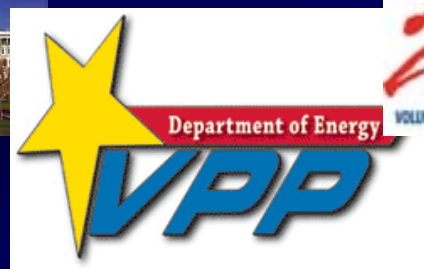


The Voluntary Protection Programs Participants' Association, Inc. (VPPPA)

Legislative and Regulatory Committee



VPPPA Government Affairs Committee

Mission: To provide education, leadership, guidance and support to the membership of VPPPA regarding legislative and regulatory development and provide input to regulators and legislators upon request in a proactive and cooperative spirit in the areas of safety and health.



What VPPPA and Government Affairs Can Do For You

- Monitor Congress in order to inform and educate VPPPA members of congressional activities
- Provide resources for members to contact their local, state and federal representatives
- Respond to government and member requests
- Work cooperatively with OSHA, DOE and other agencies/departments, committees, coalitions and associations



VPP Participants' Association (VPPPA) – Our Mission

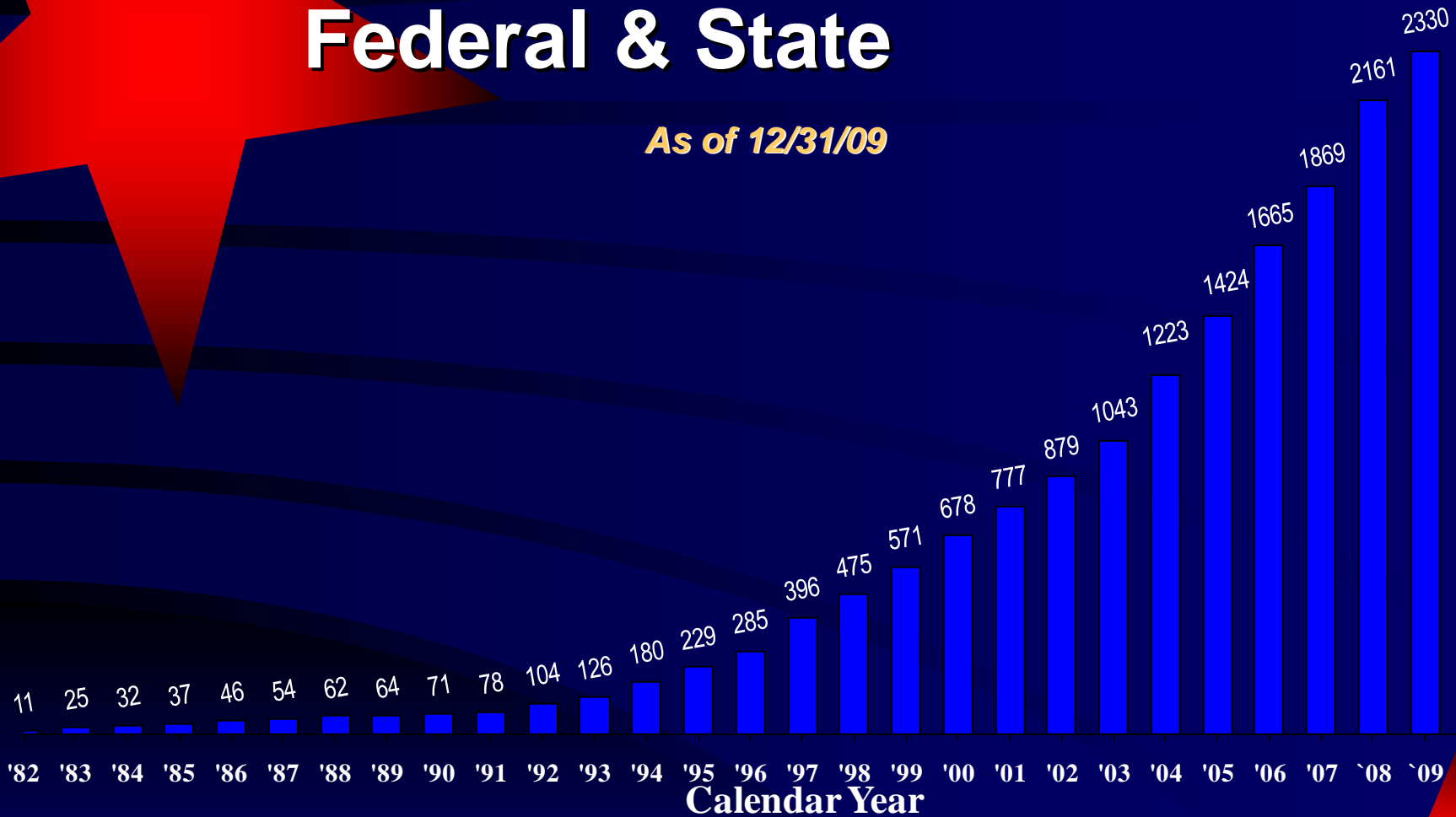


- To be a leader in health and safety excellence through cooperation among communities, workers, industries and governments.
 - To help guide worksites through the VPP process and/or help worksites maintain VPP status
 - To provide best practices for the workplace
 - To help create a cooperative environment between labor and management
 - To provide networking and educational opportunities for members



Growth of VPP Federal & State

As of 12/31/09



Source: OSHA, Office of Partnerships & Recognition

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VPP sites serve as models in development of standards and assist other companies in VPP development

VPP assists OSHA with developing standards and implementing training programs

VPP
A Model for Better Government

VPP promotes innovation and expansion of cooperative programs

VPP fosters a cooperative learning program



VPP Milestones

- **1982 - OSHA announces establishment of VPP**
- 1982 - OSHA awards the first VPP Star approval to ABB Air Preheater
- 1989 - SHMS Guidelines
- **1994 - SGE Program Launched**
- 1994 - Department of Energy initiates VPP model
- 1995 – Vice President Al Gore presents his Hammer Award to OSHA/VPPPA
- 1997 - VPP for Federal Agencies
- 1998 – VPP Launches Demo for Construction



VPP Milestones

- 1999 - VPP Flag circles the globe aboard Columbia
- 2002 -VPPPA & Chapters take root in every Region
- 2002 - VPP Flag flies in Afghanistan
- 2003 - OSHA recognizes 1,000 participants
