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March 2009

NEWSletter For all of your regulatory compliance needs

By Our Own Bootstraps!

In the fourth quarter of 2008, the U.S. economy suffered its worst decline since 1982. The United States lost 2.97 Million jobs in 2008, more than half of those in the fourth quarter. Unemployment rose to 7.2% in December. Small businesses make up a significant share of this decline.

Very few people are aware of the contribution small businesses make to the American economy. In 1988 the U.S. had approximately 19 million businesses and of these; 15.7 million were small businesses. Small business traditionally train the work force by employing young people in their first jobs and women returning to the work force in local or part-time jobs. Of the 10.5 million jobs created in the private sector in 1986, 6.6 million (63.5%) were created by small business.

It is obvious the economy is still in a down-turn. The state of Ohio reports and excess of 400,000 people who are unemployed. Now appears to be the right time for small business to cut their losses, seek financial shelter and wait for the storm to pass. Or, should we take a stand? Hire some of the available workforce who desperately need jobs; offer the great training available to us to our employees so that they will be able to offer our customers the best service possible. Is it possible to remain positive and invest in our future, our business? Will that positive attitude actually have an impact on our economy? To be honest, I'm not sure. However, I believe that we cannot run from the problem and wait for someone else to bail us out. As small business owners and operators we have come to learn that we have only ourselves to rely on! Government will not bail us out or give us a handout. As we make our decisions that will impact our business and the families we support I am encouraged and secure that collectively we have the wisdom to bail out this economy.

As always please be Safe and Healthy.

Gail



Spotlight on ...SHARP

The Benefits of the Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program

The Safety & Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) recognizes small employers who operate an exemplary safety and health management system. Acceptance in to SHARP by OSHA is an achievement of status that will single you out among your business peers as a model for worksite safety & health. Upon receiving SHARP recognition, your worksite will be exempt from programmed inspections during the period that your SHARP certification is valid.

To participate in SHARP, you must:

- ◆ Request a consultation visit that involves a complete hazard identification survey
- ◆ Involve employees in the consultation process
- ◆ Correct all hazards identified by the consultant
- ◆ Implement and maintain a safety and health management system that, at a minimum, addresses OSHA's 1989 Safety Health Program Management Guidelines
- ◆ Lower your company's Days Away, Restricted or Transferred (DART) rate and Total Recordable Case (TRC) rate below the national average

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Confined Space Training

SCT is offering Confined Space Training in April. There spaces are still available & we encourage any of you who may have work that involves confined space entry to sign-up for the training today.

The following topics will be addressed in this 3 day comprehensive course:

- ◆ Review of OSHA Permit Required Confined Space Standards
- ◆ Duties of supervisors, entrants and attendants
- ◆ Requirements for rescue services & personnel
- ◆ Identifying permit-required confinement spaces and their hazards
- ◆ Proper utilization of gas monitoring equipment
- ◆ Steps necessary to temporarily declassify a permit-required confined space & take advantage of OSHA’s alternate entry procedures
- ◆ Assessing & developing a CS Rescue Evaluation and Procedure

Dates: April 8, 9 & 10

Hours: 8:00 AM — 5:30 PM

Cost: \$300 per attendee

Classes will be held at 5075 Taylor Dr. Bedford Heights, OH 44128

Please Contact Carla Dretzel at 216-587-3000 by April 1st.

OR Complete the attached Registration Form.

Please complete the registration card and return with full payment

Company Name: _____ Student Name*(s) _____

Company Address: _____

City: _____ ; State _____ ; Zip _____

Phone Number: _____

Method of Payment: Check (Make Checks Payable to Safety Controls Technology, Inc.)

Credit Card: Type: Amex; MC; Visa; Discover: Authorized Signature: _____

Name on Credit Card: _____ ; Credit Card Number: _____ ; Exp. Date: _____

Drug-Free Self-Assessment Progress Report!

