

Alliance Quarterly Review

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Safe tank entry, tank design focus of safety seminar

Safety procedures, best work practices highlight industry technical presentations and tours

By Jess McCluer

RICHMOND, CA—Safe tank entry and new tank design were among topics presented to industry and government representatives at the “Safe Tank Entry Best Practices” seminar held in April at ChevronTexaco’s Richmond, CA Technology Center.

More than 80 representatives from the [Safe Tank Alliance](#), which includes the American Petroleum Institute and the National Fire Protection Association, joined refinery professionals, the [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) (OSHA) and State Plan State occupational safety participants at technical presentations on safe work practices, lessons learned and new technology being used by the oil and gas industry during tank entry and cleaning operations. Additional above ground petroleum storage tank operations data was provided to



This group, touring the ChevronTexaco refinery, was part of more than 80 participants who attended the “Safe Tank Entry Best Practices” Seminar held in April at the ChevronTexaco Technical Center in Richmond, CA.

seminar participants during a ChevronTexaco refinery tour.

Individual presentations at the event included updates on API’s “Safe Tank Entry and Cleaning of Petroleum Storage Tanks” standards, confined space safety statistics, the API certification program for tank entry supervisors, and the use of fall protection.

Clyde Trombetta, Concord District Manager for California OSHA said the seminar was very informative to both industry and regulators. “The event showed how effective outreach and education can achieve greater voluntary compliance and reduce injuries, illnesses, and fatalities,” he said.

Jess McCluer is a Program Analyst in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances

NAOSH Week addresses workplace injury and illness prevention

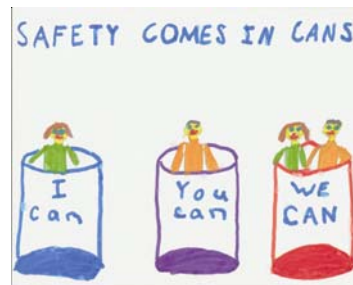
By Todd Briggs

WASHINGTON—North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week, held each May at various venues throughout the United States, is a joint venture among the United States, Canada and Mexico aimed at increasing public awareness of injury and illness prevention in the workplace.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), through its Alliance with the [American Society of Safety Engineers \(ASSE\)](#) joined the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering in kicking-off NAOSH Week, May 2, 2005, at the Department of Labor in Washington, DC. [The American Industrial Hygiene Association](#), an OSHA Alliance participant, was also represented at the event.

“This is the perfect opportunity to focus on our shared goals of preventing injury and illness in the workplace - especially for young workers and Spanish-speaking workers,” said Acting Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA Jonathan L. Snare.

“Together, we will identify ways to improve the safety and health of hard-to-reach workers and provide teens,



Official NAOSH poster created by seven-year-old Cailey Ford for the children’s safety poster competition.

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State Alliance programs enhance workplace safety and health through cooperative efforts

By Earl W. Hicks

WASHINGTON, DC—The Occupational Safety and Health Administration’s (OSHA) Alliance Program works with industry, trade associations, professional groups, employers and employees to develop resources such as training programs and information products that address occupational safety and health concerns.

For more than 30 years, the states and territories, operating their own

occupational safety and health programs, have been partners with OSHA in advancing the cause of safety and health.

“By combining our resources, Michigan Associated General Contractors and Michigan OSHA can have a significant impact on safety and health prevention efforts at construction worksites.”

Doug Kalinowski, Director of MIOSHA

Many states that have established their own OSHA-approved occupational safety and health programs also have established Alliance Programs and other cooperative efforts that enhance workplace safety and health

Today, twenty-four states and two territories operate OSHA-approved State Plans, twenty-two of which cover both private and public sector employment; while three states and one territory cover only public sector employment. The 26 OSHA-approved State Plans provide occupational safety and health coverage to more than 40 percent of the nation’s workforce.

The states and territories have frequently led the way in developing innovative approaches to making America’s workplaces safer and healthier. Through a combination of targeted enforcement and outreach services, the State Plans are helping employers realize that protecting their workers is a sound business decision.

