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From: Meredith Brown <racer@lanl.gov>
Subject: Green Alert: Safety Surveillances

The following Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory (INEEL) Lockheed Martin Idaho Technologies Green Lessons Learned is being issued to inform you that its Construction Management organization has documented a 97.3% compliance rate on safety surveillances conducted as part of its good management practices.

Title: GREEN - SUCCESS STORY - Construction Management Conducts Safety Surveillances; Achieves 97.3% Compliance Rate

Date: December 8, 1997
Identifier: INEEL Lessons Learned No. #97369

Summary of Success Story: Construction Management and its subcontractors participate in regular joint safety surveillances that identify both positive and negative elements. The self-assessment activity is a good business practice that prevents accidents from occurring, enhances communication, and has allowed Construction Management to document its 97.3% compliance rate.

Discussion of Activities: Construction Management conducts one safety surveillance per week for each contract. Safety and supervision personnel from both Construction Management and the subcontractor jointly conduct the surveys. The surveillance covers all OSHA-requirements ranging from horseplay to fall protection to ventilation.

All observations, both positive and negative, are recorded on a form. In Fiscal Year 1997, 1,030 safety surveillances were conducted. During those surveillances, 26,000 observations were made. The vast majority (97.3%) of observations were satisfactory; only 710 issues (negative observations) were documented.

Construction personnel use a one-page double-sided form to record the data. The front of the form provides space to record basic information about the contract and the satisfactory items surveyed. Names of the personnel conducting the surveillance are also recorded. The quantity of satisfactory items is recorded in the boxes provided.

The back of the form provides space for violations noted. For each finding, space is provided to describe the corrective action taken and the correction date (the date the issue is closed). Nearly all actions are closed within 24 hours.

Information from the surveillances is compiled in a database and published monthly. The top 10 violations for the month are the focus of safety meetings and activities in the following month. Data can be sorted by subcontractor or project for tracking, planning, briefing, and review purposes.

Surveillances are routinely conducted as part of the regular project walkdowns and take a maximum of 30 minutes.

Recommended Actions: Programs should institute self-assessment activities as part of their best management practices. Both positive and negative observations should be recorded and tracked. Collaboration on the surveillance between the contractor/subcontractor or employer/employee enhances communication and good working relationships.

Priority Descriptor: Green/Good Work Practice

Functional Category(s) (DOE): Construction Program, Occupational Safety and Health, Quality/Information/Transfer

Originator: Lockheed Martin Idaho Technologies Company Construction Management

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Key Word(s): success, savings, construction, surveillance, self-assessment

References: N/A.

Follow-up Action: Information in this report is accurate to the best of our knowledge. As a means of measuring the effectiveness of this report, please notify Terry Pierce at (208) 526-4288 (or by electronic mail at txp@inel.gov) or the INEEL Lessons Learned Program Office at (208) 526-1530 (e-mail at mae@inel.gov or limitl@inel.gov) of any action taken as a result of this report or of any technical inaccuracies you find. Your feedback is important and appreciated.