



Vehicle Fleet Safety Plan

The operation of motor vehicles exposes your company to possible financial loss through damaged property, injury to employees and/or injuries to members of the general public. Damage to public property or the public's observance of poor driving practices also can create a negative public image and damaged public relations.

Each year injuries and property and liability damage claims seem to increase. Most direct costs of these accidents are paid by insurance. However, after deductibles you pay indirect costs. These include:

- ◆ Increased cost of insurance
- ◆ Loss of vehicle use
- ◆ Vehicle replacement costs
- ◆ Loss of productivity
- ◆ Increased paperwork

The key to controlling accidents is to adopt a well-written, comprehensive, "Fleet Safety Plan". To be effective, the plan must address:

- ◆ Driver selection
- ◆ Training
- ◆ Vehicle inspection
- ◆ Vehicle maintenance
- ◆ Discipline
- ◆ Recordkeeping

Fleet safety is inclusive of

all mobile equipment from passenger cars to heavy equipment. Your plan should apply to all persons operating any company vehicle or private vehicle used for company business.

Since this topic involves certain elements of employment law, we suggest you have your program reviewed by your Legal and Human Resources advisors.

There are several laws, standards, rules and regulations that pertain to this topic. We suggest you consult them as well as local and state public safety officials

for additional assistance. Key Elements of a Fleet Safety Program

Your Fleet Safety Program should at least include the following elements:

- ◆ Written policy
- ◆ Program administration (roles and responsibilities)
- ◆ Driver selection, authorization, and review
- ◆ Driver training
- ◆ Driver discipline
- ◆ Drug and alcohol testing
- ◆ Emergency equipment
- ◆ Vehicle inspection and maintenance
- ◆ Accident reporting and investigation
- ◆ Recordkeeping



Member News

Miller Construction Co. recently completed a six-week build-out of the new Dos Caminos restaurant located inside the Sheraton Fort Lauderdale Beach Hotel for Starwood Capital Group. The Miller team cordoned off the restaurant's portion of the hotel's fully operational kitchen with barrier walls, chipped through the structural slab to run new plumbing lines and fully customized the Dos Caminos cooking area. They also transformed the restaurant patio space for open-air dining under a spacious new canopy.



Dos Caminos Restaurant

Pirtle Construction Co. announced that the City of Miami Beach selected the firm to build two high-profile capital projects, the City's new Property Management Facility and Flamingo Park Tennis Center.

The \$3.5 million Property Management Facility project includes the demolition of the City's existing facility and construction of a new 24,000 square foot, 2-story building. The \$5.1 million Flamingo Park Tennis Center project consists of the demolition of the existing tennis center building and courts and the construction of a new one-story tennis center facility with 17 clay tennis courts.

The U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC) announced that Miami-based **Coastal Construction Group** has secured the Title Sponsor position for the nonprofit organization's annual GalaVerde on August 27 at the Signature Grand in Davie, Florida.

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Focusing on Complete Customer Satisfaction

Each month Construction FOCUS features a CASF member company, selected by drawing a business card from among those attending the monthly networking breakfast. The next breakfast, sponsored by Whiting-Turner Contracting Co., will be held on Thursday, August 18, 7:30 a.m. at the Embassy Suites - Boca Raton off Yamato Road.

services which include bathroom remodeling, plumbing repairs, plumbing fixture installments, stoppages, water leaks, high pressure jetting, video sewer inspections, water service and repairs, water heater installments, fixture replacement, water meters, pumps, and filtrations, as well as grease traps and storm drains. AHP is also qualified with the installation of fire line standpipes, fire sprinklers, ink and chemical lines, tanks, and pneumatic control piping systems.

A few of AHP's recent projects include but are not limited to a 16,000 gallon potable water storage tank for Miami Central Sr. High School's Phases I and II, New Riviera Nursing Home, Miami Dade College Wolfson Campus, the South Florida Water Management District and Florida International University's 6 story, 252 dormitory Lakeview Housing facility.

AHP has been a member of CASF since 2009 and continues to take advantage of great networking opportunities. "CASF provides resources to improve our business with networking, growth and up-to-date information", states Coleman. AHP continues to provide excellent service by striving to focus on complete customer satisfaction, providing a quality job, building loyalty between their customers and vendors, and working as a team.

Al Hill Plumbing Corporation is located at 4717 MW 165th Street, Miami Gardens, FL 33014. For more information, call 305-687-9963 or visit www.AlHillPlumbing.com.

Al Hill Plumbing Corporation, established in 1974 by President Al Hill, provides outstanding service to Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach Counties and throughout the state of Florida. With a staff of 15 employees, Al Hill Plumbing has collective experience of over 100 years in construction management, estimating, quality control, equipment safety operation and construction. "We are large enough to handle the biggest of jobs, yet small enough to be personal", explains Vice President Jackie Coleman, who has been with the company for 20 years. The company's overall goal is to provide proficient and effective service to the construction industry and is extremely dedicated to meet or exceed

all requirements with the highest quality workmanship. Safety is their first priority!

In 2009, AHP was honored by USF Safety Florida with the Sunshine State Safety Recognition Award, for implementing and maintaining an effective injury and illness prevention program/process. This award is the highest safety award of its kind you can receive within the construction industry. "We are privileged to be involved in an industry that promotes safety first and are committed to continuously improving the effectiveness of the company's workplace safety and health management system by keeping safety a priority on all projects we perform our services and plan to keep an incident and injury-free jobsite", says Coleman.

