

MSSC



Montana Safety Services Council

December 2009

“Let us strengthen your safety culture”

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LOVELAND PRODUCTS, INC.— BILLINGS WINS THE GOVERNOR’S SAFETY & HEALTH AWARD FOR SMALL PRIVATE EMPLOYER FOR SECOND CONSECUTIVE YEAR.

Loveland Products, Inc.—Billings (formerly Transbas) places workplace health and safety at the top. Winning the Governor’s Safety & Health Award for the second consecutive year came from the safety culture created within. Injury and illness rates have been reduced to zero and the company has a running record of 522 days without an OSHA recordable injury as well as 969 days without a lost time accident.

“Don’t Let Good Enough be Good Enough” and “We will not only meet but exceed all regulatory compliance issues” are company value statements which have made LPI-Billings stand out as a leader in safety and health.

The greatest contributor is the employees’ willingness to actively participate and take ownership in their safety program, which lends confidence that LPI will be able to achieve its next goal of becoming an OSHA SHARP certified company in early 2010.

In 2005, LPI-Billings’ newest General Manager made it clear: workplace safety and health would be part of the company culture. To back that up, a professional safety manager was brought in and a comprehensive and multi-faceted safety and health system began to form. Injuries and illness rates saw a precipitous drop and days away from work and restricted time rates were cut by 88%. Accountability for safety and health is realized at each and every level throughout the company. Workers hold safety and health to be a value and this has resulted in \$250,000 reduction in annual worker compensation premiums, a 10% increase in production, and an all around improved quality of life for the company workforce.

Source: Mike Williams, Safety Director, LPI-Billings & www.erd.dli.mt.gov

The Governor’s Award for Health and Safety recognizes the commitment to excellence in workplace safety and health. It promotes greater awareness of workplace health and safety issues across the state and offers the opportunity for leaders to share model programs. It is the highest honor given by the State of Montana in recognition of health and safety excellence.

Congratulations to the Management & Staff of Loveland Products, Inc.—Billings from all of us at Montana Safety Services Council.

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Proud Member

Michael B. Smith
Director
Safety Services

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Management and Safety
Development

ConocoPhillips Refinery, Billings wins Safety Award and Governor's Cup



ConocoPhillips Refinery, Billings is recipient of the Governor's Safety & Health Award for Large Private Employer of the Year and the Governor's Cup Award. The Governor's Cup is a special award that recognizes safety and health initiatives which have gone above and beyond, and have strived to make safety a way of life, both at work and at home. The winner holds the beautiful hand-cut crystal cup for one year. At the end of the year, "The Cup" will be passed to the newest winner.

ConocoPhillips Refinery, Billings has also been a recipient of the National Petrochemical & Refiner's Association's Annual Safety Conference in Houston for the last two years, and a company with a record of 600 days running without a recordable worker injury.

ConocoPhillips Refinery places workplace safety and health at the top. Whether at regular safety meetings or day-to-day interactions between managers, supervisors, and workers, ConocoPhillips exemplifies leadership by example. Presently in the process of earning OSHA's prestigious Voluntary Protection Program, VPP designation, ConocoPhillips Refinery continues to look for new ways to protect and care for workers by instilling a culture where safety is a way of doing business.

Source: www.erd.dli.mt.go

Congratulations to ConocoPhillips management and employees.

Winter Driving Survival

It's a good idea to keep a winter survival kit in your vehicle. Having essential supplies can provide some comfort and safety for you and your passengers should you become stranded.

Recommended items include:

- Ice scraper/snowbrush
- Shovel
- Sand or other traction aid
- Tow rope or chain
- Booster cables
- Road flares or warning lights
- Gas line antifreeze
- Flashlight and batteries
- First aid kit
- Fire extinguisher
- Small tool kit
- Extra clothing and footwear
- Blanket
- Non-perishable energy foods – e.g., chocolate or granola bars, juice, soup, bottled water
- Candle and a small tin can
- Matches



Did you know?

Not only can the candle and small tin help with lighting, but will also generate some heat while waiting for help.



Montana Safety Services Council

The Montana Safety Services Council is a non-profit educational association established in 1993 to provide safety and health related services. These services include safety training, consulting, technical assistance, seminars and program development to our membership and the public at large. We currently serve over 130 businesses in all areas of service, manufacturing, construction, mining, medical, retail, wholesale, transportation, and refining throughout Montana, Wyoming, Idaho, Washington and the Dakotas.

Our Mission Statement

The Council is dedicated to the enhancement of safety through education and training programs. Our goal is to serve and assist owners, contractors, labor, as well as the general public, to advance and improve safety awareness throughout the region.

The Council recognizes that if improvement in safety performance and awareness is to be achieved, a unified effort involving business owners, contractors and our labor force must be realized.

Our commitment is to focus on developing this unified effort in order to enhance the safety and welfare of workers throughout our region.

