

Utilizing State-Based Labor Organizations, Management Organizations and Higher Education to Achieve a Safe Workplace

Jeffrey B. Frymier, W. M. Maines, West Virginia University Institute for Safety and Health Training, Morgantown, WV

Opposing organizations coming together for a common goal is the catalyst for the formation of this state-based program. The WVU Institute for Safety and Health Training (ISHT) working together with organized labor and management has been able to create a program that meets a dire need within the state of WV. In the past, safety and health training programs have often been sponsored solely by one of the fore mentioned organizations. The needs of the sponsoring organization were often met but the needs of the target population were sometimes overlooked. With state and federal funding these organizations helped establish the base for a state wide safety and health training unit which could meet the diverse and pressing needs of industry within the state. In its initial year and a half of existence the (ISHT) has developed numerous safety and health programs and trained over 3,000 employees and employers. Topics have ranged from management level communication skills to hazardous waste worker training. Plant sizes have ranged from less than 40 to over 1,000. No matter the size of the company or the topic matter being discussed the goal is always to achieve a safer workplace through education, understanding and cooperation.

Occupational Hazard Evaluation Programs: NIOSH and the States

Steven K. Galson, R. Hartle, M. Singal, D. Sundin, CDC, NIOSH, Cincinnati, OH

The NIOSH Health Hazard Evaluation (HHE) Program, mandated by Section 20 (a) (6) of the OSHA Act, has completed more than 6,500 evaluations since its inauguration in 1970. HHE requests have ranged from 400 to 500 per year for the past 10 years, and vary significantly by region and state. Factors influencing the program have included the closing of seven NIOSH regional offices and variations in state hazard evaluation resources. This presentation will discuss trends in HHE requests in relation to these and other factors. The influence of hazard evaluation programs on prevention of occupational disease is unknown. State and federal efforts to follow-up and reevaluate known hazards will be reviewed. Models for improving state-federal cooperation in occupational hazard evaluation will be examined.

Workplace Compliance with the OSHA Lead Standard: Workers' Perspectives

Barbara Gerwel, N. Long, G. Sorock, New Jersey Department of Health, Trenton, NJ

The New Jersey Department of Health has a legal mandate to receive reports of elevated blood lead (PbB) or urine lead (PbU) from clinical laboratories in NJ. The total number of individuals reported between October 1987 and July 1990 was 3,103. Twenty one percent (645) of reported individuals had PbB levels of 40 ug/dl or greater and/or PbU of 100 ug/l or greater. This segment of the lead exposed population was targeted for telephone interview. Telephone numbers were identified from laboratory reports and from phone calls made to laboratories and



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