

# A D O S H A D V O C A T E

Improving  
workplace  
safety &  
health



<http://www.ica.state.az.us>

Darin Perkins, Director

Fall 2007

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## ADOSH ADVOCATE

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Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health  
800 West Washington Street      2675 East Broadway Road  
Phoenix, AZ. 85007      Tucson, AZ. 85716  
(602) 542-5795      (520) 628-5478

## Safety Programs

What do you want from your safety program? Now that you have crossed all the t's and dotted all the i's your safety program should be done right? Wrong! Your program, that is your written program, is nothing more than a blueprint on how you expect to meet the goals and objectives outlined when it comes to safety. There are many other things that need to be done.

For starters you have to make sure that everyone understands what is expected of them in relationship to the safety culture you wish to build.

That means training and communication play a key role in the implementation of your program.

Effective safety programs have several elements that are necessary in order for you to get the maximum benefit within your organization. These elements include: accountability, workplace analysis and hazard recognition and control. Once these elements have been established it is management's responsibility to provide the resources necessary to see they are successful.

This is just a brief overview of what it takes to be successful in your workplace safety and health efforts. You have to know what it is that you want from your program. If all you're looking for is a binder on a shelf to hand to the inspector when he shows up, well, remember

you will get exactly what you put into it.

If you are struggling to develop a program or want to work out the kinks, so to speak, contact ADOSH and let us try to help you. We also con-

duct safety management classes to assist those of you who want to get your programs started. It is not uncommon for me to teach a safety management class and have attendees come up during the class and explain the class content helped them to see where the weaknesses were within their existing programs. Let us see how we can help you.

Mark Norton,  
Assistant Director

### QUICK FACTS

Nearly 50 workers are injured every minute of the 40 hour work week.

Almost 17 of these workers die each day.

Workplace injuries cost \$127.7 billion in 1997, according to the National Safety Council.

Nearly one-third of all serious occupational injuries and illnesses stem from overexertion or repetitive motion. These are disabling, expensive injuries. They cost our economy as much as \$20 billion in direct costs and billions more in indirect costs.

It's estimated that 4\$ or more are returned for every 1\$ spent on a safety and health program.

### Voluntary Protection Program

ADOSH is pleased to welcome two additional Arizona employers into our Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). Johns Manville in Tucson and Insulfoam in Phoenix are now the 19th and 20th employers in the state to achieve this recognition.



The VPP is designed to recognize those employers who have implemented exemplary safety and health programs, to include a commitment between labor and management.



Participants in the VPP enjoy injury and illness rates that are less than those of their peers, sometimes significantly so. These lower rates translate into increased productivity, savings on workers' compensation premiums and other benefits.

Many other employers are in various stages of the VPP application process and we look forward to working with them.

Questions regarding the VPP or SHARP programs can be addressed to either of ADOSH's consultation sections. Call and ask for an informational packet on either program.

### Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program

The Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) is growing. Currently, almost 50 employers in Arizona have been recognized under this program for their efforts toward employee safety and health. Most recently, the following employers were recognized: National Gypsum Company in Phoenix; Waste Management - Butterfield Station in Mobil; Waste Management in Kingman; and Red Rock Stamping in Chandler.

### Red Rock Stamping Testimonial

*Red Rock Stamping was recently recognized under the SHARP program. The following, edited for clarity and length, is from a letter from Red Rock to ADOSH and offers a testimonial to the rewards of establishing an effective safety and health program.*

All of us at Red Rock Stamping are very proud of our excellent safety record. Unfortunately, this has not always been the "norm." In years past we have had anywhere from 16 to 25 industrial accidents per year, including lost work days as high as 93 days per year; tragically in one accident we had an employee amputate his finger. All this for a metal stamping facility that employed approximately 70 people.

Then one day our upper management became committed to a safe work environment and this changed everything. First, we upgraded our machine guarding to OSHA standards, electrical panel covers were replaced and grounded, ergonomic issues were addressed; the list goes on and on. Then new safety policies were created and old ones reviewed. A safety committee was created with monthly meetings scheduled so we could begin to educate our

employees and involve them in this cultural change.

