

# Alliance Quarterly Review

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### **Alliance Program Participants Developed Products**

As of June 15, 2010, more than 250 products were listed on the [Alliance Program Participants Developed Products page](#). Ergonomics, safe driving, fall protection, electronics, hazard communication, use of lasers, bloodborne pathogens, and confined spaces are some of the topics addressed in the products developed in the past year.

## **Houston Summit Shines Light on Latino Worker Health and Safety**

By Mike Smith

The need of Latino workers to understand that they, like all other workers, have the right to a safe workplace was the focus of the first ever National Action Summit for Latino Worker Health and Safety. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, in partnership with the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, convened the two-day event held in Houston in mid-April. The Summit brought together nearly 1,000 workers, representatives from labor unions, faith- and community-based organizations, medical and entertainment communities, safety and health professionals, educators, government officials, consulates, employers, and other, non-traditional partners to highlight the need for action on Latino worker safety.

Speaking at the Summit, Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis said that the goal of the event was to reduce injuries and illnesses among Latino workers by enhancing knowledge of their workplace rights and improving their ability to exercise those rights. The Secretary added that workers have a right to talk to their employers about unsafe conditions and, if necessary, to call OSHA. "They have a right to get safety equipment that is required by law and paid for by the employer. They have a right to be trained in a language and in a way they understand. Workers need to know how to use these rights without fear of retaliation," Solis said. "And finally, every worker needs to know that he or she has the right to come home alive at the end of the day."

The Summit targeted the construction industry and other high risk industries that employ large numbers of Latino workers. It showcased innovative partnerships, demonstrated successful education and training strategies, and highlighted free resources that OSHA, other agencies, and nonprofit organizations make available to help small businesses prevent worker illnesses, injuries, and fatalities.

Dr. David Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA, gave opening remarks at the Summit. "Far too many Latino workers have needlessly lost their lives just trying to earn a living," Michaels said, "and it must stop." He added that he hoped the Summit would "...shine a spotlight on the hazards and challenges faced by this vulnerable sector of the Nation's workforce" and would lead to the crafting of new and needed strategies to prevent thousands of injuries and deaths every year.

The venerable Dolores Huerta, co-founder with Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers of America, participated in the Summit where she spoke briefly and introduced Secretary Solis. Panelists and participants came from a variety of groups, such as Casa Latina in Seattle; Tenants and Workers United in Alexandria, Virginia.; The Hispanic Westchester Coalition in White Plains, New York; Union Latina de Chicago in Chicago, Illinois; VOZ in Portland, Oregon; Workers Defense Project in Austin, Texas; Centro Humanitario Para Los Trabajadores in Denver, Colorado; and Central American Resource Center in Los Angeles, California. Workshops included those that focused on innovative partnerships for educating Latino workers, the role of public health departments in protecting workers, effective on-the-job programs, and workers' rights under OSHA and DOL. Slides from many of the [Summit Workshops](#) are available at [OSHA's Summit Web page](#).

In conjunction with the Summit, OSHA and the Consulate General of Mexico in Houston, Texas, signed an Alliance to promote safety and health rights in the workplace for Mexican workers in eastern Texas. OSHA and the Consulate will work collaboratively to promote safety and health in the workplace for the Latino community. Outreach and education goals of the [Alliance](#) agreement include utilizing a mobile consulate to reach rural areas, monthly scheduled safety talks at the Consulate, health and safety fairs, training for Consulate personnel on the complaint process for referrals, and using media resources to disseminate safety and health information.

Also at the Summit, OSHA's Region II, Parsippany, New Jersey Area Office renewed its [Alliance with the Wind of the Spirit](#), a New Jersey-based immigrant resource center. This Alliance increases access to safety and health information and training for Latino workers, particularly day laborers, by providing the OSHA 10-hour Construction and General Industry Outreach Training Programs in Spanish. Originally launched in 2003, the Alliance has been renewed twice and has trained more than 1,000 workers during the past seven years.

OSHA is working to capitalize on the energy engendered during the Summit to convey to Latino workers that a safe working environment is their right.

*Mike Smith is a Senior Communications Specialist with the Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs.*

## **Construction Roundtable Develops Fall Prevention Design Solutions**

By Barney Lawrence

The Alliance Program Construction Roundtable has developed a series of documents called *Construction Workplace Design Solutions* that summarize how designers can help reduce fall hazards at construction sites. These documents, which address some of the leading fall hazards in construction, review how engineers and architects can design buildings and other construction projects to minimize fall hazards for construction and maintenance workers.

