the state.



GOAL 2

Improve workplace safety and health for all workers, as evidenced by fewer hazards, reduced exposures, and fewer injuries, illnesses, and fatalities.

Oregon OSHA is directing resources at high-hazard industries to reduce safety and health hazards. Targeted industries identified through analysis of claims data include agriculture, construction, lumber and wood products, food and kindred products, and health care.

Accomplishments

In the area of **Safety Hazards**, Oregon OSHA continued to emphasize fall hazards during FFY 2002. Enforcement conducted 759 fall-emphasis inspections and issued 542 violation citations related to falls. The Oregon OSHA Public Education Section offered 18 fall-protection workshops with a total attendance of 244. Consultation addressed 1,414 fall hazards in the targeted industries.

Oregon OSHA also continued to focus on the **Health Hazards** of silica, lead in construction, and noise. Materials for "Health Hazards in Construction," a course developed by the Joint Emphasis Program, were published on the external Web site and five sessions were held. This course is an introduction to industrial hygiene for those not familiar with the science.

Ergonomics remained a focus for Oregon OSHA during FFY 2002. Twenty-four training sessions were held with a total attendance of 301. Emphasis in FFY 2002 was on outreach to employers in the lumber and wood products industries. Oregon OSHA made ergonomic presentations at the Western Pulp and Paper Conference and the Wood Technology 2002 Conference.

Oregon OSHA's response rates remained high in FFY 2002, with a priority on **Timely Customer Service**.

Oregon OSHA defines "timely" based on the severity of the hazard identified by a complainant. Ninety-seven percent of imminent-danger complaints were responded to within 24 hours, 94 percent of serious complaints were responded to within five working days, and 98 percent of other-than-serious complaints were responded to within 30 working days.

The elimination of hazards that lead to injuries, illnesses, and **Fatalities** is the goal of every interaction with employers. Oregon OSHA investigated 32 work-related fatalities during FFY 2002.

GOAL 3

Continuously strengthen public confidence through excellence in the development and delivery of Oregon OSHA programs.

Oregon OSHA continues to work toward increasing public confidence by offering high quality programs and services provided by a professional staff committed to worker safety and health.

Accomplishments

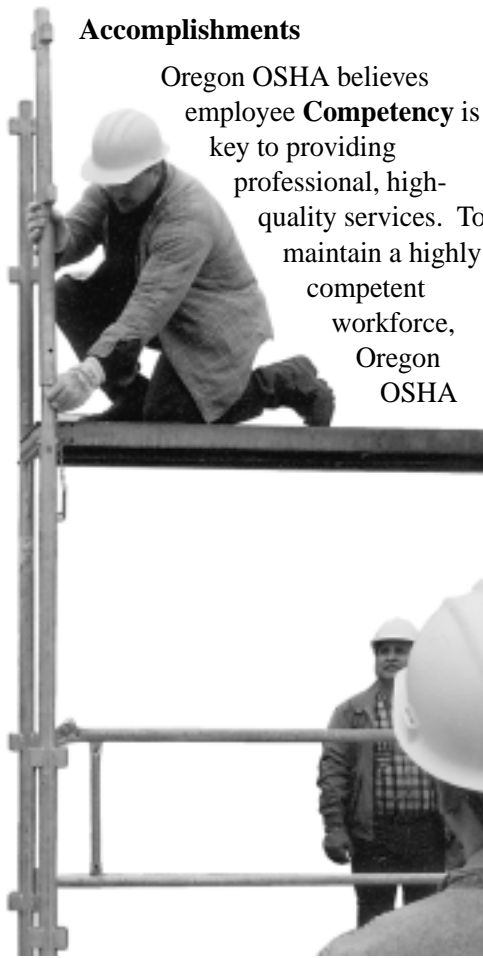
Oregon OSHA believes employee **Competency** is key to providing professional, high-quality services. To maintain a highly competent workforce, Oregon OSHA

established a performance management system based on a set of identified competencies for each job category. Individual development plans are now used to help employees and their supervisors identify areas of core competency needing further development. This performance management system, which emphasizes addressing individual needs, was fully implemented in FFY 2002.

During FFY 2001, Oregon OSHA conducted an **Organizational Climate Survey**. The survey measured employee satisfaction on a variety of topics. In FFY 2002, survey results were analyzed and strategies developed to address the issues of communication, recognition, and trust. Oregon OSHA recognizes the value of employee input and is committed to addressing concerns.

External **Customer Surveys** from Consultation, Public Education and Conferences, Compliance, the Audio-Visual Library, and Appeals continued to reflect high satisfaction ratings during FFY 2002. Ninety percent or more of customers responding to these surveys indicated they were satisfied with the services received from Oregon OSHA. Oregon OSHA is interested in feedback from all customers and will continue to use survey data to guide changes and improvements.