They offer a wide range of



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Dealing with Heat Related Illnesses

With temperatures soaring into the 90's and humidity at 90%, combine that with hard physical labor of construction work and you have perfect conditions for heat illnesses. Now that the hottest days of summer are here, it is important that everyone is aware of the symptoms and treatment of heat-induced disorders as well as measures to prevent it.

Each year, thousands of workers develop heat-related illness on the job, and some even die. These deaths can be prevented! As an employer, you have an important responsibility and legal obligation to provide safe working conditions. This includes protecting workers from preventable heat-related illness.

Vergie Bain, Compliance Assistant Specialist for OSHA comments, "It is hot and getting hotter. We need to be mindful of the heat and sun and make employees aware of the risks associated with working in a hot environment, recognize early symptoms of heat stress and know how to treat it. It is important to provide plenty of drinking water and get employees to drink it."

Heat illnesses include dehydration, muscle cramps, heat rash, heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Pale clammy skin, headaches, dizziness/light headedness, weakness, irritability or confusion, feeling sick to your stomach, vomiting, and passing out characterize Heat Exhaustion. If these symptoms appear, move the person to a cool shaded area to rest. Have the person drink some water and try to cool by fanning them

or provide a cool wet cloth compress or cool spray mist. If heat exhaustion is not treated it may advance to heat stroke.

Heat Stroke is very serious; it can kill you unless you get emergency medical help. The symptoms are dry pale skin, hot red skin, may become irritable and confused, seizures or passing out. If you see a worker not sweating, it is very serious and you need treat them right away. To treat heat stroke, call for emergency help (911) right away. Move the person to a cool shaded area and try to cool them. If ice is available, place ice packs on wrists and ankles, under the armpits and groin area. Never leave the person alone.

Here are some important steps that you can take to prevent heat-related illness:

1. *Have a plan for heat-related illness prevention during hot weather.*

2. *Provide an adequate supply of clean drinking water for workers, and remind workers to drink small amounts of water often (before they become thirsty). Plan on providing about 2 gallons per worker per shift.*

3. *Take steps that help workers become acclimated to the heat (e.g., gradually increase workloads or allow more frequent breaks), especially workers who are new to working in the heat or have been away from work for a week or more.*

4. *Allow workers regularly scheduled breaks in cool, shaded areas.*

5. *If workers are doing*

strenuous work, or wearing layers of protective clothing, take additional precautions—for example, schedule heavy tasks earlier in the day and monitor workers for signs of heat-related illness.

6. *Train workers on how to recognize heat-related illness, how to prevent it, and what to do if someone has symptoms.*

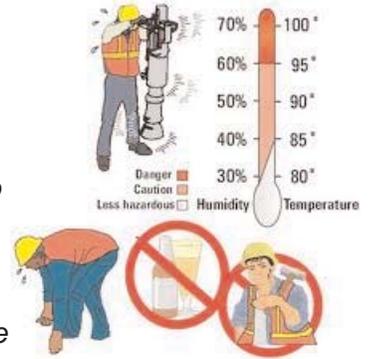
7. *Be prepared for medical emergencies. Make sure that medical services are available. Workers who show symptoms of heat-related illness need immediate attention. This can be a matter of life and death.*

Remember--anyone working outside in hot weather needs water, rest, and shade.

In addition to health concerns, the frequency of accidents appears to be higher in hot environments than in moderate conditions. Working in heat lowers mental alertness and physical performance. Increased body temperature and discomfort leads to irritability, which can lower attentiveness on the job.

Another concern is exposure to the sun and the risk of skin cancer. It is important to cover up by wearing breathable clothing that will block out the sunlight, use sunscreen, and wear a hat and protective safety glasses that block UV rays.

For more information, visit www.osha.gov for training materials, worksite posters, and other resources on preventing heat-related illness, in both English and Spanish.



ROUTE TO:

Value in Information Technology Training

At many construction firms, IT training is provided to ensure that team members are kept up to speed on the tasks directly related to their work. Some companies provide no training at all, relying only on the skills and knowledge employees acquired in school and at previous employers.

Progressive companies view their IT staff as key technical specialists who can help the business squeeze the maximum value out of its systems and enable employees at every level to reach new productivity. These firms approach IT staff training with four basic goals in mind:

1.) *To improve the productivity, effectiveness and efficiency of service by helping employees develop and better utilize their talents, skills and potential.*

2.) *To help staffers develop their knowledge, skills and abili-*

ties so that they might become better qualified to perform the duties of their present jobs and advance to more responsible positions.

3.) *To provide development for managers and supervisors, making them capable of organizing and developing effective management systems for the accomplishment of the organization's goals and objectives.*

4.) *To alleviate labor shortages and reduce personnel turnover.*

Getting Started

Training doesn't have to be a budget-buster.

For instance, technology vendors routinely offer free training materials about their products, ranging from publications to Webinars. The Web is another source of free education. Staffers should be encouraged to visit Web sites and forums that specialize in topics relating to their jobs. YouTube even offers free videos on topics ranging from spreadsheet productivi-

ty tips to scheduling.

Organizations can also draw on internal resources to distribute IT knowledge. Mentoring programs, which join a staffer possessing extensive knowledge in a particular area with a less-experienced colleague, are a great way to cross-train employees in different disciplines at little or no cost.

Reaping the Benefits

After receiving adequate training, IT staff will be prepared to help their company achieve its current and future IT goals. Besides providing consistent operational support, staff members will be able to offer insight on new technologies and processes that can benefit their organization.

A well-trained staff can solve routine and challenging problems in less time and with fewer technical glitches than those who lack adequate training.