


# Occupational Hazards



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**THE AUTHORITY ON OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY, HEALTH AND LOSS PREVENTION**

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## SAFETY ZONES

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>America's Safest Companies</li> <li>Best Practices</li> <li>Chemical Safety/Hazcom</li> <li>Cold/Heat Stress</li> <li>Confined Spaces</li> <li>Construction Safety &amp; Health</li> <li>Electrical Safety</li> <li>Emergency Response</li> <li>Employee Safety Training</li> <li>Environmental Management</li> <li>Ergonomics</li> <li>Eye &amp; Face Protection</li> <li>Fall Protection</li> <li>Foot Protection</li> <li>Hand Protection</li> <li>Head Protection</li> <li>Industrial Hygiene</li> <li>Instrumentation &amp; Monitoring</li> <li>Machine &amp; Tool Safety</li> <li>Noise Control &amp; Hearing Conservation</li> <li>OSHA Compliance</li> <li>Occupational Health</li> <li>Protection Update</li> <li>Protective Clothing</li> <li>Respiratory Protection</li> <li>Safety Incentives &amp; Recognition</li> <li>Safety Management</li> <li>Software</li> </ul>	<h2 style="margin: 0;">America's Safest Companies Share a Passion for Safety - 10/26/2005</h2> <p style="margin: 10px 0 0 20px;">At first blush, Occupational Hazards' 12 picks for America's Safest Companies of 2005 have about as much in common as a bag of Doritos and a gallon of Speedway SuperAmerica gasoline.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0 0 20px;">Look beyond their diverse industry sectors and product offerings, though, and you'll find that the 2005 America's Safest Companies share a common element: They set their own standards for safety excellence, which usually go well beyond OSHA and EPA regulations and industry norms.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0 0 20px;">"We're extremely pleased to recognize the safety and health achievements of this year's America's Safest Companies honorees. Some companies still believe that on-the-job injuries and illnesses are a cost of doing business. Our honorees see things quite differently," said Stephen G. Minter, editor and associate publisher of Occupational Hazards. "They understand that work-related injuries and fatalities are a cost – in human and financial terms – that no company should expect to incur. That's why they apply their management skills, ingenuity and resources to ensuring that their employees are safe on and off the job."</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0 0 20px;">The 2005 companies are bound together by some common threads: lost-time accident or injury rates well below their respective industries' averages; EHS programs that have earned the recognition and admiration of their industry trade associations and federal and state occupational safety and health regulators; and EHS programs built on rock-solid, fundamental concepts of occupational health and safety, such as safety committees, safety training, risk assessment and job hazard analysis, accident control and prevention, safety auditing and consistent, continuous communication and awareness-building.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0 0 20px;">America's Safest Companies not only have employee involvement and empowerment in safety, they have upper management commitment that goes beyond just lip service. At Kinetic Systems, CEO Kurt Gilson conducts project safety audits. At Springs Window Fashions, the plant manager is co-chairperson of the central safety and health committee.</p> <p style="margin: 10px 0 0 20px;">Delta CEO Jerry Grinstein, in a September 2004 memo to officers and directors, could have been speaking for all of the 2005 America's Safest Companies when he said, "providing a safe, secure operation is Delta's first and most fundamental obligation to our customers and employees" and added that commitment to the values of "safety, security, ethics and compliance starts at the top and then extends down through every level of the organization."</p>	<div style="text-align: right;"> <a href="#">a</a>                Ev             F            Nev            Sat            Ir         </div>
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Every CEO or senior manager interviewed for this series of articles concludes that everyone from top company officials to the newest hire must have a sincere interest in and passion for safety for an EHS program to be successful – that passion was evident in the applications submitted by this year's honorees.

The 2005 America's Safest Companies and the Safest Companies sponsors – **MCR Safety** and **PureSafety** – were recognized at an event at Moonfish Restaurant in Orlando, Fla., on Sept. 21.