Oregon OSHA believes **Collaboration** with customers and stakeholders in rule and policy-making activities achieves the best solutions. Seven stakeholder groups were involved with Oregon OSHA in rule making and policy-adoption activities during FFY 2002. After much hard work, the Forest Activities Standard Advisory Committee successfully reached consensus on the final version of the forest activities standard. The Steel Erection Advisory Committee was effective in helping develop Oregon-initiated rules that go beyond the federal steel-erection standard.



The Construction Advisory Committee met and discussed ways to address fatalities in the construction industry. The Public Safety Advisory Committee developed and published policy guidelines for public safety agencies. The Administrator's Partnership Committee provided valuable advice and input to the agency on a variety of issues during the year. The Multi-Employer Task Force continued to meet and discuss guidelines. The newly formed Ergonomics Advisory Committee explored ways to work in partnership with Oregon OSHA to further good ergonomic practices across all industries.

Highlights and statistics: FFY 2002

In addition to the strategic activities described, Oregon OSHA offers a wide variety of safety and health services to employers and employees to help ensure safe work places for all Oregon workers.

The Enforcement Section, made up of 52 safety compliance officers and 28 health compliance officers, conducted 5,670 inspections during FFY 2002. The Consultative Services Section, made up of 21 safety consultants, 11 health consultants, and 4 ergonomic consultants conducted 2,650 consultations during FFY 2002.

The Appeals Section is an independent section within Oregon OSHA responsible for processing appealed citations. During FFY 2002, seven hundred forty-two informal appeal conferences were held, with 642 (or 87 percent) of those reaching settlement. Unresolved cases were referred to the Workers' Compensation Board, Hearings Division.

The Oregon OSHA Resource Center and Audiovisual Library provides video training programs to Oregon employers and employees at no cost. The library also contains current books, topical files, technical periodicals, and more than 200 databases.

Oregon OSHA's Standards and Technical Resource Section serves customers by providing interpretations of rules and standards. Technical staff regularly works with numerous stakeholder groups to review, revise, and create safety and health rules. This section produces and distributes the Oregon OSHA CD-ROM containing all of Oregon OSHA's standards. The CD also contains program directives, letters of interpretation, and various publications. Upon request, the Oregon OSHA Resource Center will provide 10 copies of Oregon OSHA publications to employers free of charge.

Summary

Oregon OSHA's goal is to advance and improve workplace safety and health for all Oregon workers. We are dedicated to improving occupational safety and health in Oregon by responding to the needs of workers and employers. We are committed to working in partnership with our stakeholders to achieve our common goal. We believe that every worker in Oregon has the right to go home safe and healthy at the end of the day.



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Updated publications now available from Oregon OSHA

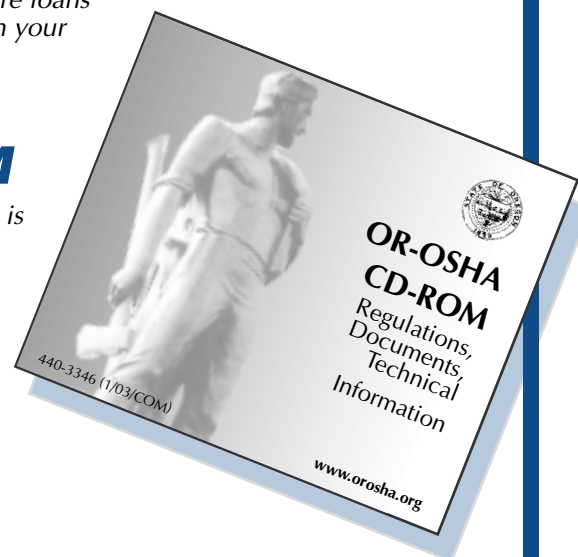


2003 AV Catalog

The new-and-improved version of the catalog featuring training materials available from Oregon OSHA's Resource Center and Audiovisual Library. New subject headings and expanded content descriptions make sure you can borrow the right material for your training needs. With the new on-line access system for the Resource Center, searching for new titles, borrowing materials, or scheduling future loans can be done on your schedule.

OR-OSHA CD-ROM

The January 2003 version of the OR-OSHA CD-ROM is now available. The disk contains helpful information, regulations, publications, and technical standards on one searchable computer CD. Put Oregon OSHA's resources on your desktop!



Also look for:

Bloodborne Pathogens –

Questions and Answers about Occupational Exposure

(Publication 2261) It's been recently updated.

It's Not Just Dust –

What you should know about silicosis and crystalline silica

(Publication 3301) It's been updated.

Publications are available for download from the Oregon OSHA Web site, www.oro sha.org
Or, call the Resource Center, (503) 378-3272, or toll-free within Oregon, (800) 922-2689.