Other Winter Safety Tips

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Carbon Monoxide Poisoning

Carbon monoxide poisoning is a silent, deadly killer claiming about 1,000 lives each year in the United States. Such common items as automotive exhaust, home heating systems and obstructed chimneys can produce the colorless, odorless gas. The gas can also be produced by poorly vented generators, kerosene heaters, gas grills and other items used for cooking and heating when used improperly during the winter months.

Remember:

- **NEVER** run generators indoors. Open a window slightly when using a kerosene heater.
- **NEVER** use charcoal to cook indoors.
- **NEVER** use a gas oven to heat your home.



Symptoms of carbon monoxide poisoning include sleepiness, headaches and dizziness. If you suspect carbon monoxide poisoning, ventilate the area and get to a hospital.

Fire Safety

Wood-burning stoves, fireplaces and heaters can add a cozy glow, but make sure you are using them safely. Follow these safety tips:

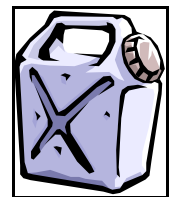
- Always keep a screen around an open flame.
- Never use gasoline to start your fireplace.
- Never burn charcoal indoors.
- Do not close the damper when ashes are hot.
- When using alternative heat sources such as a fireplace, woodstove, etc. always make sure you have proper ventilation. Keep curtains, towels and potholders away from hot surfaces.
- Have your chimney checked before the season for creosote buildup -- and then clean it.
- Have a fire extinguisher and smoke detectors ... and make sure they work!
- Establish a well-planned escape route with the entire family.



Kerosene Heaters

If you use kerosene heaters to supplement your regular heating fuel, or as an emergency source of heat, follow these safety tips:

- Follow the manufacturers instructions.
- Use only the correct fuel for your unit.
- Refuel outdoors **ONLY** and only when the unit is cool.
- Keep the heater at least three feet away from furniture and other flammable objects.
- When using the heater, use fire safeguards and ventilate properly.



Remember, the fire hazard is greatly increased in the winter because alternate heating sources often are used without following proper safety precautions.

Lunch & Learns

Come and join MSSC for a free lunch and learning session, being held at our training room at
2727 Central Avenue, Ste. 2, Billings MT.

Call us now to register at 406-248-4893 or email joann@aehr.org.
Attendance is limited to the first 40 participants.

December 16, 2009
11:45 a.m.—1:00 p.m.

OSHA 300 Log - Frequently Asked Questions

- An Overview: Recording Work-Related Injuries and Illnesses
- How to fill out the log
- Summary of work-related injuries and illnesses
- OSHA's 301—Injury and Illness Incident Report
- Non-mandatory Appendix A to Subpart B - Partially exempt industries

January 20, 2010
11:45 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Improving Your Safety Culture with Behavioral Safety and the Montana Safety Culture Act

- Federal OSHA vs. Montana Safety Culture Act
- Behavioral safety overview
- Why focus on unsafe behavior
- How can we stop unsafe behavior?
- Implementing change

15th Annual
Safety Conference

February 10 - 11, 2010
Holiday Inn Grand Montana
Billings MT

LEPC

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The Economics of Safety:
Maintaining Safety in a Down Economy

Watch for the *Safety Conference Brochure*

to be in the mail
at the end of December.

In it, you will find Conference Information, a Participant's Registration Form along with Conference Schedule of Events/Sessions.

Register by January 8, 2010,
and receive a 15% Early
Registration Discount.

See you at the Conference!!

Substance Abuse & the Workplace

According to OSHA data, substance abuse on the job costs employers more than \$81 billion annually. The costs stem from absenteeism, tardiness, poor job performance, on-the-job accidents and higher employee turnover rates.

If you're in business, you must face some facts: Seventy percent of all illegal drug users are employed either full or part time. This suggests over 10 million people are current users of illicit drugs.

In fact: - One in twelve full-time employees reports current use of illicit drugs.
- One in every ten people in this country has an alcohol problem.

What do those numbers mean to you? They mean that every day, across this country, in towns large and small, from small businesses to large corporations, the problems of substance abuse are hurting the workplace. And that means a major business problem for you.

Because substance abuse affects the bottom line: it costs you money. How? Look how substance abusing workers compare to drug-free workers:

- More workdays missed
- More likely to injure self or others
- More Workers' Compensation claims filed
- Less productivity

That means REAL DOLLAR COSTS to you in all these areas:

- Absenteeism
- Overtime pay
- Tardiness
- Sick leave
- Insurance Claims
- Workers' Compensation

But there are also HIDDEN COSTS that drive up your bill for substance abuse:

- Diverted supervisory and managerial time
- Friction among workers
- Damage to equipment
- Poor decisions
- Damage to the company's public image
- Personal turnover



**MEASURABLE COSTS - HIDDEN COSTS - PUBLIC LIABILITY:
WHEN YOU ADD UP ALL THE COSTS INVOLVED
IN IGNORING THE PROBLEM, CAN YOU AFFORD NOT
TO SET UP A SUBSTANCE ABUSE PROGRAM?**

DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM MAY INVOLVE THESE BASIC STEPS:

- A written substance abuse policy
- A supervisory training program
- An employee education and awareness program
- Access to an Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- A drug testing program, where appropriate

A Special Thank You..

