



Bureau of Workers'
Compensation

Governor Ted Strickland
Administrator Marsha P. Ryan

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: **Feb. 4 2009**

Upcoming BWC Safety Congress & Expo to Help Employers Lower Costs

Increased Workplace Safety Can Help Employers Better Manage Economic Challenges

COLUMBUS – Ohio employers interested in saving money by increasing safety in the workplace are encouraged to attend the Ohio Safety Congress and Expo, sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC). The free event is the Midwest's most established occupational safety and health event, linking employers with many opportunities to learn the latest safety and health techniques and practices. The Ohio Safety Congress & Expo will take place March 31 through April 2 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

The Ohio Safety Congress & Expo features courses and lectures designed to provide attendees with flexible, industry-focused information on a variety of topics, including how to improve safety programs in an effort to reduce costs in a difficult economy. Participants of all educational and some general sessions will receive continuing education credits from the International Association for Continuing Education and Training (IACET) and credits for BWC discount programs.

Sessions specifically designed for developing workplace safety programs on Thursday, April 2, include:

- Are you ready for VPP?
- Culture change: A breakthrough in safety performance
- How to plan and implement a safety-management program
- Crucial conversations that drive workplace safety
- Liability for the safety person
- Global harmonization: Are we any closer to GHS in the USA?

The Ohio Safety Congress & Expo will also offer dynamic keynote speakers and displays of state-of-the-art occupational safety and health products. The free event is open to the public. Employers are encouraged to register now at www.ohiobwc.com or by calling 1-800-OHIOBWC.

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Sessions specifically designed for small business safety on Thursday, April 2, include:

- Process safety management
- Mock Industrial Commission of Ohio hearing
- Accident investigation and reporting from a slightly different point of view
- OSHA's minimum training requirements
- OSHA's hazard communication standard — beyond the basics
- Wellness at work: An introduction

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Sessions specifically designed for manufacturing safety on Thursday, April 2, include:

- SHARP to VPP — improving your company's safety and health-management system
- Five easy steps to recognizing workplace hazards
- Can changing your safety culture actually be cost effective?
- Can you teach an old dog new tricks? Effective training techniques for adults
- The supervisor's role in safety
- OSHA recordkeeping: A closer look at the difficult cases

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