

Click Bishop
Commissioner

P.O. Box 111149
Juneau, AK 99811-1149
www.labor.alaska.gov



Beth Leschper
Communications Director
907.465.2700
cell: 907.723.1321
beth.leschper@alaska.gov

Press Release

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For more information: Krystyna Markiewicz, OSH Program Manager
907-269-4957, Krystyna.Markiewicz@Alaska.Gov

7 Awards Presented at Governor's Safety and Health Conference

JUNEAU, Alaska—More than 300 Alaskans attended the 2009 Governor's Safety and Health Conference, participating in training tracks in employer resources, ARC flash safety, youth safety, safety education, oil industry, transportation and hospitality, OSHA 10 hour construction course, OSHA 10 hour General Industry course.

Information about applying for the Voluntary Protection Program, which recognizes and promotes effective workplace safety and health management through a cooperative program between a company's management, employees and AKOSH, was also provided.

A highlight of the annual conference is recognition of Alaska businesses that exemplify good corporate citizenship and a commitment to the health and safety of their workers.

Two organizations and one individual qualified for the Governors Special Achievement Award. This award is presented for special outstanding achievements in the field of safety and health. To qualify, the recipient must have produced a significant and measurable impact on the community.

- **Alaska Injury Prevention Center** is dedicated to preventing injury related deaths and hospitalizations in Alaska. AIPC promotes seatbelt use for all ages and populations, which was at an all-time 2008 high of 84.9 percent – from 65.8% in 2002.
- **Municipality of Anchorage – Solid Waste Services** hauls tractor trailer rigs filled with garbage every day. This team has cut its "over the road" accident and incident rate to almost zero in 2006, 2007 and 2008. This is particularly noteworthy as the transportation industry suffers one of the highest injury rates and the highest workplace fatality rate in Alaska.
- **Nathan Menah** works as an investigator for the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, focusing on youth safety. Menah produced two videos about workplace safety for young Alaskans that will provide an ongoing message and legacy for years to come.

Four organizations qualified for the Governor's Safety Award of Excellence. This recognition is awarded to a group that has demonstrated excellence in safety and health systems that protect employees.

- **Alaska Tanker Company** has built a performance culture that highlights responsibility, accountability at all levels and sustainability. In more than 4.8 million work hours from 2005-2007, ATC experienced only 18 recordable injury and illness cases and only 3 days away / restricted/transfer cases. This effort produced a total case incident rate 83 percent below industry averages and a one day away /restricted/ transfer rate 96 percent below industry averages.
- Over the last three years, employees of **Dunkin & Bush, Inc.** experienced just one recordable illness and injury case in over 138,000 total work hours. The total case incident rate and days away/restricted/transfer rate are respectively 64 percent and 28 percent below industry average rates.
- **Horizon Lines, Kodiak Terminal** operated at an injury level below the Bureau of Labor Standards rates during the period of 2006-2008. The company's total case incident rate over the three year period was 37.5 percent lower than the industry average and the days away / restricted/transfer rate was 31.5 percent below industry averages.
- **Shaw Infrastructure, Inc.** had only one recordable injury/illness case in more than 273,000 work hours from 2005-2007. Total case incident rate was 88 percent below industry average. Days away / restricted/ transfer rate was 100 percent below industry average.

Special safety and health training for young Alaskans from schools within the Anchorage School District were part of the annual conference held yesterday at the Sheraton Hotel in Anchorage. The conference, which is sponsored by the Alaska Safety Advisory Council, focuses on emerging safety and health issues, and advanced safety needs that are unique to Alaska.

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