State Plan Alliance Program successes illustrate the valuable contribution the states make to workplace safety and health. One

See State Alliances, page 6

OSHA participates in World Congress on Safety and Health at Work and National Safety Congress representatives participate in 14 presentations

OSHA representatives will share safety and health information in 14 presentations at the XVII World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, and the 2005 National Safety Congress and Expo, September 18-22 in Orlando, FL.

OSHA presentations will include such topics as “The Importance of Partnering to Improve Safety and Health,” OSHA and Abbott, an Alliance participant, will collaborate on “Business Case for Safety” and Region V will present “The Value of Occupational Health and Safety: Incentives and Benefits.”



DOL photo by Shawn T. Moore

National partners in the Strategic Partnership Program and OSHA executive staff members represent some of the approximately 75 participants who attended OSHA’s first annual Strategic Partnership Program Conference “Building Partnerships for a Safer Tomorrow” held in March in Washington, DC. Participants attended workshops and presentations on methods and strategies to manage partnerships within an organization; measuring partnership impact, and determining when it’s time for a partnership to change course. OSHA’s Strategic Partnership Program was created in 1998 as a voluntary cooperative relationship between OSHA and groups of employers and other interested stakeholders.

PLANET's Student Career Days feature training, competitions

(below) Maryland OSHA's Dave Latham (center) and Terricka Blenman (right), competition safety monitors, discuss tree trimming safety with an event judge. (right) Latham and OSHA's Rick Harris review information products distributed at the OSHA/PLANET Alliance exhibit booth.



University of Maryland students lay a course of pavers during a "Student Career Days" landscaping competition.

The Professional Land Care Network (PLANET), an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Alliance Program participant, and landscaping firms and suppliers in the green industry sponsored the 29th Annual Student Career Days, March 19-22, 2005, at the University of Maryland. Approximately 800 students from universities around the United States competed in more than 23 events including landscape plant installation, skid steer operation, tree trimming and chain saw operation, among other challenges.

OSHA and PLANET shared Alliance information from their exhibit booth that was supported by Maryland OSHA representatives who also served as competition safety monitors.

Compliance Assistance Specialists enhance OSHA's cooperative efforts

By Barney Lawrence

WASHINGTON—Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Compliance Assistance Specialists (CASs) are a crucial part of OSHA's compliance assistance and outreach initiatives in the field. Although the position was created only a few years ago, CASs have quickly established themselves as key players in OSHA's efforts to deliver compliance assistance and to expand its cooperative programs.

OSHA now has 68 CAS positions, one in each OSHA Area Office in states under federal OSHA jurisdiction. Most CASs are former OSHA Compliance Safety and Health Officers with the expertise and practical knowledge developed from years of inspecting a variety of workplaces. However, CASs are not involved in OSHA's enforcement activities. Their job is to work with employers and employees to prevent injuries and illnesses, not to write citations and issue fines.

Just what do CASs do? While they don't provide worksite-specific advice on how to comply with OSHA standards, CASs

can provide general information about OSHA standards and compliance assistance resources. They promote OSHA's cooperative programs, training resources, and the tools on the OSHA web site. They work with a variety of groups, including small businesses, trade associations, unions, schools, and community and faith-based groups. CASs give seminars and speeches, provide training, and exhibit at various events. Some even issue their own newsletters.

Here are a few examples of what CASs are doing to reach out to employers and employees:

Megan Meagher of Region VIII's Denver, CO Area Office and George Flynn of Region VIII's Englewood, CO Area Office, launched an Excavation Awareness Seminar series in June 2004 to educate contractors on the hazards of trenching and excavation.

Joe Chmielewski of Region III's Erie, PA Area Office, helped lead an initiative to reach out to small employers in northwestern Pennsylvania.

See CAS's. page 7

Regional Alliance and other highlights and successes

Reducing work-zone traffic accidents goal of Alliance

JACKSONVILLE—Making work zone areas safer for workers and drivers is the goal of OSHA's Region IV Jacksonville & Fort Lauderdale FL Area Offices and the Sunshine Safety Council, Inc. (SSC) Alliance. The Alliance is providing the SSC and others with information, guidance, and access to training resources to reduce work zone injuries and accidents. Visit [Region IV Success Stories](#) for more information.

