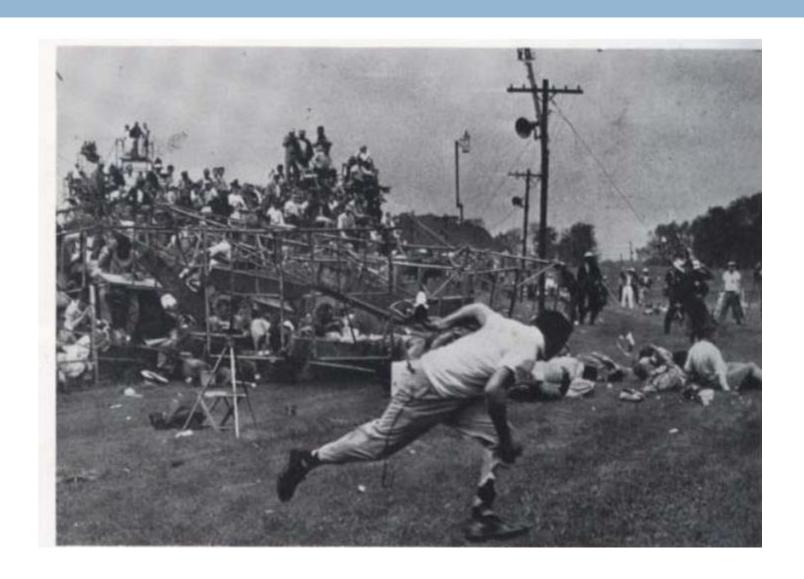
VIRGINIA BEST



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OUTLINE for TODAY

- What is Virginia BEST?
- > Expected benefits of the BEST Program.
- What is a SHMS (Safety & Health Management System)?
- Basics elements of a SHMS (Safety & Health Management System)

OUTLINE for TODAY

- > BEST...the basics.
- > Goals of the program.
- > Current status of the BEST Program.
- Who are the contacts for the BEST Program?

What is Virginia BEST?

BEST

Building Excellence in Safety, Health & Training

A strategic partnership between VOSH & the Associated General Contractors of Virginia

Who is Virginia BEST?



Expected Benefits of BEST

- Increased focus on employee safety and health at all levels of the participant's organization.
- Increased employee involvement in safety and health issues.
- Increased cost savings through lower injury rates and Workers' Compensation costs.

Benefits of BEST

- Improved and/or revised safety and health policies and procedures.
- Increased consultative efforts with VOSH

So what is a Safety & Health Management System? (SHMS)

Is a coordinated and systematic approach to managing health and safety risks through mentoring, training and progress tracking.

So what is a Safety & Health Management System? (SHMS)

There are many different SHMS's out there: VPP, ISO, IATA, OHSAS are just a few.

They generally share some common features to identify, assess and control risks.

Virginia BEST is one of those SHMS's.

Basic Elements

- There are four major elements to the program:
 - Management Commitment & Employee Involvement
 - Worksite Analysis
 - Hazard Prevention & Control
 - Safety & Health Training

Goals of the BEST Program

To reduce by three (3) percent annually the number of injuries, illnesses and fatalities.

To increase the number of construction contractors that implement effective safety & health management systems

Goals of the BEST Program

To recognize those contractors where managers & employees work together to develop safety & health management systems.

To promote open lines of communication between VOSH and the construction industry.

Goals of the BEST Program

> To create ways to share expertise and other resources among participating companies.

To recognize best practices that exceed VOSH/OSHA laws, standards & regulations.

- Virginia BEST is based on VPP Challenge Concepts.
- > This program is only for construction sites.

The following are the three levels that will guide participants:

level I - Assess, Learn, and Develop

This is considered the "application" level of the program. At this level, the employer has developed & implemented an effective safety & health management system that meets current VOSH regulatory requirements

Ievel II – Implement, Track, and Control
The employer has established an effective safety & health management system that exceeds current VOSH regulatory requirements.

➤ level III — Reassess, Monitor, and Improve
The employer <u>has an exceptional</u> safety &
health management system that serves as a
model for other construction employers in the
Commonwealth.

NOTE: an employer is not a "BEST" company until successful completion of level III

Current Status

Currently this is a <u>pilot program</u> with only one company actively working on the process.

AGCVA will handle the initial review of applications & approval of <u>Level I</u> participants.

Program Contacts

AGCVA

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BEST Coordinator

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More Information

Virginia Business Article

www.virginiabusiness.com/news/article/new-volunteer-safety-program-begun-for-states-construction-industry

BEST Website

www.doli.virginia.gov/vosh_enforcement/BES T_program.html