

# OREGON HEALTH & SAFETY RESOURCE

A QUARTERLY  
PUBLICATION OF  
OR-OSHA

MAY 2004

***Safe jobs,  
smart business***

O R E G O N O S H A

2003 Report to

***Stakeholders***

... see Pages 7-10

## ***What's Inside...***

- Administrator's Message ..... 2
- Eugene employer marks eighteen years without a lost-time injury .... 3
- What does 'self-sufficiency' look like? ..... 4
- 2005 GOSH Conference..... 5
- Marvin Wood Products is the latest addition to Oregon's Voluntary Protection Program ..... 6
- Oregon OSHA 2003 Report to Stakeholders ..... 7-10
- SHARP participants..... 12-13
- The Bad Hair Day ..... 14
- Partners in Safety ..... 15

***Building safety and  
health from the ground up***



***www.orosha.org***



# Administrator's Message

**“Y**ou guys rock!”

That's not the traditional commendation Oregon OSHA receives from our customers, but those were the actual words used by a woman who called our central office in Salem a few days ago. We had answered her questions about workplace safety and health quickly, and our answer reflected this division's commitment to providing professional service and useful information. Providing quality service is a high priority.

We strive to provide quality service in helping employers prevent accidents and injuries. We have training classes available, occupational safety and health conferences, no-cost consultation services, and the Oregon OSHA Resource Center (now available on-line through our Web site), which gives employers the tools they need to create safe and healthful workplaces.

The people of Oregon also receive quality customer service in our enforcement operations. Last year, whenever Oregon OSHA responded to imminent hazards, the hazard was addressed within 24 hours 98 percent of the time.

Our commitment to finding solutions extends to alleged violations of the Oregon Safe Employment Act. Last year, our appeals specialists were able to bring employers and the division to mutually agreed-on resolution in 91 percent of appealed cases.

One result of everyone's hard work is that workplace fatalities were down 37 percent by the end of our fiscal year in September from the previous fiscal year. We face a challenge in maintaining that trend as more people return to work following the slowdown in Oregon's economy.

The Department of Consumer and Business Services is launching an initiative to work closer with Oregon employers to prevent injuries and illnesses. The campaign is called "Safe Jobs, Smart Business," and it ties together Oregon OSHA partnerships with industry, our training and education resources, and outreach opportunities such as the Safety Break for Oregon May 12.



*Peter De Luca*

A central message of the initiative is that, as Oregon's economy grows, safe jobs are smart business. So, gear up for increased business this summer, but do it safely. Contact Oregon OSHA, and we'll point you in the right direction for creating a self-sufficient workplace-safety-and-health program. We pledge to provide professional and timely service. We hope when you receive it, you'll be the one saying: "Oregon OSHA rocks!"

Remember, people, let's be careful out there!

## RESOURCE

*Oregon Health and Safety Resource* is published quarterly by the Occupational Safety and Health Division of the Department of Consumer and Business Services.

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



# Safe Jobs, Smart Business

During 2004, Oregon OSHA is launching a major outreach to Oregon employers and workers called “Safe Jobs, Smart Business.”

The initiative focuses on reaching out to employers in three industries: agriculture, construction, and healthcare. Within all industries, Oregon OSHA is also focusing on educating employers about the value of providing effective training to workers.

Rounding out the initiative is a focus on safety for newly hired workers. In 2002, one quarter of seriously injured workers in Oregon had been on the job less than six months — 10 percent did not even make it through their first 30 days without serious injury. The decision not to take the time to effectively train your workforce may be a shortcut that costs your business plenty in the long run.

Oregon OSHA has resources available to help your business succeed and provide a safe place to work. There are ways to improve workplace safety right now:

- Request a no-cost safety and health consultation.
- Attend one of Oregon OSHA’s training and public education classes.
- Participate in one of the employer-recognition programs, Oregon OSHA’s Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) and Voluntary Protection Program (VPP).
- Request training materials from the Oregon OSHA Resource Center.

Read more about the Safe Jobs, Smart Business initiative from Oregon OSHA in the summer issue of Resource.

## Eugene employer marks 18 years without a lost-time injury

The Department of Consumer and Business Services’ Occupational Safety and Health Division recognized the outstanding safety performance of Williams Northwest Pipeline’s Eugene District Office in a presentation to employees on April 15. The Eugene employer has not had a work-related injury that has caused a worker to miss a day of work for 18 consecutive years.

“Our employees are very active in safety,” says Mike Haberkorn, district manager for the Eugene office of Williams Northwest Pipeline. “Employees are involved in safety committee meetings, we have written work plans for personal protective equipment use and we perform job hazard analyses of our workplace. Our team has the attitude to work safely. We review our facility’s safety constantly, and safety is not considered a burden.”

