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"SIX YEARS AND COUNTING" Safety Rates below the Industry Average for Six Years at Duvinage Corporation!

Duvinage Corporation, America's largest manufacturer of custom built staircases, exemplifies what it means to be SHARP and has enjoyed a total case rate (TCR) and days away restricted transfer rate (DART) below comparable industry rates for six consecutive years – since 1998. With a rich 106-year history in Hagerstown, Maryland and an industry-wide reputation for the quality and beauty of their work, Duvinage staircases appear in the White House and the National Gallery of Art. The management team at Duvinage sees their participation in SHARP as an opportunity to demonstrate their commitment to worker safety. Working jointly with Maryland Occupational Safety and Health (MOSH) Consultation Services, Duvinage has corrected safety defects with existing equipment and developed viable, company-wide safety programs. Additionally, MOSH Consultation has helped to identify hazards and recommend affordable options for hazard correction — ultimately resulting in a safer overall operation which, according to Duvinage, was achievable with no loss in production from its 32 employees.

Through SHARP, safety has become a key feature of the Company's culture; but rather than offer incentive programs, managers at Duvinage focus on effective employee training to encourage and tactically support continuous improvement in the area of safety. Further, because Duvinage is employee owned, the "safety pays" concept is intrinsically woven into daily practices and is a fundamental matter of profitability for the company's shareholder-employees. The Duvinage/MOSH collaborative is by all accounts a success and has enabled Duvinage to be a visible champion for safety within the industry and proactively achieve its strategic goal of maintaining an accident free work environment.



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.

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