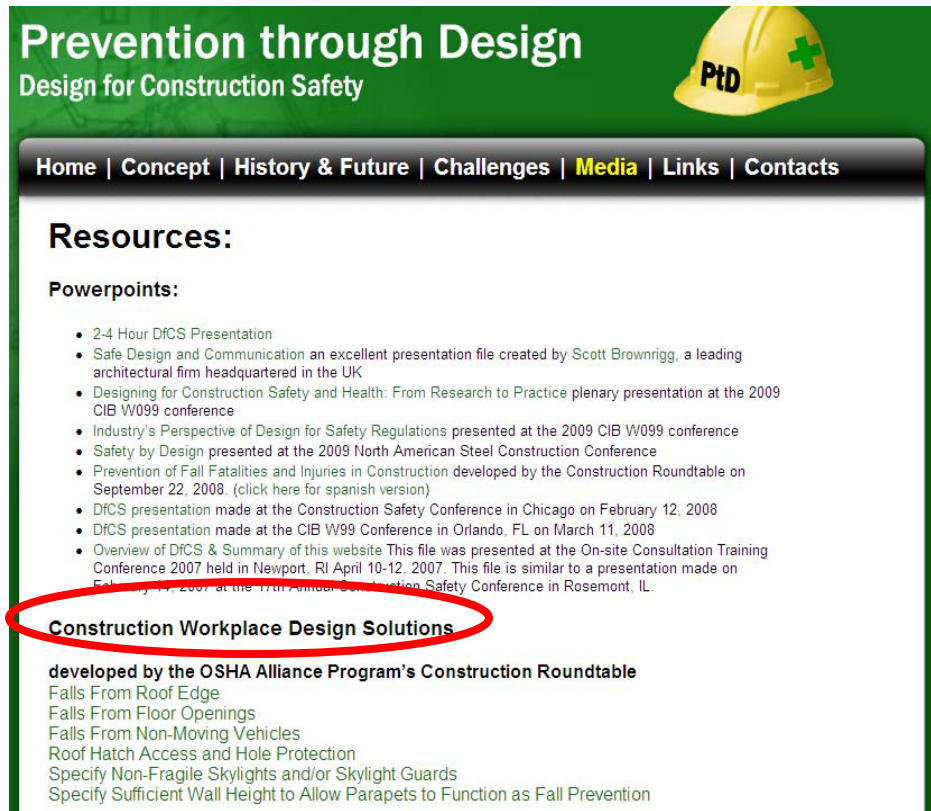
The documents are entitled: "Falls From Roof Edge," "Falls From Floor Openings," "Falls From Non-Moving Vehicles," "Roof Hatch Access and Hole Protection," "Specify Non-Fragile Skylights and/or Skylight Guards," and "Specify Sufficient Wall Height to Allow Parapets to Function as Fall Prevention."

Each document describes a particular fall hazard, briefly summarizes ways that designers can reduce the hazard, lists applicable OSHA standards, and provides other background information. For example, the "Falls from Roof Edge" document recommends that designers minimize the need for workers to go on roofs or near roof edges by placing mechanical equipment at ground level when possible and by locating roof vents, mechanical equipment, and communication equipment at least 15 feet from the roof edge when this equipment must be installed on the roof. In addition, this document recommends that designers specify multiple, permanent roof anchors to provide convenient tie-off points when workers must be near the roof edge.

The "Specify Non-Fragile Skylights and/or Skylight Guards" document summarizes design solutions to protect against the risk of serious falls through skylights during construction, maintenance, and demolition activities. One design solution for new skylight installations is to specify products that can withstand the load when a worker inadvertently steps or falls on a

skylight. Another approach is to specify that guards or screens designed to handle these loads be attached over each skylight or that a guardrailing be provided around the perimeter of the skylight installation.

Construction Roundtable participants promoted the design solutions at the International Conference on Fall Prevention and Protection in Morgantown, West Virginia, on May 19-20, 2010. The Construction Workplace Design Solution documents are posted on the [Prevention through Design: Design for Construction Safety](#) Web site. The [Construction Roundtable page](#) on the OSHA Web site includes links to these documents and other products developed by the Roundtable.



Screen shot of the Prevention through Design Web page.

OSHA established the Alliance Program Construction Roundtable in 2004 to bring construction-related Alliance Program participants together to discuss and share information on workplace safety and health. Through the Roundtable, participants develop and share construction-related compliance assistance tools and other resources for workers and employers. Representatives from 14 National OSHA Alliances participate in the Roundtable.

*Barney Lawrence is the Compliance Assistance Coordinator in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.*

## **Assistant Secretary Dr. David Michaels Addresses Safety Incentives**

By Kate Becker

On Wednesday, May 12, 2010, Dr. David Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA, was the guest speaker at a free one-hour Web cast entitled “A Conversation with Dr. Michaels--What to do About Safety Incentives?” sponsored by the American Society for Safety Engineers (ASSE), an Alliance Program participant. Over 1,000 safety and health professionals participated in the event, and more than ten percent of the attendees submitted questions concerning the use of safety incentives relative to the promotion of safe workplaces to Dr. Michaels and Tom Cecich, ASSE’s moderator for the event.

In his opening remarks, Dr. Michaels focused on the importance of recordkeeping, maintaining a workplace free of hazards, and rewarding safe behaviors in lieu of penalizing injuries. Injury tracking, as opposed to recordkeeping, is important because it can be used to determine if an industry is taking care of its workers. As such, it affects the future focus of activities (i.e., we can learn from the injury).

Web cast participants took full advantage of the opportunity to chat with Dr. Michaels. Mr. Cecich worked hard to sort through and organize the approximately 250 questions received to ensure that a broad spectrum of topics was addressed.

The non-reporting of worker illness and injury was a recurring topic. If an injury to a worker is not reported, the worker can receive neither the health care nor the workers’ compensation to which he/she is entitled. Incentive programs that award prizes to one group over another group for an injury-free week, for example, put peer pressure on the worker who was injured to refrain from reporting the incident. In response to a question about the legality of offering a prize to a worker who had an injury-free year, Dr. Michaels said that such action was not illegal, but that he had not seen data to support that it was an effective incentive.

