

SHARP Program recognizes safety leaders

Small business groups honored for development of occupational safety and health programs



photo by Kimberly Greenberg

William E. Sanders, Jr., President of the Duvinage Corporation (left) joins James Fielder, Maryland Secretary of the Department of Labor, Licensing, and Regulation in presenting the SHARP award to Paul Sadler, Jr., Duvinage Corporation Vice President of Manufacturing Operations.

By Kimberly Greenberg, IH

WASHINGTON, DC-The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) realizes that small business organizations have the same safety and health concerns as larger companies. Because of their size, however, small businesses do not always have the resources to establish consistent safety and health programs. To assist the smaller companies' in developing safety and health processes, OSHA worked with state government safety and health organizations and produced the [Consultation Program](#) in 1975.

Later, the Consultation Program added an incentive for companies to develop quality safety and health programs. The [Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program \(SHARP\)](#) award was established in 1995. SHARP recognizes small employers who operate

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HPS Alliance addresses radiation safety procedures

By J. Scott Kirk, CHP

WASHINGTON, DC-The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) entered into an Alliance with the [Health Physics Society \(HPS\)](#) on February 20, 2004 to provide specific services regarding radiation safety matters. As such, the HPS agreed to share its expertise in current and emerging radiation safety topics and to

assist OSHA as it develops education and communication programs for its staff.

This Alliance agreement was initiated by an inquiry from OSHA in May 2003. Shortly thereafter, representatives from the HPS met with Assistant Secretary Henshaw and his staff to discuss the possibility of forming an Alliance. As discussed at this meeting, OSHA requested the HPS to share its expertise in radiation safety practices and

principles. The scope of this request was directed primarily towards assisting OSHA in fulfilling its anticipated mission of protecting workers involved in the cleanup of radioactive materials in the event of a terrorist event involving a Radiological Dispersal Device (i.e., dirty bomb).

OSHA is currently responsible for ensuring that workers are protected

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AHA provides 'Heartsaver' training courses for OSHA staff

By Robin Figliola

Expanding access to safety and health information and training resources among the workforce is one of the primary goals of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the [American Heart Association \(AHA\)](#) Alliance. This July, the Alliance took the first step toward realizing this

goal by training 17 OSHA representatives in AHA's "Heartsaver" health and safety training courses. The training provided OSHA personnel with a solid foundation of information to help them further create and promote successful, and effective health and safety programs for the workplace.

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Shumani Jones of the AHA demonstrates AED equipment during her presentation to OSHA employees at OTI.

Photograph courtesy of the American Heart Association

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exemplary safety and health management systems that could be models for workplace safety and health. When a work site receives the SHARP designation, it is exempted from routine inspections during the time its SHARP certification is valid. Today, more than 800 companies have active SHARP status.

Duvinage Corporation wins SHARP award

The Duvinage Corporation of Hagerstown, Maryland improved its safety process with the assistance of the Consultation Program and received Maryland Occupational Safety and Health's first SHARP award in May 2004. Duvinage, which employs 32 workers to manufacture spiral stairs cases, had experienced safety citations in the past and was looking for ways to establish a stronger safety program. Duvinage President, William E. Sanders, Jr. appreciated working with the Consultation Program and the SHARP award his company received.

"If someone had told me that OSHA had a department that would help a small employer like me without issuing citations and penalties, I wouldn't have believed them!" Saunders said. "Our experience with the OSHA consultants was a good one, and I would recommend that other small businesses seek OSHA Consultation's help."

SHARP participation can improve your company's bottom line:

- Lower injury and illness rates.
- Decrease workers' compensation costs.
- Reduce lost workdays.
- Increase productivity rates and assure product quality.
- Limit equipment damage and product losses.
- Comply with federal and state safety and health requirements.

Visit OSHA's [Consultation Program Web site](#) to learn more about how your company can receive SHARP recognition by working through the Consultation Program.

Kimberly Greenberg is a Program Analyst in the Office of Small Business Assistance.

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The training event took place at the [OSHA Training Institute \(OTI\)](#) in Chicago on July 13, 14 and 15. AHA's Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC) training team of Jo Haag, Director of Training, and Alan Carrington, Senior National Training Consultant, joined representatives from OSHA regional offices, its Salt Lake City Technical Center (SLTC) and the OTI to facilitate hands-on training in *Heartsaver Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)*, *Heartsaver Automated External Defibrillator (AED)*, and *Heartsaver First Aid*. Additionally, OSHA staff were trained as both Heartsaver and Heartsaver First Aid instructors.

The training accomplishes a goal of the Alliance: to provide education on the importance of AED programs and their implementation in the workplace. As OSHA and AHA collaborate to increase the quantity and quality of health and safety training information available to OSHA's vast workforce audience, both groups believe that more AED programs will be implemented. While OSHA does not mandate that companies have AEDs, both groups strongly encourage consideration of AED programs in the workplace to increase the chances of survival during sudden cardiac arrest. Both also agree that training is a crucial element of a successful AED program and, through the training conducted this summer, OSHA staff were able to take

away an even deeper understanding of the importance training plays in a successful AED program.

"By completing the AHA Heartsaver training this summer, OSHA further demonstrated its commitment to the AHA/OSHA Alliance vision of expanding education and awareness," said Robin McCune, Director of National Accounts and Commercial, AHA ECC Programs. "These OSHA representatives now have a unique insight into AHA's ECC training and the AHA mission of saving lives that they will promulgate among their staff and the workforce."

Robin Figliola is Marketing Manager for Health and Safety Products with the American Heart Association. Robin McCune, Director, National Accounts and Commercial Market, contributed to this story and is also with the American Heart Association.

The Alliance Quarterly Review (AQR) is produced for Alliance Program participants and OSHA staff. We would like to keep everyone informed about each other's workplace safety and health activities and new developments in the Alliance Program.

AQR would like to highlight your organization's Alliance, compliance assistance, or other outreach support activities through stories describing safety training programs and course development, how safety and health programs improve your organization's injury and illness statistics, particulars of your safety program, and how innovative safety and health professionals made a difference. Let us hear from you. When you respond, we ask that you use these guidelines:

- Story length should be 500-800 words. - Digital imagery should be at least 300 dpi. - Please provide names of organizations and people.

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