



MEDIA RELEASE

Jobs are Alaska's Future



ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Greg O'Claray, Commissioner

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Spruce Park Auto Body Recognized for Outstanding Safety and Health Program

(Juneau) – Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce Development Commissioner Greg O'Claray today recognized Spruce Park Auto Body for excellence in safety and health management programs. The 40-year-old Anchorage business was awarded SHARP designation for the third time in an award ceremony in Anchorage.

“Spruce Park Auto Body has implemented an outstanding program for job site safety and health,” said Commissioner O'Claray. “To be accident-free for more than four years in the automotive repair industry is an accomplishment worthy of recognition.”

The Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) recognizes employers who maintain top-notch workplace safety and health programs and have workplace illness and injury rates that are below national averages in their industry classification. It is a national program under the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), and is administered by the State of Alaska's Occupational Health Safety (AKOSH) section.

“We're really excited about this accomplishment,” said Spruce Park Auto Body President Chuck Perrault. “The staff devoted a lot of effort to make it happen.”

SHARP sites are removed from general scheduled enforcement inspections for the approved period of time (from 18 months up to 2 years). Participants have also reported reduced Workers' Compensation costs and improved employee morale and productivity.

SHARP is one of several consultation programs offered by Alaska Occupational Safety and Health. At a company's request, health and safety consultation officers visit the work site to help employers identify and correct hazards in the work place, and train their workforce in safe work practices. The company then has the opportunity to address potential violations before an official inspection occurs.

“The consultation program provides a great awareness of things you should be looking at to create a safe working environment,” said Perrault. “It helps you stay a step ahead of potential hazards.”

There are only 11 other SHARP sites in Alaska and about 1,200 nationwide.

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