On the other hand, safety disincentives such as “three injuries and you’re fired” do not work to change behavior, because no one wants to be injured in the first place. According to Dr. Michaels, programs like this are anti-recording programs and not safety enhancing strategies.

The National Emphasis Program (NEP) for recordkeeping, which was initiated prior to Dr. Michaels’ arrival at OSHA, elicited several questions. He mentioned that the shift to electronic recordkeeping will probably result in changes that include more accurate records because the programs will help the responsible person enter the data correctly (many recorders are not adequately trained on recordability rules). In addition, electronic records will make for additional transparency in the workplace because the records will be readily available.

Dr. Michaels noted that the data obtained from the NEP are, at the moment, insufficient to comment on. One of the findings he did reference was that 33 percent of high-risk industries have incentive programs. OSHA has yet to establish if these high risk companies have a lower incident reporting than the 67 percent of high-risk industries without a safety incentive program. In addition, he commented that OSHA needs help in establishing what methods work and which incentives are effective in promoting safe behavior. OSHA can determine what is legal, but not what is effective. Other agencies, such as the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, can evaluate the data better than OSHA and report on what constitutes bad or good incentives. OSHA wants to work with stakeholders and will continue to listen to them.

In closing, Dr. Michaels stated that the worker must work safely, but the employer must ensure the worker has a safe workplace. The focus must be on safe work and not just on injury reporting programs. In his advice to employers on incentive programs, Dr. Michaels commented that injury and illness prevention programs are one way to develop a culture of safety because these programs can work to engage workers by asking, “Does it work”?

*Kate Becker is the editor of the Alliance Quarterly Review.*

## **Alliance Products Addressing Most Frequently Cited OSHA Standards: Standards Four through Six**

By Barney Lawrence

Through the Alliance Program, participants in Alliances with the OSHA National Office have developed products that help employers comply with and workers understand the OSHA standards most frequently cited by OSHA inspectors. The box on the right shows the 10 most frequently cited OSHA standards in fiscal year 2009. This article provides examples of Alliance products that address standards four, five, and six on this list. The March 2010 *Alliance Quarterly Review* covered the top three most frequently cited standards. The September 2010 issue will cover standards seven through ten.

**OSHA standard:** [Respiratory protection, general industry \(29 CFR 1910.134\)](#)

**Alliance products:**

- [Respiratory Protection Toolbox Talk](#) (OSHA and American Pipeline Contractors Association Alliance) (2009)
- [Twelve Steps to Safety: Step 5 – Respiratory Protection](#) (OSHA and Club Managers Association of American Alliance) (2008)
- [N95 Respiratory Training and Fit Testing Verification Card](#) (OSHA and Association of Occupational Health Professionals Alliance) (2009)

**OSHA standard:** [Control of hazardous energy \(lockout/tagout\), general industry \(29 CFR 1910.147\)](#)

**Most Frequently Cited OSHA Standards  
in Fiscal Year 2009  
(Oct. 1, 2008—Sept. 30, 2009)**

1. Scaffolding, general requirements, construction (29 CFR 1926.451)
2. Fall protection, construction (29 CFR 1926.501)
3. Hazard communication standard, general industry (29 CFR 1910.1200)
4. Respiratory protection, general industry (29 CFR 1910.134)
5. Control of hazardous energy (lockout/tagout), general industry (29 CFR 1910.147)
6. Ladders, construction (29 CFR 1926.1053)
7. Powered industrial trucks, general industry (29 CFR 1910.178)
8. Electrical, wiring methods, components and equipment, general industry (29 CFR 1910.305)
9. Electrical systems design, general requirements, general industry (29 CFR 1910.303)
10. Fall protection, training requirements (29 CFR 1926.503)

**Alliance products:**

- [Safety Alert: Control of Hazardous Energy – Lockout/Tagout \(LO/TO\) Procedures in Shipyard Employment](#) (OSHA and Shipbuilders Council of America, National Shipbuilding Research Program, American Shipbuilding Association, American Industrial Hygiene Association, and American Society of Safety Engineers Alliances) (2008)
- [Rollstock and Sheet Extrusion Machine Safety Training Course](#) (OSHA and Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc. Alliance) (2006)
- [Injection Molding Machine Safety Training Course](#) (OSHA and Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc. Alliance) (2006)
- [Roll-fed and Inline Thermoforming Machine Safety Training Course](#) (OSHA and Society of the Plastics Industry, Inc. Alliance) (2006)

**OSHA standard:** [Ladders, construction \(29 CFR 1926.1053\)](#)

**Alliance products:**

- Ladder Safety Toolbox Talks (OSHA Alliance Program Construction Roundtable) (2007):
  - [Choosing the Right Ladder](#)
  - [Inspect Ladders Carefully!](#)
  - [Do's and Don'ts of Using a Ladder](#)
  - [Set Up and Use of a Ladder](#)
  - [Extension Ladder Safety](#)
  - [Using a Stepladder Safely](#)
- [Ladder Safety Toolbox Talk](#) (OSHA and Club Managers Association of America Alliance) (2007)
- [Ladder Success Story](#) (OSHA and the National Telecommunications Safety Panel Alliance) (2007)
- [Proper Step Ladder Set Up Toolbox Talk](#) (OSHA and the American Fire Sprinkler Association Alliance) (2010)

*Barney Lawrence is the Compliance Assistance Coordinator in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.*

## **Mission 2010: Safe Workplaces was the Focus of 2010 NAOSH Week**

By Morgan Seuberling

“Mission 2010: Safe Workplaces” was the theme of 2010 North American Occupational Safety and Health (NAOSH) Week (May 2-8) that officially began with a Kick-Off Event on May 3 at the Department of Labor in Washington, DC.