“A high level of employee involvement in safety is what we look for when evaluating an employer for milestone awards such as this,” said Mark Hurliman of Oregon OSHA’s Employer Recognition Program. “Injuries are costly, not only to the work family but to an employer’s bottom line. Working safely is smart business.”

Ongoing training is a means of maintaining strong safety performance. “We have a safe attitude and watch out for those around us,” said Haberkorn. “We never give up on training. We have extensive preliminary training



*The safety committee of Williams Northwest Pipeline in Eugene celebrates their safety milestone.*

and refreshers for more experienced workers to develop their skills and knowledge to a higher level.” The Eugene district office of Williams Northwest Pipeline employs 15 people.

**Learn more about Oregon OSHA’s Employer Recognition Program milestone awards on the Web:**  
[www.orosha.org/consult/recognition.htm](http://www.orosha.org/consult/recognition.htm).

# What does 'self-sufficiency' look like?

A core business philosophy for Oregon OSHA is providing the resources needed for employers to become self-sufficient in workplace-safety-and-health-program management. In the context of workplace safety and health, a self-sufficient employer is one with a mature safety and health culture. Such an employer seeks out and mitigates hazards to safety and health and does not wait for an Oregon OSHA compliance officer, an insurance loss-control consultant, or other regulatory personnel to enforce safety-and-health rules. The self-sufficient employer values workplace safety and health for the positive contributions it makes to the culture and economic future of the business.

**W**hat does this look like in the real world? Self-sufficiency has many forms and styles. Underlying self-sufficient safety programs are strong management, leadership, and meaningful employee involvement. For an employer's safety program to be truly self-sufficient, management must be committed to support and maintain their safety-and-health efforts. Employees must be meaningfully involved in the safety program and in the decisions that affect employee safety on the job.

Employee involvement must be supported and encouraged by management. Management must be strong enough (and secure enough) to assign authority, responsibility, and accountability to non-management personnel, and allow those employees to manage their areas of responsibility. Employees, in turn, must be willing to assume leadership roles and look beyond their day-to-day job duties while helping the management team provide a more effective system of safety and health. Every step toward progress on safety and health issues depends on open and effective communication.

Management must be committed to changing the safety climate. Management must ensure that productivity does not override safety, that safety officers report directly to the CEO, and that contractors and vendors meet the same safety-and-health criteria that employees do. Self-sufficient employers continuously seek ways to improve their safety-management system, using multiple approaches and resources to assist them with the process.

Manager commitment is half of the equation. Employee involvement is vital to transform the safety culture. Employees need to be educated about ways they can become involved in safety and health, including serving on functional and engaged safety committees. Safety isn't a once-a-month priority for the self-sufficient worksite. All people in the organization are held accountable for specific safety responsibilities — managers and line employees know if they are meeting their required safety benchmarks, and safety performance review is a part of the annual evaluation process. The projected outcome is a cooperative approach to safety, where everyone works together toward a common vision.

But policy commitments are only part of the picture. There is also the practical work of training, hazard identification, and objective accident investigation. Employees who have received comprehensive training to perform their work are going to be much safer workers. Both management and line employees should periodically review emergency-action plans, receive all OSHA-required training, and be accountable for understanding the employer's safety-and-health policy. Hazard identification relies on employee observation of potential hazards and a functioning preventive-maintenance system for equipment. When an accident or a near-miss occurs, a full investigation is performed to determine how the incident occurred, what causes contributed to the accident, and what recommendations can prevent similar situations from occurring in the future.

Self-sufficient employers transform their workplace culture by transforming their philosophy about safety and health. There is forward momentum and daily progress. Workers become safety leaders. Managers become coaches, keeping the work team focused on performance. External training needs become internal training commitments. Ideas become policies. Goals become reality. Workers are spared the pain of injury.

**Oregon OSHA is here to help employers on the road to self-sufficiency.**



# 2005 GOSH Conference

Oregon's frontier past will converge with its technology-driven future at the 2005 Oregon Governor's Occupational Safety and Health (GOSH) Conference, "Safety and Health Expedition," February 28 to March 3 at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland.

Jack McGowan, executive director of Stop Oregon Litter and Vandalism (SOLV), is scheduled to be the keynote speaker. SOLV is a nonprofit organization that brings together government agencies, businesses, and individual volunteers in programs and projects to enhance the livability of Oregon. Former Governor Tom McCall and other community leaders established SOLV in 1969, recognizing the need for community action to address growing problems in the ever-growing state of Oregon.

