

Oregon OSHA, 350 Winter St. NE, Room 430, Salem, Oregon 97301-3878

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Contact information:
Melanie Mesaros, Public Information Officer
503-947-7428
melanie.l.mesaros@state.or.us

Safety innovation is focus of Medford conference

Southern Oregon event highlights workplace safety

(Salem) – The latest workplace safety and health information will be showcased at the Southern Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Conference. The annual conference, scheduled for Oct. 21-22, 2009, at the Smullin Center in Medford, will focus on the theme “Celebrating Innovation in Safety and Health.”

Oregon’s Occupational Safety and Health Division (Oregon OSHA), a division of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, encourages workers and employers to attend this event to help improve safety and health performance. Especially during tight economic times, active safety is a major step in reducing injuries and accidents, and decreasing workers’ compensation costs.

Some of the topics featured at this year’s conference include:

- Accident investigation
- Health hazards in construction
- Safety committee operations
- Employee accountability – A path to high performance
- Exhibits showcasing the latest in safety and health products and services

The life of keynote speaker Chad Hymas changed forever after an accident at age 27 left him a quadriplegic. Many consider him the most dynamic motivational safety speaker in the country and will present “Big Trouble” and “Leading Others Through Difficult Times” at the conference.

“Change creates opportunity, which leads to new experiences, growth, and ultimately achievement,” Hymas said. “Those individuals who adapt and approach change with enthusiasm will find the measure of their inner ability.”

Registration for the event is \$120. Single-day attendance is \$80. For more information about the conference or to register, call Oregon OSHA’s Conference Section, 503-378-3272 or 888-292-5247, and select option one, or visit the Conferences Web page at www.orosha.org/conferences.

The conference is a joint effort of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), Southern Oregon Chapter and Oregon OSHA.

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Oregon OSHA, a division of the Department of Consumer and Business Services, enforces the state’s workplace safety and health rules and works to improve workplace safety and health for all Oregon workers. The Department of Consumer and Business Services is Oregon’s largest business regulatory and consumer protection agency. For more information, visit www.orosha.org.