In his opening remarks to the attendees at the Kick-Off Event, Jordan Barab, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA, commented, “The meaning of ‘Mission 2010: Safe Workplaces’ is becoming progressively more clear as a strong link between healthy workers and healthy businesses makes a compelling case that preventive workplace safety and health practices not only save lives but also save jobs. . . One message OSHA would like the NAOSH Week participants to convey to their members is that it is vital for employers to adopt a three-part worker safety strategy: Plan, Prevent and Protect.”

Forty of OSHA’s 43 National Alliance Program participants supported 2010 NAOSH Week by promoting the importance of preventing workplace injuries and illnesses to their members and others in their industries. Their support was evidenced by a number of activities, including publishing articles in industry newsletters, issuing press releases on the event, sending NAOSH information to members, establishing links on their Web pages to the [American Society for Safety Engineers’ \(ASSE\) NAOSH Week Web page](#), and disseminating the NAOSH Week promotional poster. Once again, Lamar Outdoor Advertising, an Alliance Program participant, donated billboard space to feature the winning posters of the ASSE Kids’ “Safety-on-the-Job” Poster Contest in the winners’ hometowns.

More than 15 Alliance Program participants attended the Kick-Off Event. Christopher Patton, ASSE President, recounted that “NAOSH Week is a tool used to reach a larger audience to drive home why worker safety is so important. Contributing to the success of NAOSH Week was the invaluable assistance provided by the OSHA Alliance Program participants who distributed NAOSH Week information and posters months ahead of time to their members, employees and customers.”

The goal of the annual NAOSH Week, sponsored by ASSE and the Canadian Society of Safety Engineering, is to raise awareness about occupational safety and health and the environment. This is the sixth year that the Kick-Off Event has been held at the Department of Labor. “We are starting the 2010 Mission of Safe Workplaces today here in Washington, but it is the efforts of organizations such as the Alliance Program participants that will make it a success,” confirmed Jordan Barab. “We depend on them to spread the 2010 NAOSH Week message that every worker has a right to a safe workplace.”

The [OSHA and ASSE Alliance](#) was originally signed on December 4, 2002, and renewed three times—most recently on June 10, 2008. Through the Alliance, ASSE agreed to promote and support NAOSH Week as an activity related to the outreach and communications goal of the cooperative agreement. NAOSH Week 2011 will be held May 1 - 7.



From left to right: Anna Ball, ASSE “Safety-on-the-Job” first place poster contest winner (Age 5-6 Category); Abigail Jablon, ASSE “Safety-on-the-Job” first place poster contest winner (Age 7-8 Category); and Christopher Patton, ASSE President at the 2010 NAOSH Week Kick-off Event.

*Morgan Seuberling is a Safety and Occupational Health Specialist in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.*

## **AFSA Releases Toolbox Talks**

By Sandy Khan

Through the [OSHA and American Fire Sprinkler \(AFSA\) Alliance](#), AFSA developed a series of Toolbox Talks (Talks) that focus on the hazards responsible for the greatest number of injuries in the fire sprinkler industry. Each one of the Talks offers short and specific explanations of potential hazards for a job site crew to learn and to discuss. All of the Talks are written to help both the new employee and the experienced craft worker to identify the many hazards on the job and, more importantly, to avoid being injured on the job. AFSA is committed to preventing and reducing injuries and hazards within the fire sprinkler industry through continuous safety training. The Talks are divided into three categories: Human Factors, Safe Driving, and Fall Protection.

The six Talks in the Human Factors (Ergonomics) category describe lifting and carrying techniques, proper body posture, and ways to minimize muscle fatigue and are entitled “Back Injuries in Construction,” “Healthy Backs in the Mechanical Trades,” “Lifts & Loads: Lifting by 2 Persons,” “Material Handling on Construction Sites,” “Mini Breaks During the Day,” and “Minimizing Musculoskeletal Fatigue.”

The seven “Safe Driving” Talks cover topics such as defensive driving, right-of-way, and weather conditions that make driving hazardous and are entitled “Backing Problems,” “Courtesy and Safe Driving,” “Drive Defensively,” “The Right-of-Way,” “Roads and Weather,” “Seat Belts,” and “Seat Belts: The Three Collisions.”

The seven “Fall Protection” Talks provide the worker with information on ladders, floor and wall openings, and aerial lift and platform safety and are entitled “Aerial Lift-Pre-Operational Inspection,” “Aerial Lift Mounting and Dismounting Procedures,” “Aerial Platform Safety,” “Fall

Protection Requirements Apply!,” “Floor and Wall Openings,” “Floor Openings – Cover or Protect,” and “Proper Step Ladder Set Up.”

The Toolbox Talks are posted on the [AFSA and OSHA Alliance](#) Web page on the AFSA Web site and linked to from the OSHA and AFSA Alliance Web page and the [Alliance Program Participants Developed Products](#) Web page on the OSHA Web site.