Region I Alliance aims to protect construction workers

BOSTON—Protecting construction industry workers from electrical, fall, struck by, and crushed-by hazards is the focus of an Alliance between OSHA Region I and the Ironworker's District Council of New England Labor Management Cooperation Trust (LMCT). Region I and LMCT formed the Alliance in September 2003 to develop ways to provide information, guidance, and access to training resources to help protect employees' health and safety. Visit [Region I Alliance Success Stories](#) for more information.

Region X reaches out to residential contractors in Idaho

BOISE, ID—OSHA's Region X Boise, Idaho Area Office is reaching out to the residential construction industry through a "local emphasis program" that provides training for residential contractors throughout Idaho. The Boise Area Office is working with the Idaho Association of General Contractors and the Idaho Building Contractors Association to deliver a series of training sessions to residential contractors and employees. These training sessions include an overview of OSHA, the inspection process and the site owner's responsibilities, and information on fall protection, electrical safety, caught-by hazards, and struck-by hazards. For more details on OSHA's outreach to the residential construction industry in Idaho, visit the [Regional Showcase](#) page and click on Region X.

Alliance reaches out to landscapers in Illinois

CHICAGO—An Alliance between several OSHA Region V Area Offices in Illinois and the Illinois Landscape Contractors Association (ILCA) helped to improve safety and health for landscape workers in Illinois. Through this Alliance, OSHA provided safety training to landscape contractors, distributed targeted publications, and contributed articles to ILCA's monthly magazine. The Alliance also helped open the lines of communication between OSHA and landscapers in Illinois. Visit [Region V Alliance Success Stories](#) for more information about the OSHA/ILCA Alliance.

AAFA Alliance Trains Industry Members on Ergonomics

WASHINGTON—The American Apparel & Footwear Association (AAFA), has trained 250 members of the apparel and footwear industries about its new ergonomics manual, *Ergonomics for Supervisors, Volume I – An Introductory Manual for the Apparel and Footwear Industries*, which was developed through its Alliance with OSHA (see March 2005 AQR). AAFA's "Ergonomics Training Seminars: A Practical and Economical Approach to Enhancing Your Company's Success Without Reinventing the Wheel," was presented around the country by AAFA members with assistance from OSHA and North Carolina's Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Division representatives.

Alliance helps young workers learn workplace safety early

By Bill Bice

MOBILE, AL—The Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) Region IV Mobile, AL Area Office developed an Alliance in 2004 (See June 2004 *Alliance Quarterly Review*) dedicated to providing entry-level workers with safe working habits that has now trained 275 participants.

The Alliance was formed with the Mobile County Public Schools, American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE) Mobile Chapter, Alabama Consultative Program (Safe State) and Mobile United to share their safety expertise and knowledge with technical school students to help them develop safe working habits before entering the workforce. Since the signing, 275 students and instructors received cards recognizing their training in OSHA's 10-hour General Industry safety course.

Gary Gamble, ASSE Mobile Chapter president, said "the effort helped the school system produce a more safety conscious entry-level workforce."

Bill Weems, director of Alabama Consultation's "Safe State" program, said it provided free OSHA 10-hour safety training courses to an additional 131 teachers.

Although the Alliance has been successful providing safety training to the young workers, it now seeks ways to further strengthen the program, such as providing the OSHA General Industry Train-the-Trainer course. This would allow teachers to train students directly without OSHA or ASSE assistance. Another goal is to have the safety program become a part of the school system's mainstream curriculum and perhaps be incorporated state-wide.

See students, page 7

Safety and health manual will help small businesses enhance workplace safety efforts

By Jess McCluer

WASHINGTON—Fall protection and hazard communication are some of the issues being addressed through the *Safety and Health Manual*, which has been in development for the past year through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and Sealant, Waterproofing and Restoration Institute (SWRI) Alliance.

Because a majority of SWRI members are small businesses and do not have a full-time safety director, the manual is designed to provide basic information on topics within the sealant, waterproofing, and restoration industry such as confined space,

See manual, page 7

Handbook aids Small Businesses' safety development

By Tirzah Leiman-Carbia

WASHINGTON—OSHA has created the *Small Business Handbook* to assist small businesses with creating or maintaining safety and health management systems. The user friendly *Handbook* contains administrative processes and industry focused self-inspection



See handbook, page 8

Training program addresses safe handling of fireworks

By Rick Harris

WASHINGTON—Safe storage and transportation of fireworks and how to handle emergencies while fireworks are in transit are some of the topics presented for OSHA staff and other safety professionals in a course developed by the American Pyrotechnics Association (APA) through the OSHA-APA Alliance.