Education Section offers new training courses for small business

The Public Education Section of Oregon OSHA is offering new training classes designed specifically to help small-business owners with their safety and health needs.

The “Safety for Small Business” course continues to offer safety-and-health training for small-business employers during two lunchtime classes. The popular class introduces safety-and-health management in 10 abbreviated training modules during two one-hour classes presented two weeks apart. Attendance is required at the first meeting to participate in the second. Participants will learn how to integrate a safety-and-health program into their business plan and receive industry-specific resource materials. “Safety for Small Business” is scheduled to visit several cities across Oregon this year.

New for 2003 is a three-hour training to educate safety-committee members about their duties and responsibilities, training requirements, and the purpose of safety committees. The class will also review mandatory ‘Rules for All Workplaces’ in Oregon and how to solve problems using a safety committee. This workshop meets Oregon OSHA requirements for basic hazard identification and accident investigation training.

One-hour workshops will address three key problems employers face: back safety, violence in the workplace and use of personal protective equipment. All three one-hour courses are presented during one class session, giving employers an opportunity to select specific areas in which they need training. **Back Safety** helps employers identify ergonomic risk factors associated with back injuries and introduces methods to control those risks.

Violence in the Workplace covers assessment, de-escalation of potentially violent situations in the workplace, and employer responsibilities.

Personal Protective Equipment gives participants an overview of the requirements placed on employers for the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) in the workplace. Topics include hazard assessment to determine needed PPE and suggested methods for protecting the head, face, hands, feet, and torso. These one-hour classes will be offered in six communities throughout Oregon this summer. ■

To find out more about the new small business classes, go to the Oregon OSHA Web site, www.orosha.org, under “Education,” or download a copy of our 2002-2003 Public Education Workshops catalog from the Web site.

Profiles

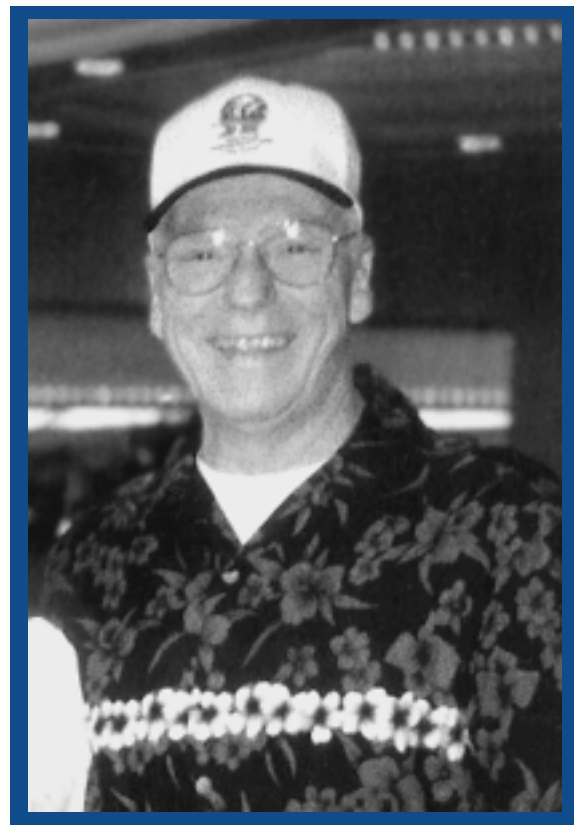
Tom Paris, outstanding safety professional, remembered

Making Oregon's workplaces safe requires the combined efforts of many health and safety professionals. These professionals represent business, organized labor, industry associations, workers' compensation insurers, and government. Traditionally, in *Profiles*, we tell you about an Oregon OSHA professional who works to improve safety and health every day. But in this issue of *Resource*, we recognize the passing of a safety professional who touched many lives while following his passion for workplace safety and health.

Tom Paris was born in 1943 and was called to leadership early on. He became an officer in the United States Marine Corps. With service to country came the challenge of surviving two tours of duty in Vietnam. Tom also had experience as a construction and maintenance supervisor, which, combined with his military training, gave him an understanding of the importance of injury and illness prevention. While working as a safety consultant for groups such as the National Electrical Contractors Association, Tom provided perspective and context about occupational risk and worked with employers and employees to develop ways to eliminate hazards.

Chris Ottoson, a health analyst with Oregon OSHA's central office, remembers Tom for his enthusiasm for worker protection: "Tom volunteered to help train construction workers on OSHA's respiratory protection standard. I worked with Tom on this project and saw in him such a strong passion for worker protection. The insights he brought to any discussion on occupational safety and health came from years of experience and interest in making things work well for everyone involved."

"Tom's philosophy was to do it right the first time," says Lorena Elliott, senior health compliance officer for Oregon OSHA's Salem field office. "He was never too



Tom Paris, 1943-2003

busy – or inhibited – to stop anywhere and tell employees to get their fall protection on or get off the roof!"