Managers and supervisors were educated in safety. The safety committee made monthly safety inspections, as did the supervisors. At monthly department meetings, a different safety video was shown in both English and Spanish. We also put emphasis on the fact that cleanliness is the first step to a safe work environment.

We needed additional help, so we contacted SCF, our workers' compensation insurance carrier. Folks from their risk management department came to inspect our facility and counsel us.



Once we got our "house in order", we began to concentrate our efforts on changing the safety attitude in the factory, which we did by promoting safety through awards as well as discipline. We started a safety bingo contest to reward employees for accident-free time. We also use discipline as well. Fortunately we do not have to use disciplinary action very much as "peer pressure" from everyone usually does the trick.

So what have we achieved with our efforts? In 2006 we had four industrial accidents with no lost work days and no job transfers, while employing almost 100 people. The difference comes in long-term savings. It starts with improved productivity. I would say, being conservative, that our productivity has

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### A Thousand Words

At first glance, there doesn't appear to be anything unusual about the photo to the left. However, upon further examination, the hazard really stands out.

In the center background of the photo, an employee can clearly be seen standing on the very top of a step ladder that is probably at least 10' in height. He doesn't appear to be too comfortable in that spot!

Falls from ladders result in many deaths and injuries every year. Tips on basic ladder safety can be found at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov).

### The "Inbox"

*We regularly receive questions and comments via e-mail, at [adosh.comments@dol.gov](mailto:adosh.comments@dol.gov). Following is a selection of some we recently received.*

**Q:** Does ADOSH require an employer to have a safety committee as part of their injury & illness prevention program?

**A:** There is no ADOSH standard requiring the formation of a safety committee, although ADOSH is in favor of and supports such committees.

**Q:** I am going to be opening a business in the near future and I will likely have at least a couple of employees. Is there someone from your office who can help me ensure that I am meeting all of OSHA's requirements?

**A:** Our consultation section would be happy to assist you in making sure your business is in compliance with the OSHA standards. The consultation section can be reached at 602-542-1769 in Phoenix or 520-628-5478 in Tucson.

**Q:** In an endoscopy treatment room, are gloves, eyewear and gowns required?

**A:** Personal protective equipment is required based upon the hazards involved with the specific task. Where there is a likelihood of blood splash to the eyes, protective eyewear is required. Where there is likelihood of blood contacting the hands, gloves are required and so forth.

**Q:** I work for a company that uses lead-containing solder in the manufacturing of electronic equipment. Is the company required to inform employees about the dangers of lead and offer personal protective equipment?

**A:** Your employer is required to provide you with information and training on the hazards of lead and how to minimize those hazards. Depending upon your actual exposure to lead, personal protective equipment such as a respirator, may also be required.

**Q:** How do OSHA regulations apply to public schools? Are students covered?

**A:** OSHA regulations apply to employee/employer relationships. Thus, if there are no employees present, OSHA standards do not apply. Students are most often not considered employees, unless the relationship also involves compensation for work performed.

### Red Rock - Cont'd from page 2

increased 15 to 20 percent because employees feel better about their company, their surroundings and their management team.

Over time, our workers' compensation premiums decreased dramatically and in our case, we now get annual dividend checks from our carrier and ASBA which equate to thousands of dollars each year, which more than cover our costs for safety awards and improvements or repairs. We also have peace of mind.

Safety is not a one person show. It takes a lot of effort and commitment from a lot of people, but safety does pay in more ways than one.

Wayne Ziemann, Facilities Manager  
Red Rock Stamping, LLC

## ADOSH ADVOCATE

### Fatal Mistakes

A couple of issues back I presented an article describing the fatalities that had occurred in Arizona workplaces from 2000 through 2005. This covered six calendar years of our lives. During that period there were 176 fatal accidents investigated by ADOSH. Let's take a look at the 2006 numbers and see how we did.