Exhibitors will offer information and innovative products (more than 150 companies and groups participated in 2003) and there will be an awards luncheon on Wednesday, March 2, to honor outstanding achievements in workplace safety and health.

Registration for the GOSH Conference, which is now in its seventh decade of educating safety and health professionals throughout the United States, will begin in January, 2005. The GOSH Conference is a co-production of Oregon OSHA and the American Society of Safety Engineers, Columbia-Willamette Chapter.

*For additional information about the 2005 GOSH Conference, go to the Oregon OSHA Web site, [www.orosha.org/conferences](http://www.orosha.org/conferences), or contact the Conferences Section of Oregon OSHA, (503) 378-3272, or toll-free (888) 292-5247, option one.*

## 2003 GOSH Award Winner profile: Pence/Kelly Construction

Pence/Kelly Construction created an inventive "three strikes and you're out" safety policy for employees and requires safety contracts with subcontractors. When employees violate safe work practices, they are first given oral warning; on a second violation (and beyond) the employee receives a formal employee-safety-violation notice. Upon receiving a third formal violation notice, an employee is dismissed. In 2003, Pence/Kelly's experience modification rate for workers' compensation coverage was 38 percent below the industry average.

The 2005 GOSH Conference is committed to honoring and recognizing safety and health professionals who make a difference upholding Oregon's record as a state with declining workplace injuries and illnesses. Do you know of an employer dedicated to advancing safety and health? Nominate an employer or individual for one of the awards to be presented at the 2005 GOSH Conference. Categories include employers, safety committees, associations, and individuals who have gone the extra mile for safety and health.

**GOSH**  
CONFERENCE  
**2005**

**SAFETY & HEALTH EXPEDITION**

*Advancing industry  
knowledge and practices*

**FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 3, 2005**

*Oregon Convention Center  
Portland, Oregon*

## SUCCESS IN OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH DESERVES RECOGNITION!

Nominate an organization or individual who deserves the recognition of winning one of these Oregon Governor's Occupational Safety & Health Conference awards for 2005:

### ■ ASSOCIATION AWARD

(any association actively promoting workplace safety and health is eligible for recognition)

### ■ EMPLOYER AWARDS AND SAFETY COMMITTEE AWARDS

up to 30 employees  
31 to 99 employees  
100 to 299 employees  
300 to 999 employees  
1,000 or more employees

### ■ INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

HealthCare Professional  
Individual or Work Team  
Industrial Hygienist  
Labor Representative  
Safety Professional

## NOMINATIONS DUE OCTOBER 15, 2004

Download the 2005 AWARDS NOMINATION PACKET at  
[www.assecwc.org](http://www.assecwc.org) or [www.orosha.org/conferences](http://www.orosha.org/conferences)

Contact the Conference Section to request a packet by mail at  
(503) 378-3272, or send e-mail to [Oregon.GOSH@state.or.us](mailto:Oregon.GOSH@state.or.us)

*These prestigious awards will be presented at a luncheon on March 2, 2005, at the GOSH Conference!*

# Marvin Wood Products is the latest addition to Oregon's Voluntary Protection Program

The Department of Consumer and Business Services' Occupational Safety and Health Division awarded VPP Merit status to Marvin Wood Products in Baker City in January. The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) is a workplace safety-and-health-management program that encourages employers to voluntarily meet rigorous workplace safety standards to protect workers and reduce injuries.

"Marvin Wood Products demonstrates a commitment to improving safety in an industry in which many injuries have traditionally occurred," said Peter De Luca, administrator of Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division (Oregon OSHA). "Safety has been transformed from a 'catch phrase' to a core value at this mill. Management and employees in this facility are working together to ensure a positive direction when it comes to safety."

To achieve VPP status, a worksite must have a three-year-average-injury-and-illness rate at or below the rates of other employers in the same industry. The worksite undergoes an extensive Oregon OSHA review of workplace conditions, safety records, employee safety-and-health programs, and regulatory compliance. The review includes Oregon OSHA interviews with employees. Evaluators review 19 program elements, including management commitment to safety, employee participation, self-inspection, safety-and-health training, emergency programs and drills, and preventive maintenance. VPP employers are removed from Oregon OSHA's routine scheduled inspection lists for the duration of their participation. Employees do not lose any rights under the program. Oregon OSHA still investigates accidents, formal complaints, and chemical spills.

"VPP sites are recognized as leaders," said De Luca.

"VPP changes the traditional relationship between industries and Oregon OSHA. Marvin Wood Products joins a select group of just over 1,000 sites in the United States."

