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Press Release

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## Alaska's 27th Annual Safety and Health Conference to be Held March 20-21 and Nominations for Governor's Awards Are Being Accepted Now

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(Juneau, AK) – The 27th Annual Governor's Safety and Health Conference will be held March 20-21 at the Sheraton Anchorage Hotel in Anchorage. This year's theme is "Back to Basics – Safety for Alaskans."

The event, sponsored by the Alaska Safety Advisory Council, will focus on the emerging safety and health issues and advanced safety needs that pertain to our unique state. The conference will have training in construction, cold weather operations, mining and public safety, along with classes on youth safety and health issues. Typically around 300 people attend the conference – employers, employees, safety and health professionals and the general public, including young adults from the King Career Center.

One of the courses offered will include certification for the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety & Health Administration 10-hour construction training requirement. Information will also be available on a future course to meet the USDOL's Mine Safety and Health Administration surface mining renewal requirement.

A conference highlight is the recognition of Alaska employers and individuals for achievements in safety and health, as well as for excellence in safety and health systems that protect employees and promote corporate citizenship. The awards include the Governor's Safety Award of Excellence, the Governor's Special Achievement Award and the Governor's William "Tinker" Childress Memorial Award. The nomination deadline is Feb. 20. For award information and nomination applications, go to <u>labor.state.ak.us/lss/asac.htm</u>.

Those who attend the conference usually represent a cross section of Alaska industries, including oil and gas, construction, health care, tourism, recreation, state and local government, Alaska Native corporations, aviation, mining, timber and fishing. If you have safety- or health-related products or services, you're encouraged to be a conference exhibitor. Space is limited.

The Alaska Safety Advisory Council, which serves at the pleasure of the Governor, is made up of 14 members representing industry, labor, the general public, and federal, state and local governments. Organized within the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the council's mission is to work with official and unofficial organizations, individuals and groups to marshal resources toward reducing accidental deaths and injuries and to promote safety, health and wellness for all Alaskans.