In 2006 there were 23 fatal accidents investigated by ADOSH, and two additional incidents classified as catastrophies. If the catastrophies (defined as three or more people hospitalized in a single incident) had turned fatal, the total could easily have been 31 fatalities. Not counting the catastrophies, the fatalities break out as follows:

Fall accidents	10	Electrical accidents	2
Struck by accidents	7	Other	1
Caught in accidents	3		

What these figures tell us is that falls rank high on the list. When we take a closer look, we find fatal falls ranging from 40' high, to a gentleman who fell off of a 10' ladder.

Conventional fall protection was not in use in any of these fall accidents. At least one gentleman was wearing his fall protection harness and lanyard, but was not connected to an anchorage point.

Their deaths are not excusable. Current advancements in fall protection equipment has made working at elevation much safer than we have had to accept over the past decades. What we have now on the market works and will save lives, if used in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations. Sure it requires effort, training and time to overcome old habits. But isn't a little investment in safety worth an employee's life?

2007 is already on track to be a huge year for workplace fatalities in Arizona. Our compliance section is double stacked with fatality investigations and we just keep getting more. To have preventable deaths is really tragic, especially when there are recent market and technological advances in fall protection and other areas that would prevent those deaths.

My point is simple. It is not rocket science. Conventional fall protection, used the way it is designed to be used, may have eliminated some of these deaths. We certainly feel the nine people who are being missed by their families and friends, should still be here and could have had they been provided with, trained in the use of, and used conventional fall protection! There are too many deaths in Arizona and across the nation related to falls. We need to provide employees with protect, whether or not the standards require it. The technology is here to do it and the incentive is the vision of these nine missing men at the dinner table enjoying a meal with their families.

Ernie Miller, Safety Consultant

### Consultants Available!

The Phoenix consultation section is almost back to full staff and the consultants are available to assist you with your occupational safety and health needs.

Give them a call today and talk with a consultant about how the section can help you better protect your employees. The Phoenix consultation section can be reached at 602-542-1769.

### SCF of Arizona - Tucson Safety Works Expo

Make plans to attend the SCF Arizona Tucson Safety Works Expo, Oct. 9-10 at the Tucson Sheraton Hotel and Suites, 5151 E. Grant Road.

Attendees will hear updated, timely information from leading safety professionals in Arizona. The Safety Works Expo covers important safety topics concerning frontline employees and management. In addition, vendors display the latest in available safety equipment. At \$65 for two days you will not find a better value.

For more information and details on available classes go to [www.scfaz.com](http://www.scfaz.com) or contact Michelle Jacobs at 602-631-2002.