- 2004 – 3 C’s Pilot Launched; All State Plans offer VPP
- 2006 - DoD selects VPP as SHMS model
- 2008 - Northern Ireland launches VPP-type Program; 2,000th VPP participant



2007 VPP Annual Program Data (*National*)

- VPP continues to demonstrate results in reducing injuries & illnesses
 - 1,345 VPP participants saved more than \$300 million by avoiding DART in one year
 - Federal Agencies in VPP saved the gov't more than \$59 million by avoiding DART injuries.
- *The National avg. recordable rate per injury is \$61,000.

*2007 National Safety Council Injury Facts Publication



Reduction in Resource Allocation

- President Obama's 2010 budget gives an increase of \$750,000 to cooperative programs
- In the President's proposed 2011 budget OSHA will receive an additional \$14 million over the 2010 budget
- The growth of VPP has been exponential: from 11 sites in 1982 to over 2,300 in 2009



Talking Points/Topics For Discussion with Congressional Representatives

Talking Points

- Explain the value and benefits of being a part of an effective cooperative program.
- Explain how your VPP program has benefited you and your co-workers.
- Explain that VPP sites are known for their strong safety and health management that fosters a strong safety and health culture, continuous improvement, partnerships among management, labor and government.
- Explain that VPP sites injury and illness rates are generally 50% below industry norms.
- Give examples of your rates (TCIR/DART) since achieving VPP certification.



Reasons for VPP Success

- VPP Programs are more effective than mere compliance
- **Worksites have injury and illness rates on average 50% below industry norms**
- Drastically lower workers compensations costs
- Major corporations are committed to the program and are enjoying the benefits



Reasons for VPP Success (cont'd)

- It is a **worker-driven program**, empowering workers to ensure the safety and health excellence of their worksite
- VPP fosters a triad of cooperative relationship among management, labor and government
- Let your congressional representative know about VPP activities in your region, state or local district



Premier Program with Proven Results

VPP worksites have saved more than a BILLION dollars since the program began in 1982. In addition, many VPP participants report workplace improvements such as lower turnover rates, reduced absenteeism and improved employee morale.