Safety Controls Technology clients that are participants in the BWC Drug Free

Workplace Program with a July start date should have received information from the Bureau of Workers’ Compensation (BWC) on a Self-Assessment Progress Report. This report must be completed and faxed to the BWC no later than March 31, 2009 or your company will be disqualified from the Drug Free Workplace Program, will not receive the discount and may have to pay money back to the BWC. If you would like SCT to complete and submit this report on your behalf, please call Nancy at (216) 587-3000 to discuss.

PLEASE UNDERSTAND THAT ANY TRAINING AND DRUG TESTING THAT HAS NOT BEEN COMPLETED THIS PROGRAM YEAR, MUST BE COMPLETED BEFORE THE MARCH 31ST DEADLINE. CALL NANCY OR GAIL AT (216) 587-3000 TO SCHEDULE ANY TRAINING AND/OR TESTING THAT MAY BE NEEDED.

As always, thank you for your continued commitment to providing a safe work environment for your employees and your confidence in working with Safety Controls Technology.



SHARP and SCT

Safety Controls Technology already supports many of you in creating and maintaining safe and healthy work environments. Our site visits and comprehensive assessments guide employers in identifying hazardous conditions; implementing corrective actions, and preventing tragic and costly incidents every day. Our skilled consultants have been specially trained to identify specific hazards particular to your industry. We are available to conduct your site inspection and assist you with developing *cost effective* solutions for your most challenging safety and health concerns. SCT can help you with written program development, employee and supervisor training, OSHA compliance assistance, and even culture change strategies. Our consultants can help you identify the highest risk conditions and advise where your safety dollars are best invested to achieve greatest impact on injury reduction and productivity.

Call us today and see how we can help you protect your employees
and your business. 216-587-3000



Course Offerings

For class schedules contact Safety Controls at 1-800-204-1729

- ◆ OSHA 10 Hour
- ◆ OSHA 16 Hour
- ◆ Fall Protection Competent Person
- ◆ Scaffolding Erector/Dismantler
- ◆ Scaffolding Competent Person
- ◆ Lead Worker
- ◆ Lead Worker Refresher
- ◆ Lead Supervisor
- ◆ Hazard Communications
- ◆ First Aid/CPR/AED
- ◆ Confined Space Competent Person
- ◆ ATSSA Flagger Training
- ◆ Drug-Free Workplace Employee Training
- ◆ Drug-Free Workplace Supervisor Training
- ◆ Drug-Free Workplace Train the Trainer



Behavior Based Safety—BBS

If you follow the axiom that *behavior influences attitude and attitude influences behavior*, you are ready for behavior based safety in the workplace. BBS focuses its attention on changing your employee's attitude toward safety. To be successful a BBS Program must include all employees. This includes from the CEO to the entry-level associate. To achieve changes in behavior a change in policy, procedures, and/or systems will need to be evident. Those changes cannot be done without buy-in and support from all those involved in making safety policy decisions; conveying the message to your staff and implementing the changes.

A good BBS Program will consist of:

- ◆ Common Goals (Both employee and managerial involvement in the process)
- ◆ Definition of what is expected
- ◆ Observational data collection
- ◆ Decisional about how best to proceed based on those data
- ◆ Feedback to associates being observed
- ◆ Review

Over the next few issues we will take a look at organization, readiness, leadership, involvement and implementation tips. As a leader in your company it's never too soon to **Choose Your Attitude** and be positive about having a Safe & Healthy Workplace.



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BWC Safety Congress & Expo
 March 31 to April 2, 2009

Ohio employers interested in saving money by increasing safety in the workplace are encouraged to attend the Ohio Safety Congress and Expo, sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC). This is a free event that will be held at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

Participants of all educational and some general sessions will receive continuing education credits from the IACET as well as credits for BWC discount programs.

Employers are encouraged to register now at www.ohiobwc.com or by calling 1-800-OHIOBWC.

MEET SCT'S STAFF

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