While they were developed by AFSA for fire sprinkler industry workers, the Talks can, in many instances, be used with few or no changes by workers in many industries. According to Jeff Livaudais, AFSA, “We developed the Toolbox Talks to help our members’ workers recognize job site hazards and avoid injury on the job. . . AFSA expects to finalize additional Toolbox Talks through the Alliance on topics including asbestos, electrical safety, and personal protective equipment.”

*Sandy Khan is a Program Analyst in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.*

## **SCHC Releases GHS Information Sheets**


By David W. Peters

The Society for Chemical Hazard Communication (SCHC) works to promote knowledge and awareness in all areas of chemical hazard communication. In addition to providing information, guidance, and access to training resources to reduce and prevent exposure to the hazards of chemicals in the workplace, the [OSHA and SCHC Alliance](#) works to distribute information and increase awareness of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS).

To that end, through the OSHA and SCHC Alliance, SCHC has prepared six information sheets addressing different topics of the GHS. The sheets are brief summaries of GHS topics and do not specifically address OSHA’s planned implementation of the GHS for hazard communication. The information sheets are composed and peer reviewed by technical experts within SCHC. OSHA experts vet the sheets before finalization. The final documents are posted on the [OSHA Alliance Web page](#) on the SCHC Web site, and linked from the [Alliance Program Participants Developed Products Web page](#) and other pages on the OSHA Web site.

The following GHS topics are described in the six information sheets:

- Info Sheet #1: Pictograms
- Info Sheet #2: Flammable and Combustible Liquids
- Info Sheet #3: What is GHS?
- Info Sheet #4: Labeling-OSHA vs. GHS
- Info Sheet #5: Eye Damage/Eye Irritation
- Info Sheet #6: Germ Cell Mutagenicity



 Globally Harmonized System (GHS)  
 of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals  
 Produced by SCHC-OSHA Alliance  
 GHS Information Sheet Workgroup

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**Info Sheet #6 Germ Cell Mutagenicity** May, 2010




**How does the GHS define germ cell mutagenicity?**

The GHS defines a germ cell mutagen as a chemical that may cause mutations in the germ cells of humans that can be transmitted to the progeny. A mutation is defined as a permanent change in the amount or structure of the genetic material in a cell. The terms mutagenic or mutagen are used to refer to those chemicals that cause an increased occurrence of mutations in populations of cells and/or organisms. Genotoxic is a more general term that applies to agents or processes which alter the structure, information content, or segregation of DNA, including those which cause DNA damage by interfering with normal replication processes, or which in a non-physiological manner temporarily alter its replication.

**How are germ cell mutagens classified under GHS?**

Under GHS, germ cell mutagens are classified in one of two categories based on the weight of evidence. Category 1 germ cell mutagens are those chemicals that are either known to induce or that should be regarded as if they induce heritable mutations. Category 2 germ cell mutagens are those that may induce heritable mutations. Category 1 is subdivided based on whether the evidence is human epidemiological studies or other types of mutagenicity data (e.g. *in vivo* mammalian mutagenicity tests). See Table 1 below for hazard categories and hazard communication elements for germ cell mutagens.

**Table 1: Germ cell mutagen classification and hazard communication elements**

Hazard Category	Category 1A	Category 1B	Category 2
Category Description	Chemicals known to induce or regarded as if they induce heritable mutations in human germ cells	Chemicals known to induce or regarded as if they induce heritable mutations in human germ cells	Chemicals that may induce heritable mutations in human germ cells
Classification Criteria	Known to induce heritable mutations – positive evidence from human epidemiological studies	Regard as if they induce heritable mutations – positive results from <i>in vivo</i> heritable germ cell or somatic cell mammalian mutagenicity tests, or positive results showing mutagenic effects in the germ cells of humans without demonstration of transmission to progeny	Positive evidence obtained from <i>in vivo</i> somatic cell mutagenicity or somatic cell genotoxicity tests in mammals and in some cases with support from <i>in vitro</i> experiments
Symbol			
Signal word	Danger	Danger	Warning
Hazard statement	May cause genetic defects (state route of exposure if applicable)	May cause genetic defects (state route of exposure if applicable)	Suspected of causing genetic defects (state route of exposure if applicable)

Screen shot of sample SCHC Info Sheet.

SCHC tailored the information sheets to address physical and chemical effects, GHS classification, affects on compliance with the current OSHA Hazard Communication Standard, and required label verbiage differences between OSHA and GHS.

“We are pleased to share SCHC’s information sheets on the GHS and believe that all of the other Alliance Program participants will benefit from the information provided,” said Suzanne Matuszewski, President, SCHC. “We look forward to continuing to work through the Alliance Program to leverage resources and develop additional compliance assistance materials.” More fact sheets are in various stages of development and review.

*David W. Peters is the Regulatory Compliance Lead with the Monsanto Company. Monsanto is a member of the Society for Chemical Hazard Communication.*

## ASA Connects “Path to Safety” Articles and Toolbox Talks

By Ricky Bryant

Since its inception in September 2008, the American Supply Association (ASA) has worked through the [OSHA and ASA Alliance](#) to provide safety training and resources to its members, especially supply chain partners, and others primarily to help them address issues involving exposure to hazards associated with material handling, forklift operations, and hazard communication. ASA members are wholesale distributors and their suppliers in the plumbing, heating, cooling, and mechanical pipe, valves, and fittings industries.