The Oregon OSHA Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) recognized the mill in July 1999 for progress in workplace safety. The management and line employees at the Baker City mill made the commitment to participate in the Voluntary Protection Program, and the facility qualified for VPP Merit status in the safety-and-health-management program last July. Merit sites accomplish most of the safety-and-health-management principles of the Voluntary Protection Program and require additional work to reach Star status.

Marvin Wood Products employs 218 people at the Baker City location, many of whom are involved in safety-and-health-management programs at the facility.

There are currently nine VPP sites in Oregon. The other VPP sites are DPR Construction Ronler Acres Project in Hillsboro, Frito-Lay Beaverton, Georgia-Pacific Coos Bay mill, Georgia-Pacific Philomath mill, Georgia-Pacific Toledo pulp and paper mill, Kerr McGee Chemical in The Dalles, PW Eagle in Eugene and Timber Products Spectrum Division (TP Spectrum) in White City.

*For more information about VPP, contact Mark Hurliman, Oregon OSHA VPP/SHARP program coordinator, (503) 947-7437.*



*Find out more about  
Safety Break for Oregon*

[www.orosha.org](http://www.orosha.org)

*"To advance and improve  
workplace safety and health  
for all workers in Oregon."*

## Introduction

*This report summarizes  
OR-OSHA activities of the  
previous year to promote  
and advance safety and  
health for all workers in  
Oregon, shares Oregon  
OSHA successes, and  
helps you see where  
we are headed.*



Peter De Luca  
OR-OSHA Administrator

## 2003 Report to

# Stakeholders

March 2004

## 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 advancing workplace safety and health by helping employers and employees develop and implement comprehensive safety and health programs.

To better serve the employers and employees of our state, Oregon OSHA developed a strategic plan. The plan contains three goals Oregon OSHA hopes to achieve over a five-year period. The following is a brief description of the goals and accomplishments toward achieving those goals during federal fiscal year 2003 (FY 2003), October 1, 2002, through September 30, 2003.



## GOAL #1

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

This goal focuses on working with employers to improve their safety and health programs to achieve self-sufficiency. Strong management commitment and employee involvement in workplace safety-and-health programs characterizes employer self-sufficiency.

A key sub-goal of changing workplace culture is providing **Safety and Health Program Assistance**.

Oregon OSHA offered a variety of training courses (Safety Committee Operations, Accident Investigation, Job Hazard Analysis, Hazard Identification and Control, Effective Safety Recommendations and Safety Committee Meeting Management) throughout the year to safety committee members. Many employees took advantage of the online course, Safety Committee Operations. To increase employer self-sufficiency, Oregon OSHA strongly encourages safety committee participation whenever Oregon OSHA safety professionals conduct on-site consultations.

During FY 2003, 84 percent of consultations with employers that had safety committees included one or more members of the committees.

Oregon's two safety recognition programs, the **Voluntary Protection Program (VPP)** and the **Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP)**, continued to be strong in FY 2003. At the end of the fiscal year, September 30, Oregon had seven VPP sites: Kerr-McGee Chemical in The Dalles; Georgia-



Pacific West in Coos Bay, Philomath and Toledo; Frito-Lay in Beaverton; Timber Products (TP Spectrum) in White City; and DPR Construction in Hillsboro.

Nine new sites received SHARP certification during the year, four sites left the program, and two moved on to VPP.



**Workforce Education** is vital to maintaining a safe workplace, and to that end, Oregon OSHA's Public Education and Conference sections provided a variety of safety-and-health educational opportunities for employees and employers throughout the year. During the fiscal year, 99 percent or more of participants reported that the training they received was useful in helping improve safety and health in their workplace. A new program aimed at the increasing number of Spanish-speaking construction workers in Oregon was unveiled. The program, known as PESO, provides training materials in Spanish and English to help English-speaking supervisors communicate more effectively. The materials provide side-by-side Spanish and English pages of text. Another tool developed by Oregon OSHA is the Spanish-English/English-Spanish dictionary of occupational-safety-and-health terms. The dictionary is available on the Oregon OSHA Web site, [www.orosha.org](http://www.orosha.org).



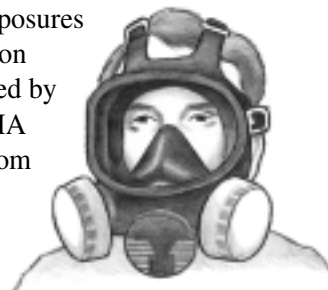
## GOAL #2

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

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

In the area of **Safety Hazards and Health Hazards**, Oregon OSHA continued to emphasize the dangers of fall hazards and silica or lead overexposures in construction. Enforcement officers conducted 727 inspections focused on fall hazards and identified 532 violations related to falls. The Oregon OSHA Public Education Section offered two workshops related to these targeted hazards and had a total attendance of 483.