Gregg Smith, APA Safety Program Manager, taught the fireworks safety courses.

OSHA and APA conducted one-day training sessions across the United States informing participants about safety and health hazards in the pyrotechnics industry such as display site management and the use of personal protective equipment. The training also addressed the impact of the recently enacted Safe Explosives Act on the professional fireworks industry.

See fireworks page 7

Hispanic outreach activities

Alliance, Consultation programs promote Hispanic worker safety, family health education

The OSHA and Club Managers Association of America and the National Federation of Independent Business Alliances are working with the OSHA and State Consultation Projects in Region IV to promote safety and health fairs to help meet the safety and health needs in the Hispanic community.

In addition to offering Safety Training Workshops that are taught in Spanish, the fairs also provide health education for families.

Fair Schedule

August 6, 2005

Pelham Civic Center, Pelham, AL

August 20, 2005

Osceola Heritage Park, Kissimmee, FL

Compiled by Todd Briggs

OSHA dictionaries assist employers with Spanish language translations

Alliance Program participants are encouraged to use the OSHA English-to-Spanish and Spanish-to-English dictionaries as they develop outreach and training products in Spanish.

The dictionaries comprise more than 2,000 OSHA, general industry and general construction industry terms and are intended to assist employers in their Spanish-language translation initiatives. The general industry and construction industry dictionaries also include a phonetic pronunciation guide. The dictionaries are available on OSHA's Hispanic Employers and Workers Compliance Assistance Web page.

Brochure shows travelers how to avoid heavy baggage injuries



A new personal baggage packing brochure, *A Guide to Packing for Business and Personal Travel*, produced by the OSHA-Airlines Industry Alliance provides tips aimed at helping airline passengers avoid discomfort and injury from overloaded baggage.

The two-page, tri-fold color brochure provides information about how to avoid hauling heavy baggage and how overweight bags can

cause injury.

For more information about the *Guide to Packing for Business and Personal Travel* contact Ashley West at Delta Air Lines: 404-714-6700—email: ashely.west@delta.com.

Free copies of the brochure are available while supply lasts in Rick Steeve's Travel Center located in Edmonds, WA—email: <http://www.ricksteeves.com/about/travelcenter.htm>.

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of Michigan OSHA's ([MIOSHA Alliances](#)) is with the Michigan Chapter of the Associated General Contractors. Doug Kalinowski, Director of MIOSHA said, "By combining our resources, Michigan Associated General Contractors and Michigan OSHA can have a significant impact on safety and health prevention efforts at construction worksites."

The State of Connecticut Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Division ([CONN-OSHA](#)), and the University of Connecticut, Connecticut Transportation Institute Technology

Transfer Center (CTI) also recognized the value of establishing a collaborative relationship to foster safer and more healthful workplaces in Connecticut's public works industry. CONN-OSHA and CTI formed an Alliance that provides CTI's members and others with information, guidelines, and access to training resources to help them protect employees' health and safety. (CONN-OSHA operates an OSHA-approved State Plan which covers state and local government workers only, and also provides consultation services to the private sector under Section 21(d) of the OSH Act, as do most State Plans)

Richard Palo, Director of CONN-OSHA, said Alliances are valuable tools in promoting workplace safety and health. "They are designed to open a dialogue between CONN-OSHA and an Alliance member for training and education and outreach, and communications promoting the national dialogue on workplace safety and health," he said.

Visit [OSHA's website](#) for more information about [State Plan State Alliance](#) activities.

Earl W. Hicks is a Program Analyst in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances and editor of the Alliance Quarterly Review

NAOSH from page 1

their parents and their employer's the tools they need to protect our next generation of workers."

OSHA's and ASSE's activity for this event was an extension of their Alliance that was originally signed in 2002 and renewed in 2004 to promote safe and healthful working conditions to advance a culture of prevention while sharing best practices and technical knowledge.