In May 2009, *Supply House Times*, the industry's monthly publication which is distributed to 25,000 industry professionals, contained an article called "Making the Case for Safety," which was the first in a series of articles called "Path to Safety." Subsequent articles in "Path to Safety" were written by ASA Safety Committee members and designed to help all ASA members embark on a path to an effective safety program – one step at a time. Many of the articles can be effectively partnered with individual Toolbox Talks, which have been developed through our Alliance with OSHA, and remind workers of safety and health issues related to proper use of equipment and procedures. As of May 2010, the following articles have been added to "Path to Safety" and can be accessed from the [ASA Safety Articles Web site](#):

- Step 1: Initiating a Safety Program
- Step 2: Conducting Accident Investigations
- Step 3: OSHA Record Keeping and Reporting Requirements
- Step 4: Safe Operation of Powered Industrial Trucks
- Step 5: Hazard Communication
- Step 6: Manual Material Handling
- Step 7: Mechanical Material Handling
- Step 8: Housekeeping
- Step 9: Emergency Action Plan
- Step 10: Hand Safety
- Step 11: Management of Summer Heat

Correlating Toolbox Talks, created by ASA through the Alliance, which are posted on the [ASA Toolbox Talks Web site](#) and linked to from the OSHA and ASA Alliance Web page include:

- [Making Safety a Priority](#)
- [Attitudes and Behaviors that Contribute to Accidents](#)
- [Powered Industrial Truck Safety](#)
- [Hazard Communication](#)
- [Safe Material Handling](#)
- [Effective Workplace Housekeeping](#)
- [Hand Safety](#)
- [Guidelines for Dealing with Summer Heat](#)

Says Mike Adelizzi of ASA, "We intended to create safety awareness for managers on one issue at a time through the 'Path to Safety' articles. The training for workers comes in the form of the Toolbox Talks. Connecting the 'Path to Safety' articles and the Toolbox Talks is a way for ASA to share important workplace safety and health information resources with our members and also to promote our Alliance with OSHA."

*Ricky Bryant is the NIBCO Corporate Compliance Manager. NIBCO is a member of the American Supply Association.*

## **Three Alliances Join Together to Present Aerial Platforms Seminar**

By Laurie Weber

Three OSHA Alliance Program participants—the Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM), Altec Industries (Altec), and the Scaffold Industry Association (SIA)—joined forces to present a workshop on April 27, 2010, at the OSHA On-site Consultation Training Conference held in San Diego, California. This annual event, hosted by [OSHA’s Office of Small Business Assistance](#) in the Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs, is for Regional and state-based administrators of the On-site Consultation Program. In addition to sharing information specific to OSHA and the On-site Consultation Program, the conference provides a menu of workshops on industry hot topics.

The “Industry Best Practices for Aerial Work Platform Training: What you need to know,” workshop was attended by the maximum amount of individuals—40—allowed for a session. AEM, Altec, and SIA representatives discussed the recognized and supported standards for the construction industry, including the American National Standards Institute/Scaffold Industry Association (ANSI/SIA) A92 Standards and applicable OSHA construction regulations. The best practices they discussed included the minimum universal training guidelines for aerial work platform operators. In addition, members of the panel emphasized the differences between general training and the required familiarization for all responsible parties. The workshop session also clarified the minimum qualifications required for the individual responsible for training aerial platform workers.

Session attendees received the [Statement of Best Practices of General Training and Familiarization for Aerial Work Platform Equipment](#) and a Manual of Responsibility for the A92.2, A92.3, A92.5 and A92.6 guidelines.

*Laurie Weber is Executive Director of the Scaffold Industry Association.*

## **Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs Hosts Forum Focusing on Green Jobs**

By Mandi Garner

On April 1, 2010, OSHA’s Directorate of Cooperative and State Programs hosted its 13th “Business of Small Business” Forum at the Francis Perkins Building Auditorium in Washington, D.C. The Forum, entitled “Green Jobs: Safety and Health Outlook for Workers and Small Employers,” featured a panel discussion on workplace safety and health hazards associated with green jobs in the construction, energy, and waste management/recycling industries. The Forum also featured remarks from Dr. David Michaels, Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA, who asserted that it is essential that worker safety and health be addressed and integrated into the early phases of green manufacturing, green construction, green energy, and green recycling.

He added that employers who race into this green economy without paying attention to worker safety and health will misstep into many preventable injuries and deaths; employers must focus on prevention and identify potential hazards at their onset. Approximately 100 participants, including small business representatives, Alliance Program participants, OSHA staff, and other federal agency staff attended the event. Sanji Kanth, Safety Engineer, Directorate of

Enforcement, OSHA; Don Ellenberger, Environmental Hazard Training Director, CPWR-The Center for Construction Research and Training; Michele Myers, Manager of Labor, Health and Safety Policy, American Wind Energy Association (AWEA); and Justin August, Industrial Hygienist, Covanta Energy Corporation, comprised the panel of speakers.



Dr. Michaels addressing the Small Business Forum.

Mr. Kanth addressed various opportunities and challenges workers face in the emerging green economy. He stated that green jobs are not “new” jobs; rather, they are traditional jobs with green applications. He added that the majority of the jobs in green industries are in manufacturing, construction, and installation, and the hazards that workers face while on green worksites are similar to those that workers face while on traditional worksites. He also noted that without a standard definition of what constitutes a green job, it is difficult to identify all of the safety and health hazards associated with green production processes and practices and the production of green goods.