Lead overexposures in construction workers tested by Oregon OSHA decreased from the baseline years of 1998-1999, but silica overexposures increased.



Oregon OSHA's efforts in the area of **Ergonomics** focused on educational opportunities during fiscal year 2003. Twenty-nine training sessions were held with a total attendance of 325, and 87 students took advantage of online ergonomics classes. Ergonomics courses were included in the safety-and-health conferences held throughout the state, with a total attendance of 577. Oregon OSHA had originally planned to host an ergonomic conference during the fiscal year; however, due to budget restrictions, that conference was rescheduled to July 2004.



Oregon OSHA continued a high level of **Timely Customer Service** during fiscal year 2003. Occupational-safety-and-health complaints received by Oregon OSHA are evaluated for urgency and potential worker exposure to danger. Those hazard complaints are classified as “imminent danger,” “serious,” or “other than serious.” Imminent-danger complaint responses were timely (within 24 hours) in 98 percent of instances, serious-complaint responses were timely (within five working days) in 95 percent of instances, and other-than-serious complaint responses were timely (within 30 working days) in 99 percent of instances.

The elimination of hazards that lead to injuries, illnesses, and **Fatalities** is the goal of every interaction with employers. Oregon OSHA investigated 21 work-related fatalities during fiscal year 2003. This represents a 37 percent decrease in the number of fatalities investigated in fiscal year 2002.

## GOAL #3

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

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

During fiscal year 2001, the **Organizational Climate Survey** measured employee satisfaction on a variety of topics. Operational changes implemented, as a result of employee input, included formation of the Safety and Health Policy Group, a committee of senior managers that meets regularly to discuss safety and health issues and promote consistency throughout the organization, and “Tech Flash,” an internal notification system to solicit employee input on potential rule and publication changes.

External **Customer Surveys** from Consultation, Public Education and Conferences, Compliance, the Audio-Visual Library (OR-OSHA Resource Center), and Appeals continued to reflect satisfaction ratings above 90 percent during the year.

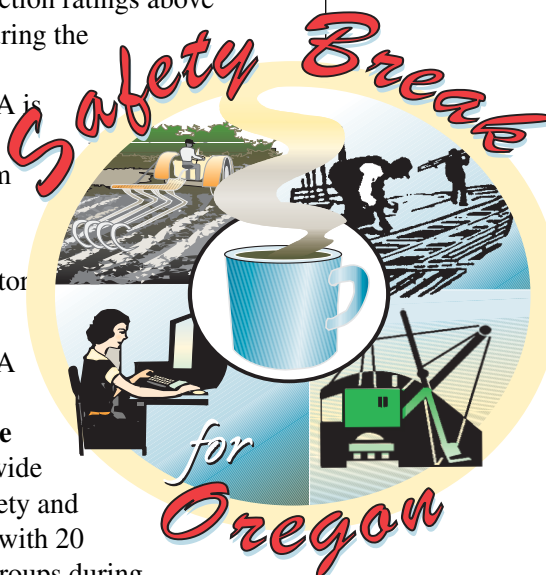
Oregon OSHA is interested in feedback from all customers and will continue to monitor these results.

Oregon OSHA engaged in **Collaborative efforts** on a wide variety of safety and health topics with 20 stakeholder groups during the year. Among these partnerships is a committee convened to discuss current issues and provide input on policy direction for the division. Oregon

OSHA partnered once again with the Columbia-Willamette Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) to organize the 2003 *Governor’s Occupational Safety and Health Conference*. Oregon OSHA sought the expertise of Portland General Electric in providing training



on power generation, transmission, and distribution safety. Oregon OSHA joined with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality to develop and produce a publication on asbestos benefitting customers of both agencies. In an effort to ensure a consistent, organized response to major emergencies in our state, Oregon OSHA has partnered with various state, federal, and local entities to share resources and develop procedures for responding to large-scale emergencies.



## Highlights and Statistics: FY 2003 Performance

In addition to the strategic activities described above, Oregon OSHA offers a wide variety of safety-and-health programs to help ensure safe workplaces for all Oregon workers.

During the fiscal year, 2,072 no-cost safety, health, and ergonomic consultations were provided to employers.