OSHA's national and regional offices and a work group of federal agencies called the [Federal Network for Young Worker Safety and Health](#) also held special events throughout the week, including Teen Worker Safety Exhibits.

"We are very pleased to be part of an Alliance with OSHA and of their support for NAOSH Week," said ASSE President Gene Barfield. "NAOSH Week is another tool we use to get information out regarding work-related risks to prove that it's no accident when tragedies don't occur."



DOL photo by Shawn T. Moore

(from left) Dave Heidorn, ASSE; Gene Barfield, ASSE; Jonathan Snare, Acting Assistant Secretary for OSHA; Aaron Trippler, AIHA; and Emory Knowles, ASSE; gave presentations and coordinated events for the Second Annual North American Occupational Safety and Health Week kick-off event held in Department of Labor facilities in Washington, DC. In addition to its NAOSH activities, OSHA also has Alliances with ASSE and AIHA that through sharing best practices and technical knowledge promote safety and health in the workplace.

Todd Briggs is a Program Analyst in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances

students from page 4

Businesses and Alliance members realize that students participating in the training are the workforce of the 21st Century and need to know about safety and health in the workplace. The effort of the Mobile County Schools System underscores the fact that safety and health add value.


Tommy Lawshe, an electrical contractor in Mobile, said his company

emphasizes the importance of safety training by making it a topic of interviews. He said his company asks prospective employees what kind of safety training or OSHA training they have received.

Patty Hughston, Director of Career Technical Education Department for Mobile County Public Schools said the program helps employers and also helps the future employees enrolled in the

program. "This education will help employers as well as the students by providing better trained and educated workers who will need less initial safety training and who are ready to enter the workforce as productive employees," she said.

Bill Bice is Region IV's Mobile, AL Area Office Compliance Assistance Specialist

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CAS's from page 3

Michael Minicky of Region VII's St. Louis, MO Area Office and Daniel Corcoran of Region VII's Kansas City, MO Area Office, provided support to tornado-damaged areas in Missouri.

Marianne McGee, of Region VI's Corpus Christi, TX Area Office, worked on an outreach effort to the oil and gas industry in South Texas.

CASs also promote the Alliance Program and participate in individual Alliances. In addition, they provide support for several national Alliances. For example, Domenick Salvatore, the CAS in Region III's Philadelphia, PA Area Office, serves on the implementation team for OSHA's

Alliance with the [Sealant Waterproofing Restoration Institute \(SWRI\)](#). Mr. Salvatore has given several presentations at SWRI events on subjects including respiratory protection, mast scaffolding, and confined spaces. He is also helping SWRI develop a safety and health manual.

CASs have been instrumental in developing and supporting many Regional and Area Office Alliances. For example, Julie Weis of Region V's Cleveland, OH Area Office, supported an Alliance between OSHA's Area Offices in Ohio and the Ohio Landscape Association (OLA). Weis provided training at OLA events, contributed articles to the association's monthly

publication, and distributed publications to landscape contractors and employees. James Dillard, of Region V's Chicago North Area Office provided similar outreach in support of an Alliance between the Chicago North Area Office and the [Illinois Landscape Contractors Association](#).

For more information on CASs and how to contact your local CAS, see OSHA's [Compliance Assistance Specialist Web page](#). If you are in a state with an OSHA-approved plan, contact your local [state office](#) for compliance assistance.

Barney Lawrence is a Program Analyst in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.

Manual from page 5

recordkeeping, personal protective equipment, respiratory protection and scaffolding.

OSHA and SWRI Alliance implementation team members Domenick Salvatore of Region III's,

Philadelphia, PA Area Office, and Dale Krupinski, formerly of the Directorate of Construction, reviewed the document and provided comments.

The final version of the manual is expected to be completed and distributed on a CD to SWRI members by the end

of Summer 2005. A link to the document will also be included on the SWRI Web page and the OSHA-SWRI Alliance Web site.