Mr. Ellenberger explored the safety and health outlook of workers in the construction industry. He noted that there is no statistical difference between green and non-green projects in terms of construction worker safety and health. He added that in green construction projects, there is a tremendous focus on materials, energy, and the environment, but little, if any, focus on worker safety and health. He concluded his remarks by saying that having safety and health planning during the conceptual stage of a project and requiring safety training for project designers as well as workers will ensure that the safety and health of human resources receive the same consideration as conserving natural resources.

Ms. Myers provided a historical overview of the emerging wind energy industry and discussed the increase in wind turbine manufacturing in the United States. She noted that with the growth in the emerging wind energy industry, there has been a dramatic shift toward domestic manufacturing for wind turbine components, which now exceeds more than 160 manufacturing facilities. She stated that AWEA supports the continuous education and training of employers and workers in the wind energy industry. She said AWEA created a safety and health committee to address the most pressing issues and to identify high-risk hazards within the industry to help ensure the safety and health of workers in the wind energy industry.

Mr. August offered best practices and strategies for small businesses in reducing safety and health hazards associated with green jobs in the waste management and recycling industry. According to

Mr. August, Covanta Energy Corporation is the largest Energy-from-Waste (EfW) producer in the world and operates 45 EfW and eight biomass-to-electricity facilities specially designed to convert waste into clean renewable power. He added that each new facility creates 1,000 construction jobs and 50 full time waste/recycling jobs. He noted that Covanta uses a “Safety Management and Communication Pyramid” to reduce injury and illness rates at worksites in an effort to protect workers’ safety and health. The pyramid outlines the company’s safety and health protocols for the day, week, month, quarter, and year.

At the conclusion of the presentations, the participants had an opportunity to ask the panelists questions. To view the speakers’ slide presentations or to access the Forum’s archived Webinar, please visit the [Small Business Forums Web page](#) on the OSHA Website.

*Mandi Garner is a Program Analyst with the OSHA Office of Small Business Assistance.*

## **Regional Alliances—Highlights and Successes**

### Region III

#### **Philadelphia Area Office Alliance with American Mushroom Institute Trains Workers**

The members of the OSHA Region III Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Area Office and the American Mushroom Institute (AMI) Alliance are exploring ways to increase the safety of workers in the mushroom industry and change the safety culture of the workplace. Specifically, the Alliance works to develop and implement effective safety and health programs; to reduce or eliminate chemical and electrical hazards; to prevent falls and amputations; and to provide expertise in communicating safety and health information to employers and workers. Members of AMI shared their injury and illness data, used it to identify the most pervasive hazards in their industry, assigned priorities to them, and developed specific safety programs to address them. OSHA provided hazard-specific training, model programs, and other resources. At three different training sessions, the Alliance trained approximately 50 people who have the potential to affect the safety and health of approximately 10,000 workers in the mushroom-growing industry. For more information, visit the [Region III Success Stories](#) page.

### Region V

#### **Ohio Alliance Develops Videos and DVDs for Temporary Workers**

The OSHA Region V Columbus, Ohio Area Office has formed an Alliance with several Ohio organizations—the Ohio On-site Consultation Program, the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation (Ohio BWC), CBS Personnel Holdings, Inc., and the Ohio Staffing and Search Association—and named it the Temporary Workers Alliance. This Alliance provides companies whose business is temporary staffing with resources to help them protect workers’ health and safety, particularly from fall, electrical, struck-by, and caught-in hazards. It was initiated as a result of the large number and cost of injuries to temporary workers in Ohio. Through the Alliance, participants developed a training course, “Employee Safety for Staffing Companies & Professional Employer Associations,” and a series of seven training videos and DVDs, which they have translated into Spanish. All of the products can be downloaded or streamed from the Ohio BWC Web site. For more information, visit the [Region V Success Stories](#) page.

## Region VI

### **Texas Regional Office and International Association of Foundation Drilling Hold Training Seminar**

The OSHA Region VI, Regional Office and the International Association of Foundation Drilling (ADSC): South Central Chapter work, through the Alliance, to provide members of the foundation drilling industry, including small businesses and non-English- or limited-English-speaking workers, with safety and health training resources, particularly in the areas of fall protection; silica and pinch-point hazards; and equipment operation hazards. To that end, the South Central Chapter hosted a training seminar/workshop on drilled shaft installation and safety for more than 45 people including 25 OSHA Region VI Compliance Officers from the Dallas and Fort Worth, Texas and the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Area Offices and the Dallas Regional Office. Also attending were ADSC contractor members and their invited suppliers. According to Tom Baehr, President, ADSC South Central Chapter and ADSC Board Member, “This workshop is particularly relevant because of the fact that construction is identified as a high hazard industry by OSHA, and Texas has had the highest fatality rates in recent years.” For more information, visit the [Region VI Success Stories](#) page.