Oregon OSHA compliance officers conducted 5,358 workplace inspections. The Appeals Section conducted 620 informal conferences with employers contesting findings of Oregon OSHA citations, with 564 cases (91 percent) reaching settlement prior to formal hearing. Cases in which resolution was not reached were referred for formal hearings before the Workers' Compensation Board, Hearings Division.

## 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.



## Oregon OSHA Offices

### Salem Central Office

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**Fax:** (503) 947-7461

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**Web site:** [www.orosha.org](http://www.orosha.org)

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(503) 229-5910

*Consultation:* (503) 229-6193

### Salem

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1225 Ferry St. SE, Unit 110  
Salem, OR 97310-4282  
(503) 378-3274

*Consultation:* (503) 373-7819

### Eugene

1140 Willagillespie, Ste. 42  
Eugene, OR 97401-2101  
(541) 686-7562

*Consultation:* (541) 686-7913

### Bend

Red Oaks Square  
1230 NE Third St., Ste. A-115  
Bend, OR 97701-4374

(541) 388-6066

*Consultation:* (541) 388-6068

### Medford

1840 Barnett Rd., Ste. D  
Medford, OR 97504-8250  
(541) 776-6030

*Consultation:* (541) 776-6016

### Pendleton

721 SE Third St., Ste. 306  
Pendleton, OR 97801-3056  
(541) 276-9175

*Consultation:* (541) 276-2353

# One serious injury can stop the growth of your business in its tracks.

Oregon OSHA is committed to advancing workplace safety and health throughout our state. Our services help bring workers home safely to their families at the end of each day and have helped employers save \$8.8 billion in workers' compensation costs since 1990.

Training and supervision are vital for reducing injuries. Newly hired workers are especially at risk. In 2002, one-third of seriously injured workers had been on the job less than one year — 10 percent did not even make it through their first 30 days without a serious injury. Take the time to effectively train your workforce — a shortcut may cost your business in the long run.

## Oregon OSHA has resources available to help you provide a safer place to work and contribute to the success of your business.

- **Consultation.** Oregon OSHA can come to your worksite and help you evaluate your program for safety and health. Together with an Oregon OSHA consultant, you will look for areas where improvements can be made. The consultation is free and will not trigger an enforcement action.
- **Training and Education.** Oregon OSHA offers safety-and-health workshops throughout the state and online classes through the Oregon OSHA Web site. Training at your place of employment is also available. In addition, Oregon OSHA, and its safety partners, hold occupational-safety-and-health conferences annually.
- **Recognition.** Employers that demonstrate commitment to workplace safety and health may qualify for Oregon OSHA's Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) or Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). Successful SHARP or VPP employers with a demonstrated track record of safety are removed from Oregon OSHA's scheduled inspection list.
- **Resource Center.** Oregon OSHA has publications and more than 900 videos and CD-ROMs with the latest training in workplace safety and health. These materials are available for loan to employers. Resource Center services are also available through the Oregon OSHA Web site.

## Safe jobs are smart business.

Contact Oregon OSHA at 800-922-2689  
for more information, or  
find us on the Web at  
[www.orosha.org](http://www.orosha.org).







# SHARP 2004 Members

*As of April 2004, the following employers are members of Oregon OSHA's Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP)*

## **SHARP Construction Employers**

*Emerick Construction Company — Portland  
R & H Construction — Portland  
SD Deacon Corporation of Oregon — Portland  
Swinerton Builders Northwest — Portland  
Yorke & Curtis — Beaverton*

## **SHARP General Manufacturing Employers**

*Commercial Vehicle Systems — Canby  
Doncasters/PED Manufacturing — Oregon City  
Full Sail Brewing Company — Hood River  
Georgia Pacific Gypsum FireDefender Components — Canby  
Graphic Arts Center — Portland  
ORKOT Composites — Eugene  
Pendleton Woolen Mill — Pendleton  
Precision Interconnect — Wilsonville  
QPM Aerospace — Portland  
Suntron Corporation — Newberg  
Synthetech — Albany  
The Stanley Works, Hydraulic Tools Product Group — Milwaukie  
Wacker Siltronic — Portland*

## **SHARP Health Care/ Social Service Employers**

*C. Duke Aldridge, DDS — Bend  
Good Neighbor Care — Eugene  
Lebanon Community Hospital  
Mid Valley Healthcare — Sweet Home  
Quest Diagnostics — Portland  
SPARC Enterprises — Grants Pass*