## ADOSH Education and Training Calendar

Registration for each class begins 30 days prior to the date of the class. Location and time will be provided at the time of registration. Classes sponsored by ADOSH are free of charge but are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Some classes or seminars listed are not sponsored solely by ADOSH and may carry a nominal fee to cover the cost of course materials, space rental, etc. **NOTE: The phone number listed for each class is the number participants need to call for registration purposes and may or may not be a direct number to ADOSH or the trainer. While ADOSH trainers can answer questions specific to the class such as content, attendees will need to call the specific number listed to register.**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Trainer</u>	<u>Registration No.</u>
October 2	Scaffold Safety	Flagstaff	Joe Gates	928-779-7561
October 2	Hand & Power Tool Safety	Flagstaff	Joe Gates	928-779-7561
October 4	Electrical Safety	Tucson	Tom Webb	520-628-5478
October 9	Hazard Communication	Phoenix ICA	Melissa Drate	602-542-1640
October 9 & 10	SCF Safety Expo	Tucson	Various	602-631-2002
October 11	Back Safety	Tucson	Brian Knutson	520-628-5478
October 16	Lockout Tagout	Avondale	Joe Gates	623-635-8888
October 16	Safety Management	Tucson	Mark Norton	520-628-5478
October 17	Forklift Train the Trainer	Yuma	Joe Gates	928-373-5092
October 18	Safety Management	Yuma	Joe Gates	928-373-5092
October 18	Hazard Communication	Snowflake	Melissa Drate	602-542-1640
October 18	Back Injury Prevention	Snowflake	Melissa Drate	602-542-1640
October 23	Excavation Safety	Peoria	Joe Gates	623-773-7679
October 23	Medical Office Safety	Tucson	Cheryl Caballero	520-628-5478
October 24	Confined Space Entry	Phoenix	Melissa Drate	602-631-2008
October 30	Forklift Train-the-Trainer	Tucson	Bill Garton	520-628-5478
October 30	Fall Protection	Phoenix	Joe Gates	602-542-1769
November 6	SCF Safety Expo	Yuma	Various	602-631-2002
November 7	Forklift Train the Trainer	Phoenix	Joe Gates	602-631-2008
November 8	Lockout Tagout	Mesa	Joe Gates	480-732-7320
November 8	Machine Guarding	Tucson	Brian Knutson	520-628-5478
November 13	Workplace Violence	Phoenix ICA	Melissa Drate	602-542-1640
November 14	Excavation Safety Awareness	Tucson	Tom Webb	520-628-5478
November 19	Job Hazard Analysis	Tucson	Mark Norton	520-628-5478
November 20	Electrical Safety	Peoria	Joe Gates	623-773-7679
November 27	Welding Safety	Phoenix	Joe Gates	602-542-1769
November 29	Scaffold Safety Awareness	Tucson	Cheryl Caballero	520-628-5478
December 5	Bloodborne Pathogens	Phoenix	Melissa Drate	602-631-2008
December 5	PPE Training	Tucson	Tom Webb	520-628-5478
December 6	OSHA Recordkeeping	Tucson	Cheryl Caballero	520-628-5478
December 10	OSHA in the Medical Office	Phoenix ICA	Melissa Drate	602-542-1640
December 11	What Went Wrong?	Tucson	Mark Norton	520-628-5478
December 12	Electrical Safety	Phoenix	Joe Gates	602-631-2008
December 12	Forklift Train-the-Trainer	Tucson	Bill Garton	520-628-5478
December 13	Hazard Recognition, Gen. Ind.	Tucson	Brian Knutson	520-628-5478
December 18	Hazard Communication	Tucson	Cheryl Caballero	520-628-5478
December 18	OSHA 300 Log Recordkeeping	Phoenix	Joe Gates	602-542-1769

Trainers may be contacted by e-mail by using the following format: <lastname>.<firstname>@dol.gov

"Phoenix ICA" classes are held at the Phoenix ICA building located at 800 W. Washington St.

All Tucson classes are held at the Tucson ICA building located at 2675 E. Broadway Rd.

### ADOSH's Training Program

ADOSH offers introductory training on a variety of occupational safety and health topics. During a typical month, a dozen or more classes are offered at locations throughout the state. Some of the classes are sponsored solely by ADOSH. Other

classes are conducted through partnerships with various organizations. Regardless of the location, ADOSH classes are informative and provide attendees with a good, basic foundation regarding the subject material, to which employers can add their own, company specific training and information.

If you are interested in learning more about a specific class offered through ADOSH, or about the possibility of having a class put together specific to the needs of your employees, please contact one of the consultants and/or trainers listed above in this issue's training calendar.

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### Occupational Fatalities Investigated by ADOSH April 1, 2007 through June 30, 2007

- 1) An employee suffocated in a large dumpster full of waste bread dough.
  - 2) An employee was crushed in an excavation collapse.
  - 3) An employee was crushed between parts of a ferris wheel.
  - 4) An employee was crushed between a steel pipe and an tank when a joint failed during a pressure test.
  - 5) An employee was crushed in the collapse of a six foot deep excavation.
  - 6) An employee fell approximately 18 feet from a scaffold without guardrails.
  - 7) An employee was asphyxiated while checking fuel levels inside of gasoline storage tanks.
  - 8) An employee was attempting to direct traffic and was struck and killed by a passing vehicle.
  - 9) An employee died when he fell from a ladder and struck his head on the floor.
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**ADOSH**  
**800 West Washington St.**  
**Phoenix, AZ. 85007**