Jess McCluer is a Program Analyst in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.

fireworks from page 5

APA customized the training for OSHA, firefighters and other safety personnel. The first training session, held May 24, 2005 in Jacksonville, FL was attended by OSHA's Region IV staff and representatives from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, among others. Sessions were

also held in Dallas, TX; Harrisburg, PA; Jacksonville, FL; Chicago, IL; The training sessions concluded June 22, 2005 in Kansas City, MO.

Misette Kobler, a Compliance Safety and Health Officer in OSHA Region V's Aurora, IL Area Office, and participants at the Chicago presentation said the

training course provided new insight into the hazards and variety of fireworks.

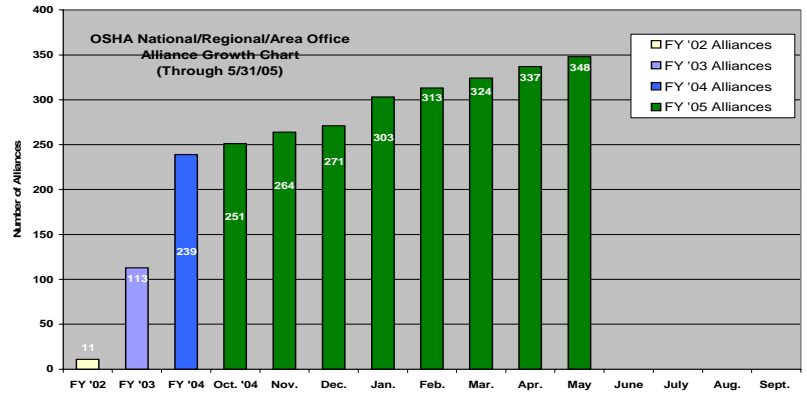
"As a result of this training course, I am now more familiar with the pyrotechnics industry and have a better understanding of the transport, storage and display of fireworks," Kobler said.

Rick Harris is a Program Analyst in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.

OSHA nears 350 Alliances mark

As of May 31, there were nearly 350 National, Regional, and Area Office Alliances. Employers and employees are the beneficiaries of OSHA and the Alliances' production of electronic and print information products and safety and health training programs.

For examples of Alliance Program participants' activities and products, visit the Alliance Programs [Milestones and Successes](#) Web page.



New National Alliances

Association of Energy Service Companies
signed March 30, 2005

American Red Cross
signed May 19, 2005

National Demolition Association
signed May 26 2005

Renewed National Alliances

National Association of Shooting Ranges and the Sporting Arms and Ammunition Manufacturers' Institute, Inc.
signed August 5, 2002
renewed May 19, 2005

Airline Industry/National Safety Council Air Transport Section
signed November 12, 2002
first renewed April 20, 2004
second renewal May 31, 2005

Shipbuilders Council of America
signed January 31, 2003
renewed June 16, 2005

Concluded Alliances

National Association Directors of Nursing Administration in Long-Term Care
concluded April 4, 2005

Center for Business and Public Policy McDonough School of Business Georgetown University
concluded April 10, 2005

National Safety Management Society
concluded April 15, 2005

Air Conditioning Contractors of America
concluded May 8, 2005

Handbook from page 5

checklists that can be used by employers to identify hazards and develop action plans to improve workplace safety.

The *Handbook* explains the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 and makes reference to the Act's enabling legislation. The *Handbook* also contains contact information for the Small Business Administration's Office of

Advocacy and Office of the National Ombudsman.

The previous version of the *Handbook* was one of OSHA's most requested publications with a distribution of more than 100,000 copies. Currently, 30,000 copies of the updated *Handbook* have been requested. In addition, it will be distributed through the Consultation Program as well as at trade shows and presentations. The

Handbook is currently available online at: <http://www.osha.gov/publications/smallbusiness/small-business.pdf>

Order hard copies of the book through OSHA's Publications Office, phone 1-800-321-OSHA or send mail orders to:

U.S. Department of Labor
OSHA Publications, P.O. Box 37535
Washington, DC 20013-7535

OSHA's Alliance Program Receives Recognition

"These Alliances are, in our view, invaluable because they allow us to share ideas with OSHA on how we can better protect the health and safety of our workers. I commend OSHA for the resources they dedicate to this important effort."

Roy Swindal, [Mason Contractors Association of America](#)

From testimony given to the Senate Health, Educational, Labor and Pensions Committee
May 10, 2005