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S A F E T Y

NAC Wants to Recognize and Commend those Contractors Achieving One Million Hours with Zero Recordable Injuries

Beginning in 2011 the NAC Safety Committee has been recognizing and commending those industrial and maintenance contractors in North America who have been reported to have surpassed in 2011 the One Million hour mark with zero BLS OSHA Recordable Injuries on projects or company-wide. To date the committee has knowledge of only 23 such reported occasions in the past 22 years. The purpose of this Safety White Paper is to bring attention to this group of contractors that have reported accomplishing this amazing achievement and thereby cause others to seek answers to the question; “How do they do that?”

History of Zero Injury

Historical development of the Zero Injury Benchmark dates to 1987 when the Business Roundtable Construction Committee first recognized an owner and a contractor for Safety Excellence by recognizing Win-Way, Inc. a contractor of Freeport, Tx. and Air Products, an owner of Allentown, Pa... Winway had worked 4.8 million hours over four years with zero lost time injuries while Air Product’s contractors worked 2 million hours over a period of two years with zero lost time injuries. These two records actually triggered the Construction Industry Institute (CII) to launch the initial “Zero Accidents Task Force” to begin the original safety research work.

The advent of the “one million hour” threshold was solidified with this initial research by the CII which was conducted to answer the “How do they do that?” question. The Task Force looked at 25 projects and reported their results in the 1993 CII Report “Zero Injury Techniques” which became a best selling product of CII for the next 10 years.

The contractors and owners utilizing the 1993 research result soon began to achieve records exceeding 1,000,000 hours with zero BLS/OSHA Recordable injuries, which industry participants viewed as nothing short of amazing. Wanting to explore these achievements further, CII soon launched the ”Making Zero Accidents Happen” Task Force which conducted three additional batteries of research over a period of five years. As a result of all this CII attention the “one million” hour threshold became a commonly used measure of safety achievement that was beyond the norm and thus worthy of attention.

The Advantages of Publicizing Success

NAC has concluded that the challenge of achieving the one million hour threshold is so important to the industry that maximum publicity should be given to those organizations reported to have achieved or surpassed this mark. The objective of NAC is to challenge the vision of all in the industry to embrace the CII research and free those individuals otherwise destined to be injured from that fate.

Even though NAC can in no way certify the absolute accuracy of the records, it is been calling attention to all those organizations that have reported their one million hour accomplishments.

Specific Examples Listed

The barrier breaker or first known construction contractor to exceed one million hours worked with zero BLS OSHA Recordable injures was Zachry, of San Antonio, Texas on a 1989 Shell Chemical Project near Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Since that time there have been only 22 other occasions where one million hours recordable free have been reported. Although a complete and accurate listing may never be achievable this fact should not dissuade us from recognizing and commending those amazing one million hours plus records that have been reported.

Through this Safety White Paper NAC is listing the names of known contractors reported to have reached and exceeded the one million hour milestone, though a goodly number of them have exceeded two million hours and even three million hours worked with zero BLS OSHA Recordable injuries. Yes, and two are have reported exceeding four million hours recordable free.

An easy way to mentally embrace the magnitude of one million hours worked is to think of it as equivalent to 100 workers being on the job 1250 workdays or five years injury free. This performance is both amazing and worthy to be recognized by NAC.

The List

Zachry – 1,020,000 Shell Chemical, LA,1989	Houston. TX, Companywide – 2005, 2006
NPS Energy Services* - 1,000,000+ Peach Bottom Power Plant. –1999	Chapman Corporation* – 1,081,486 Canonsburg, PA – 2009
Parsons - 1,229,585 Exxon, Baytown, TX - 2002	D.E. Harvey – 1,149,192 San Antonio, TX - 2010
J. H. Kelley*– 1,036,746 Conoco Phillips–OK, 2005	AltairStrickland – 1,371,269 BP Texas City, TX Operations - April 2011
BMCD – 1,000,000+ Conoco/Phillips, TX- 2005	M.A. Mortenson Construction – 1,034,847 Minneapolis, MN – Company Wide – May 2011
Cherne Contracting Corporation* –1,500,000+ Sunoco & E. KY Power, MN – 2005	Bechtel – 1,145,123 BSII – Savanna River Water Treatment, GA - 2011
Superior Construction* – 1,000,000+ BP Whiting, IN – 2006	Bechtel – 1,118,005 Watts Bar Unit 2, Knoxville, TN - 2011
McCarl’s* – 1,020,785 York Haven, PA - 2008	AltairStrickland - 1,201,865
CECO Construction - 1,100,000	

Internal own employees Company Wide Jan
20, 2011 – through June 7, 2011

On site hours, Port Allen, LA – 2011

OVER 2,000,000

Fluor – 2,080,000

Lake Charles LA - CITGO, 1996

Cherne Contracting Corporation* - 2,547,240

Minn., MN – Company Wide, 2000-2001

Solid Platforms, Inc.* – 2,569,257

Whiting, IN – BP Refinery - 2007

Cherne Contracting Corporation* – 2,150,000

Companywide - Minn., MN- 2010-2011

S&B E&C Construction – 2,541,797

Bold – 2011 Additions

*Union

OVER 3,000,000

S&B E&C – 3,288,884

Port Allen, LA – Total Project Hours, 2011

OVER 4,000,000

S&B E&C – 4,649,000

Houston, TX, Company Wide- Oct
2003/Dec 2004

Kiewit-Southwest – 4,180,752,

Phoenix, AZ – District Wide 2011

Emmitt J. Nelson, ME, PE, NAC, ZIC
Chair NAC, Safety Committee

Information on working injury free is available from: www.construction-institute.com or www.naocon.org or simply do an internet search for the two words “zero+injury” to find other sources of information and or assistance.

NAC Safety White Papers

Through its Position White Papers on Safety, the National Academy of Construction is recommending that American businesses investigate the research of the Construction Industry Institute (CII) into how increasing numbers of employers are able to achieve a million work hours and more without an OSHA Recordable injury. The nine research-based CII Zero Injury safety leadership categories are: 1. Demonstrated management safety commitment; 2. Staffing for Safety; 3. Safe Work Planning, pre-project and pre-task; 4. Safety Education; orientation and specialized training; 5. Employee Involvement, behavior safety and safety perception surveys; 6. Evaluation and Recognition of Safety Performance; 7. Contractor Selection and Management; 8. Accident/Incident Investigation Including Near Misses; 9. Drug and Alcohol Testing.

See the NAC web site www.naocon.org for previous Safety White Papers.

The ROI of Zero Injury Safety Performance

The Construction Industry Institute research has proved that the cost of successfully implementing the nine CII zero injury categories is returned at a rate of 400 to 500% per annum when compared to the costs of OSHA/BLS injury rate average performance (4.7 TRIR in 2008) for the entire construction industry in the United States of America.

Information and details on the increasingly popular “Zero Injury Safety Leadership Concept” is available from the following: Construction Industry Institute, 3925 W. Braker Lane (R4500), Austin, TX 78759-5316, Ph (512) 232-3004, www.construction-institute.org. See the NAC website at www.naocon.org for copies of the NAC Safety Whitepaper series.

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