

Kitchell Contractors Inc. awarded for excellence in safety

ADOSH consultation services continue to partner with employers

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This week, the Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health (ADOSH) celebrated with Kitchell Contractors Inc., of Arizona. Kitchell has earned the Construction Voluntary Protection Program (C-VPP) Star Status for their *Center at Val Vista* project. The project will become a skilled nursing facility.



Kitchell representatives celebrate VPP status

This is Kitchell's second VPP Star facility and proves the company's universal commitment to safety. "Earning VPP Star Status is an accomplishment that is achieved through a deliberate process involving employees and management at all levels," said ADOSH Assistant Director Jessie Atencio. The company's prior VPP designation was awarded to the Chandler Regional Medical Center job site.

"The great thing about VPP," said Industrial Commission of Arizona Chairman Dale Schultz, "is that it is completely voluntary and a collaborative relationship between us and businesses." A business must apply to be considered for VPP status. At no risk of citation, ADOSH will conduct a thorough safety visit and will involve management and employees in the process of determining what is needed to achieve VPP Star Status.

"By making safety a core value, we along with our trade partners experience lower employee turnover and cost savings benefits," said Kitchell Safety Director Josh Welp. "Partnering with ADOSH is a part of the success of our business."

Studies have shown that companies with a focus on health and safety experience significantly lower workers' compensation claims, higher productivity, and less turnover. The Industrial Commission's ADOSH division is focused on pursuing safety through a collaborative process.