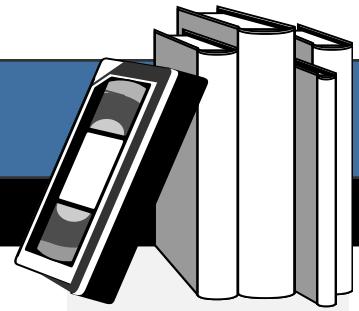
The passion Tom brought to worker safety is what most friends remember, says Chris. "When we look at his contributions to occupational safety and health, Tom's exuberance and determination were readily apparent. To those who knew and worked with Tom, his example challenges our own, and our work will be made better because of his legacy."

"Tom was a member of a number of Oregon OSHA's advisory committees and took that responsibility very seriously," says Marilyn Schuster, manager of Oregon OSHA's Standards and Technical Resources Section. "He was an active contributor to the process improving all of the rules and publications."

Tom passed away January 18, 2003, following a lengthy battle with cancer. During his final days, while he was resting at home in West Salem with the comfort and support of wife Rosemarie, safety professionals from throughout Oregon offered their gratitude and support to Tom for a lifetime committed to safety. Lorena remembers Tom this way: "Safety was not just a job to Tom, it's who he was." ■

The OR-OSHA Resource Center and Audiovisual Library

A RESOURCE FOR PROMOTING HEALTH & SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE



The GOSH Conference: more than a reunion

by Don Harris, AV Librarian for Oregon OSHA

During the war-torn years of the early 1940s, two great traditions began in Oregon. Our annual family reunion was one of them.

Held each summer on a day mysteriously predetermined by the dynastic Upper Reaches, these grand events required weeks of preparation.

When the great day arrived, the morning air pulsed with anticipation. Then, an invasion of aunts and uncles and cousins swarmed in from all directions, the older ones bearing good things to eat and those of all ages ready for a cacophonous feast of talking, singing, and laughing!

And the people! There was Uncle George, whose veil of cigar smoke caused speculation about whether or not he actually *had* a face; Aunt Julia, who never moved beyond being a 1920s “flapper”; Aunt Rose, an eerie double for Gloria Swanson in looks and manner; Uncle Guy, the never-quite-ex-Marine; and Aunt Rosalia, the Nun, who was even more formidable than Uncle Guy.

All joking aside, I know that each of us came away from the family reunion with our sense of identity strengthened and with renewed ability to pull together under the sometimes-difficult circumstances that challenge any family. In some mysterious way – and while having

fun – we drew strength from each other.

The tradition of annual family reunions has, unhappily, lapsed in recent years. The older generation is gone, and the rising generation has not the same organizational skills. You won’t be surprised when I tell you that I miss those reunions greatly.

But the other great tradition begun in the ‘40s is still going strong. There’s no reason to miss this one! I mean, of course, the Governor’s Occupational Safety & Health (“GOSH”) Conference held every two years — a “reunion” well worth attending.

Begun in 1944 as the Oregon Industrial Safety Conference, the first event was held in Salem on September 25 and 26. Keynote speakers were Earl Snell, governor of Oregon; Roy Carr, director of the National Safety Council; and Dr. O.R. Chambers of the Department of Psychology, Oregon State College (now OSU).

Over the next several years, the GOSH Conference grew and grew! Co-sponsored since the 1970s by Oregon OSHA (formerly the Accident Prevention Division) in partnership with the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), the 2001 conference attracted more than 3,000

participants, including exhibitors, speakers, and enthusiastic attendees.

No, you won’t find Aunt Rose or Aunt Rosalia there. You *will* find several thousand of your fellow Oregonians, pulling together for health and safety on the job. According to plan, Judy Sugnet and I will be on hand to highlight the resources and services available to you through Oregon OSHA’s Resource Center.

We hope you’ll be there, too! ■

Laverne Gray & Judy Sugnet from Oregon OSHA contributed to this article.

For a free copy of the 2003 AV Catalog, call (503) 378-3272 or visit our Web site, www.orosha.org. Find it under “Publications.”

Oregon OSHA offers more than 35 NO-COST safety-and-health workshops and 10 Internet courses.

And now, signing up will be even easier, through the Internet

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Businesses will be able to do the following:

- Register groups of employees in workshops
- Add and remove employees from company accounts
- Update account information

The Public Education Section of the Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (Oregon OSHA) offers NO-COST training throughout the state to help employers and employees implement effective safety-and-health-management programs. The workshops introduce managers, supervisors, safety committee members, and others to occupational-safety-and-health-management concepts and technical-program requirements in Oregon.

Our new Public Education on-line registration system will be ready for service on October 1, 2003. For more information, go to www.orosha.org and select "Education," or call (888) 292-5247, Option 2, which is toll-free.

RESOURCE

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