### **Wenner Bread Products Breaks Down Language and Cultural Barriers to Reach Hispanic Workforce**

Wenner Bread Products implemented a safety and health management system and took other steps to improve workplace safety and health for its largely Hispanic workforce. After language and cultural barriers led to workplace injuries, Wenner Bread decided to pursue recognition under OSHA’s Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP). The company achieved VPP Star status in 1998 through implementation of a comprehensive safety and health management system that includes measures for effectively training its Hispanic workers. For example, the company translates all its safety and health resources into Spanish, conducts its daily and weekly safety briefings in English and Spanish, and provides worker and management training in English and Spanish. “Obtaining OSHA’s VPP Star recognition and being able to give back to our employees and the Hispanic community is one of the professional achievements that I am most proud of,” said Lawrence Wenner, Chief Operator Officer of Wenner Bread Products. For more information, see the Wenner Bread story on OSHA’s [Hispanic Outreach Success Stories](#) Web page.

## **New OSHA Compliance Assistance Resources**

By Barney Lawrence

### Web Pages

- [Chemical Exposure Health Data](#) (May 2010)
- [Keeping Workers Safe During Oil Spill Response and Cleanup Operations](#) (May 2010)
- [Small Business](#) (updated May 2010)

## QuickCards

- Filling, Moving and Placing Sandbags During Flooding Disasters
  - [English](#) (OSHA Publication 3361) (Mar. 2010)
  - [Spanish](#) (OSHA Publication 3383) (May 2010)
- [Protecting Swine Production Workers from Influenza](#) (OSHA Publication 3374) (English and Spanish) (May 2010)

## Fact Sheets

- Deepwater Horizon/Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill (May 2010)
  - [English](#)
  - [Spanish](#)
  - [Vietnamese](#)
- Filling, Moving and Placing Sandbags During Flooding Disasters
  - [English](#) (Mar. 2010)
  - [Spanish](#) (May 2010)
- [Influenza in Workers and Pigs: Guidance for Commercial Swine Farmers and Pork Producers](#) (May 2010)
- Worker Rights under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (May 2010)
  - [English](#)
  - [Spanish](#)

For a complete list of new OSHA compliance assistance products, see the OSHA [Compliance Assistance Web page](#).

*Barney Lawrence is the Compliance Assistance Coordinator in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.*

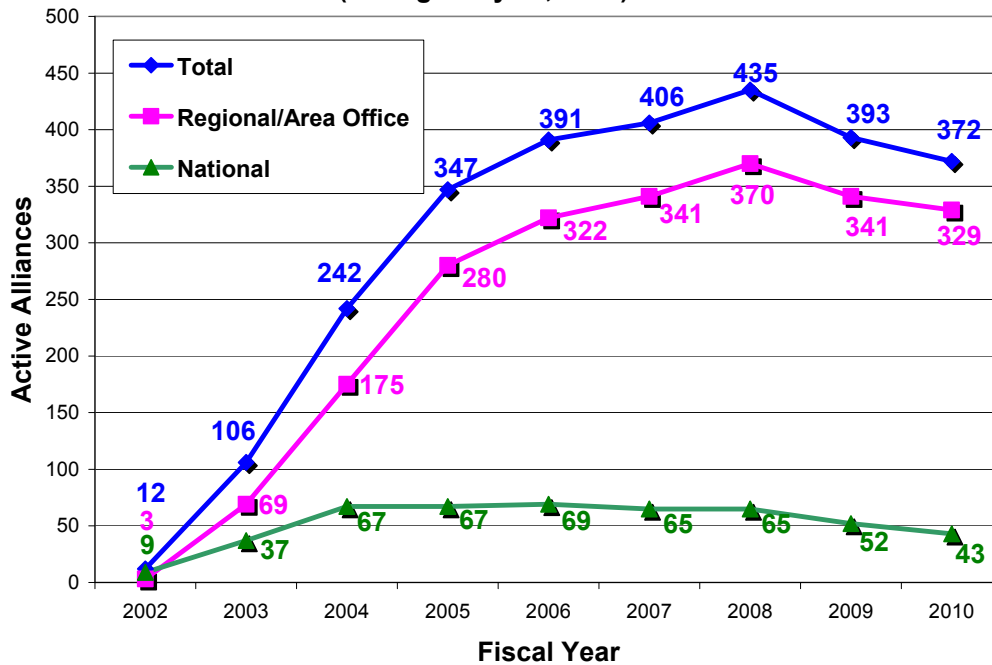
## OSHA Active Alliances Chart

By Barney Lawrence

As of May 31, 2010, the total number of National, Regional, and Area Office Alliances was 372. Workers and employers are the beneficiaries of the Alliances' production of electronic and print information products and safety and health training programs. For examples of Alliance Program participants' activities and products, visit the [Alliance Milestones and Successes, Regional and State Plan State Success Stories](#), and [Alliance Program Participants Developed Products](#) Web pages on the OSHA Web site.

*Barney Lawrence is the Compliance Assistance Coordinator in the Office of Outreach Services and Alliances.*

## OSHA Active Alliances by Fiscal Year (through May 31, 2010)



### National Office Signings, Renewals, and Conclusions

#### Signings

[International Window Cleaning Association \(IWCA\)](#)

Signed 06/10/2010

#### Renewals

[National Association of Home Builders \(NAHB\)](#)

Signed 05/08/2003  
 Renewed 10/18/2005  
 Renewed 06/07/2007  
 Renewed 04/19/2010

#### Conclusions

[Process Safety Alliance \(PSA\)](#)

Signed 01/22/2008  
 Concluded 01/22/2010

[American Dental Association \(ADA\)](#)

Signed 04/12/2004  
 Renewed 05/18/2006  
 Renewed 09/04/2008  
 Concluded 04/12/2010