## **SHARP Lumber & Wood Products Employers**

*Cascade Wood Components — Cascade Locks  
Douglas County Forest Products — Winchester  
Future Forest — Myrtle Point  
Grant Western Lumber Company — John Day  
Jeld-Wen of Oregon Moulding Millwork Division — Klamath Falls Plant  
Jeld-Wen of Oregon Millwork Manufacturing/Thomas Lumber Company — Klamath Falls  
Louisiana-Pacific Corporation Engineered Wood Products — Hines  
MasterBrand Cabinets — Grants Pass  
Morgan Millwright Service — North Plains  
Pioneer Cut Stock — Prineville  
Prairie Wood Products — Prairie City  
Roseburg Forest Products, Coquille Plywood Plant  
Timber Products Particle Board — Medford  
Timber Products, White City Plywood  
Western Pulp Products Company — Corvallis  
Weyerhaeuser Containerboard Packaging — Portland  
Weyerhaeuser Company — Dellwood/Coos Bay  
Weyerhaeuser Company Springfield Timberlands  
Weyerhaeuser Company TOPS — Springfield  
Weyerhaeuser Company Wilbur Pole Yard*

# SHARP 2004 Members



## **SHARP Public Administration Employers**

*Hubbard Rural Fire Protection District*  
*Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife,  
Oak Springs Fish Hatchery — Maupin*  
*Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife,  
White River Wildlife Area — Tygh Valley*  
*Oregon Department of Transportation,  
Bend Repair Facility*  
*Oregon Department of Transportation,  
Heppner & Spray Shops*  
*Oregon Department of Transportation,  
Salem Repair Facility*  
*Roseburg Urban Sanitary Authority*  
*Snake River Correctional Institution, Ontario*  
*Two Rivers Correctional Institution, Umatilla*

## **SHARP Service Industry Employers**

*AVI BioPharma — Corvallis*  
*Barrett Business Services — Bend*  
*Barrett Business Services — Portland/Bridgeport*  
*Jeld Wen Incorporated, Eagle Crest Resort — Redmond*  
*Selectemp — Springfield*  
*Spirit Mountain Logistics LLC — Tangent*  
*Timber Products, Medford Administration*  
*Wayne's Garage — Eugene*



*Members of the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife Oak Springs Fish Hatchery with the Oregon OSHA SHARP evaluation team.*

## **SHARP Transportation/Utilities Employers**

*Blachly Lane Corporation — Eugene*  
*City of Portland, Bureau of Environmental  
Services — Portland*  
*Co-Gen — Prairie City*  
*Coos-Curry Electric Cooperative — Port Orford*  
*Douglas Electric Cooperative — Roseburg*  
*Lane Electric Cooperative — Eugene*  
*OMI Incorporated Roseburg Waste Water  
Treatment Plant*  
*Pacific Klamath Energy — Klamath Falls*  
*PG&E National Energy Group — Portland*  
*PG&E National Energy Group Hermiston  
Generating Plant*  
*Portland General Electric, Beaver Generating  
Plant — Clatskanie*  
*Portland General Electric, Boardman Plant*  
*Portland General Electric, Coyote Springs Power  
Generation Facility — Boardman*  
*Portland General Electric, Pelton-Round Butte  
Hydroelectric Project — Madras*  
*Rogue Valley Sewer Services — Central Point*  
*Salem Electric*  
*TP Trucking (Timber Products) — Central Point*  
*Tualatin Valley Water District — Beaverton*

## **SHARP Wholesale/Retail Employers**

*Bon Appetit Management Company — Portland*  
*Duro-Last Roofing — Grants Pass*  
*Fleming Convenience Distribution — Grants Pass*  
*Milgard Windows — Wilsonville*  
*Weyerhaeuser Company Beaverton Customer  
Service Center*  
*Weyerhaeuser Company Beaverton Recycling Center*  
*Weyerhaeuser Company Eugene Distribution Center*

# The OR-OSHA Resource Center and Audiovisual Library

A RESOURCE FOR PROMOTING HEALTH & SAFETY IN THE WORKPLACE



## The Bad Hair Day

By Don Harris, AV Librarian for Oregon OSHA

**M**y first experience of workplace violence came at the early age of 11 years — and I was the perpetrator.

It all started when Mom told me to vacuum the living room. Having boundless energy for swimming and bike riding, I was, nonetheless, mysteriously afflicted with sudden and acute fatigue at the mere suggestion of work — and vacuuming certainly qualified as “work.” Bah! Seething with resentment, I dragged the Old Blue Monster from its lair, and flipped the switch.

Mom’s vacuum cleaner, inherited from Grandma, was a heavy, unwieldy contraption dating from the days when many household items were still made entirely of metal, and plastic was a substance virtually unknown. As always, the machine roared into formidable life, the brush in its iron jaws spinning with speed and ferocity that I suspect have long since been prohibited by law. Anything in its path was inexorably drawn to destruction.