A special thank you to those members who have recently renewed their annual memberships. The MSSC Board of Directors and staff recognize and appreciate the continued trust and support you have placed with us as your safety resource.

American Title & Escrow Company

Billings Plaza Holiday Inn

Dale & Jax Door & Glass Inc.

Fox Distribution

Payne Financial Group

High Tech Construction & Properties Inc.

HydroSolutions Inc.

Mac Arthur Co.

Sysco Food Services of Montana

NEW MEMBERS:

Montana Seed & Grain

Mountain Harvest Pizza Crust Company

December Safety Tips



The holidays are a time for families and friends to celebrate traditions and the winter season. The following information is provided in the hope that your holidays will be safe and happy.

The holiday season often brings family and friends together to celebrate the season. For those that smoke, provide guests with large ashtrays and empty them when the ashes are cool. Remind overnight guests that smoking when drowsy or in bed is not allowed in your home.

Candles can help bring a festive atmosphere to our celebrations but they can also cause great damage if not used safely. Always put candles in candlesticks before you light them. Don't use lit candles near flammable decorations and curtains. Never leave candles unattended or within the reach of young children.

Fresh trees are an important decoration for many holiday celebrations. After your family's celebrations, remove the tree and dispose of it properly. Contact your garbage disposal service to learn the details of their holiday tree removal program.

More safety tips:

- Don't overload electrical circuits
- If you have a fireplace, woodstove or use gas logs/furnace, make sure you have an operable UL approved carbon monoxide detector
- Turn off electric candles and decorative lighting before going to sleep
- Inspect all electrical equipment before use
- Use the proper size and type light bulbs in decorative lighting
- Spread sand or salt on icy walkways
- Give yourself plenty of time to get where you are going
- Make sure your vehicle is in good repair
- If you drink... don't drive
- Always use safety belts and child safety seats
- Maintain a safe distance between vehicles
- Get a good night's sleep before traveling



Have a safe and happy Holiday Season!

Tidbits

Did you know.....

Veterans Day: continued from November edition: For a brief period (1971-1977), the holiday was celebrated on the fourth Monday in October.

More Strange Facts:

- There are more plastic flamingos in the U.S, than real ones!
- About 3000 years ago, most Egyptians died by the time they were 30!
- More people use **blue** toothbrushes, than **red** ones!
- A sneeze travels out your mouth at over 100 m.p.h.!
- Your ribs move about 5 million times a year, every time you breathe!



Source: www.StrangeFacts.com

UPCOMING TRAININGS

December

December 8, 2009	Hazwoper 8 Hr Refresher	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
December 14, 2009	CSTOP 4 Hour	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
December 15, 2009	CSTOP 8 Hour	8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
December 16, 2009	Lunch & Learn OSHA 300 Log	11:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Please pre-register by calling 248-4893 or emailing joann@aehr.org

Check out our website www.mssc.org for more dates and prices.

A minimum number of participants is required to conduct training classes.

Please pre-register.

Classes that do not obtain the minimum requirement of participants may be cancelled.

CUSTOMIZED & ONSITE TRAINING AVAILABLE

OSHA-style Safety Audits
Needs Assessments
Line Safety Code Inspection
Uniform & International Fire Code
Inspections
National Fire Code Standards
Fire Suppression
Fire Alarms Systems

Respiratory Protection
Fall Protection
Scaffold Construction Safety
Confined Spaces
Lock Out / Tag Out
Defensive Driving
and more

Tell Us What You Think?

Do you have any ideas or comments about Montana Safety Services Council monthly newsletter, or maybe you have a question that we can answer in the newsletter?

Your suggestions, comments & questions are greatly appreciated.

Your input is important to us! There are several convenient ways to contact us:

Call our office @ (406) 248-4893

e-mail: joann@aehr.org

Visit our website at www.mssc.org

Mail to : Newsletter Department

Montana Safety Services Council

2727 Central Avenue, Ste. 2

Billings, MT 59102

Did you know you can view upcoming trainings and seminars on the website?

You can even register for classes on the web. www.mssc.org

Due to the constantly changing nature of government regulations, it is impossible to guarantee absolute accuracy of the material contained herein. MSSC, therefore, cannot assume any responsibility for omissions, errors, misprinting, or ambiguity contained within this publication and shall not be held liable in any degree for any loss or injury caused by such omission, error, misprinting or ambiguity presented in this newsletter. This newsletter is designed to provide reasonable accurate and authoritative information in regard to subject matter covered. For additional information: 406-248-4893