- U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration,
www.osha.gov/dcsp/vpp/vpp_kit.html



What it means to you and me and VPP?

It is *imperative* that we all act now and raise our voices to our congressional delegation and let them know that we need to have them restore direct funding back to VPP.

Bottom line:

*It means no new VPP on-sites reviews in
FY 2011!*



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What it means to you and me and VPP (cont'd)?

- We cannot let the DOL back away from the partnership in VPP
- OSHA supports VPP and both Secretary Solis and Assistant Secretary of Labor David Michaels have publically stated, *“We think the Voluntary Protection Program is making a valuable contribution to workplace safety!”*

They've just decided not to fund a program that goes beyond OSHA compliance.



What it means to you and me and VPP (cont'd)?

- VPP's cornerstone for its success, is that it requires meaningful employee involvement.
- The VPP program requires these employees become envoys for safety and health
- VPP mentoring becomes a force-multiplier far beyond the influence and abilities of a single OSHA compliance officer.
- The VPP program has been viable program for the past 26 years



What You Can Do

On a not-so-busy day,
a Congressional
staffer receives
approximately:

- 10 Letters
 - 20 Phone Calls
 - 10 Visits
 - 10 Faxes
 - 20 E-mails
- Total:350 Per
Week

- **Communicate with your elected officials: call, write or visit**
 - Legislators want and have requested to hear from their constituents
 - Gain new perspectives on how the legislative and regulatory processes work.



Make Contact Today

- Your State Senators (2) : www.Senate.gov
- Your State Representatives: www.House.gov

Decide which elected officials you need to contact and share your thoughts on the current events and government policy.

Below is the link to e-mail and postal addresses and phone numbers for key elected officials.

www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml



Make Contact Today

- H.E.L.P. Chair
 - Senator Tom Harkin (D - IA)
 - 731 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON DC 20510
 - 202- 224-3254
 - 202-224-9369 (fax)
 - Web Form: harkin.senate.gov/c/index.cfm
-
- Chair of Committee for Employment and Workplace Safety
 - Senator Patty Murray- (D - WA)
 - 173 RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON DC 20510
 - 202-224-2621
 - 202-224-2621 (fax)
 - Web Form: murray.senate.gov/email/index.cfm



Make Contact Today

Chair of Committee on Education & Labor Congressman George Miller (D-CA)

- 2205 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
- 202-225-2095
202-225-5609 (fax)
- Web Form: www.georgemiller@house.gov

Chairwoman of Subcommittee on Workforce Protections Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey (D-CA)

- 2263 Rayburn Building
Washington, DC 20515
202-225-5161
202-225-5163 (fax)
- Web Form: www.woolsey@house.gov



Make Contact Today

- **Chair of Senate Appropriations Committee**
- **Senator Daniel K. Inouye - (D - HI)**
- **722 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON DC 20510**
- **202- 224-3934**
- **202-224-6747 (fax)**
- **Web Form: inouye.senate.gov/Contact/Email-Form.cfm**
-
- **Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee**
- **Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI)**
- **Room H-218, The Capitol Washington, D.C. 20515**
- **202- 225-2771**
- **715-842-4488 (fax)**
- **Web Form: www.obey@house.gov**



Making the Contact

- E-mail
- Call
- Send a letter
- Schedule a meeting

What You Can Do



We often say to ourselves my “*two-cents*” won’t make a difference but in this case by all of us joining together all our “*two-cents*” can make a difference!

LET’S MAKE OUR VOICES HEARD FOR SAFETY!



VPPPA Contact Information

If you need any additional information or have any questions on how to become an advocate, please contact:

- ▣ **Korey Belanger, Government Affairs & Communications Specialist,**
GovernmentAffairs@vpppa.org
- ▣ **Chris Adolfson, Legislative & Regulatory Chair,**
Chris.adolfson@inl.gov

Support VPP Link for additional information (i.e. sample letters, talking points):

<http://www.vpppa.org/GovAffairs/VPPSupport.cfm>