Then I encountered an obstacle. My younger sister, Jane, was watching TV — smack in the middle of my jobsite. Was Jane sympathetic to my sad state of servitude? Indeed, she was not. In fact, she turned to me and snarled, in most unsisterly tones, “Stop that! I’m trying to watch cartoons!”

Now, I’d like to tell you that I merely smiled down at her, and said, “Oh, dearest Sister, please forgive this untimely interference with your well-merited leisure, but I have been commanded by our most venerable mother (may her name be ever revered) to vacuum our humble parlor.” But I didn’t. I didn’t say anything. Instead, I deliberately, if slowly, lowered the roaring mouth of

the beast directly on top of Jane’s unsuspecting head.

I expected only to give her hair a single symbolic yank. What actually happened was instantaneous — and horrifying.

The violently whirling brush immediately seized nearly every hair on Jane’s head. This brush, for the first time in its life, stopped in mid-roar. The machine uttered a loud, unearthly wail. So did Jane. Then she ran.

You know, I wouldn’t have thought it possible to run so fast with forty pounds of vacuum cleaner and a reluctant older brother in tow. But run she did, and we were soon in the presence of our thoroughly appalled mother.

To put it bluntly, I was cited. Moreover, my disregard for the House of Harris Safety Act was determined to be willful and egregious. Unlike those cited by Oregon OSHA, I had no effective means of appealing my case for further review. I can’t recall the precise terms of the penalty, but I do seem to remember that extensive vacuuming was a major factor.

Of course, there’s a moral here — in fact, so many morals, I hardly know where to begin. One thinks, first of all, of workplace violence. Violence is as unacceptable in your own workplace as it is in the Harris family living room. Then there is the importance of knowing how to use equipment safely and only for its intended use. A vacuum cleaner, for example, is not a grooming aid. Finally, even when no malice is involved, horseplay of any kind can be exceedingly dangerous. As one of our safety videos puts it, “It only takes a second.”

Along these lines, we have many safety videos available for loan that

reflect, in a certain way, this episode from my own life. I’m never able to view these without a certain twinge of sadness. One category includes titles covering workplace violence. In a perfect world, such videos would never be needed. The other category includes those videos reviewing actual case histories of people whose lives were forever altered — or even ended — in a single unthinking moment. Again, in a perfect world, such videos wouldn’t exist.

But, until the world is perfect, viewing a safety video is a good way to remind ourselves that none of us is as indestructible as Mom’s vacuum cleaner. Life is fragile. A safety video provides a way to learn from the sometimes-bitter experiences of others, so that we can avoid becoming case histories ourselves.

Now, speaking of case histories, let’s return to my poor sister ...

Apparently, it’s very difficult to administer a haircut to someone whose head is firmly attached to a vacuum cleaner. Mom’s irritation — if not her scissors — became sharper with every snip, and Jane was very far from satisfied with the final result. Attempting to be conciliatory, I told Jane she looked very chic with short hair. She slapped me. Thus does violence beget violence. One unthinking act can have consequences far beyond what a person imagines or intends.

So, be careful! Stop to think before you act! Using the safety videos available to you through Oregon OSHA can be a very effective way to do just that.

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



# Partners in Safety

## Mid-Oregon Construction Safety Summit

The third annual Mid-Oregon Construction Safety Summit drew 200 safety professionals to the Bend Armory in February to discuss how Central Oregon contractors can preserve the region's growing construction economy while preventing injuries and deaths. The annual gathering is a one-day meeting sponsored by the Central Oregon Safety and Health Association, with significant help from Oregon OSHA.

Oregon OSHA explained new technical standards and the division's increased outreach to the construction community. Craig Hamelund, trainer for the Portland field office, explained to builders how to avoid an inspection by Oregon OSHA instead of attracting one with poor worksite habits or safety policies. Lindsey Wennick, compliance officer in the Oregon OSHA Bend field office, explained Oregon OSHA's local emphasis program on preventing construction falls to area contractors.

The meeting drew local news coverage from KTVZ-21 and KBND radio station and demonstrated a commitment



*Oregon OSHA consultant George Vorhauer explains new masonry construction safety standards to summit attendees.*

to safety among Central Oregon construction professionals in partnership with Oregon OSHA.

Construction continues to expand in Deschutes County. The number of single-family residential building permits issued by the city of Bend increased 13 percent in 2003, and permits for multi-family residential complexes jumped a whopping 388 percent from 2002.

## RESOURCE

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