

**AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING AN ALLIANCE**

**BETWEEN**

**Houston South Area Office  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR**

**AND**

**Associated Builders and Contractors of Greater Houston, American Subcontractors Association-Houston Chapter, Gulf Coast Safety Institute/College of the Mainland, and Scaffold & Access Industry Association**

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The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Houston South Area Office and Associated Builders and Contractors of Greater Houston, American Subcontractors Association-Houston Chapter, Gulf Coast Safety Institute/College of the Mainland, and Scaffold & Access Industry Association (known as the “participants”) recognize the value of establishing a collaborative relationship to foster safer and more healthful American workplaces. To that end, alliance members hereby form an Alliance to provide participant members and others with information, guidance, and access to training resources that will help them protect the health and safety of workers, particularly by reducing and preventing exposure to fall hazards in the construction industries and addressing fall related issues, and understand the rights of workers and the responsibilities of employers under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act). In developing this Alliance, alliance members recognize that OSHA’s State Plan and On-site Consultation Project partners are an integral part of the OSHA national effort.

**Raising Awareness of OSHA’s Rulemaking and Enforcement Initiatives**

The Participants intend to work together to achieve the following goals related to raising awareness of OSHA’s rulemaking and enforcement initiatives:

- To share information on OSHA’s National/Regional/Local Emphasis Programs, Regulatory Agenda, and opportunities to participate in the rulemaking process.
- To share information on occupational safety and health laws and standards, including the rights and responsibilities of workers and employers.
- To convene or participate in forums, roundtable discussions, or stakeholder meetings on fall hazards in the construction industries to help forge innovative solutions in the workplace or to provide input on safety and health issues.

- To encourage worker participation in workplace safety and health by participating in toolbox talks, skills assessment tests, targeted training and videos of worker testimonials who have been involved in fall protection incidents in the construction industry.

### **Training and Education**

The Participants intend to work together to achieve the following training and education goals:

- To develop effective training and education programs for employers and workers in the construction industry regarding fall hazards in the construction industries and to communicate such information to constituent employers and workers.
- To develop effective training and education programs for employers and workers in the construction industry to promote understanding of workers' rights, including the use of the OSHA complaint process, and the responsibilities of employers and to communicate such information to workers and employers.
- To deliver or arrange for the delivery of :
  - Fall Protection training in new hire orientation programs which will be developed in multiple languages that include training materials such as handbooks and presentations.
  - Toolbox topics on fall protection hazard topics such as inspections, assurance of correct fit, etc.
  - Videos that can be incorporated into employer training sessions.
  - Outreach and Communication

The Participants intend to work together to achieve the following outreach and communication goals:

- To develop information on the recognition and prevention of workplace hazards, and to develop ways of communicating such information (e.g., print and electronic media, electronic assistance tools, and OSHA's and the participants Web sites) to employers and workers in the industry.
- To speak, exhibit, or appear at OSHA's or participants conferences, local meetings, or other Greater Houston Area events.
- To share information among OSHA personnel and industry safety and health professionals regarding participants good practices or effective approaches through training programs, workshops, seminars, and lectures (or any other applicable forum) developed by the participants.
- To work with other Alliance participants on specific issues and projects on the creation of safe behaviors at construction project sites that are addressed and developed through the Alliance Program.
- To develop and disseminate case studies on fall hazards in the construction industries and publicize their results.

OSHA's Alliances provide parties an opportunity to participate in a voluntary cooperative relationship with OSHA for purposes such as raising awareness of OSHA's rulemaking and enforcement initiatives, training and education, and outreach and communication. These Alliances have proved to be valuable tools for both OSHA and its Alliance participants. By entering into an Alliance with a party, OSHA is not endorsing or promoting, nor does it intend to endorse or promote, any of that party's products or services.

An implementation team made up of representatives of each organization will meet to develop a plan of action, determine working procedures, and identify the roles and responsibilities of the participants. In addition, they will meet at least three times per year to track and share information on activities and results in achieving the goals of the Alliance. OSHA team members will include representatives of the Houston South Area Office OSHA and any other appropriate offices. OSHA will encourage State Plan States' and OSHA On-site Consultation Projects' participation on the team.

This agreement will remain in effect for two years. Any signatory may terminate it for any reason at any time, provided they give 30 day written notice. This agreement may be modified at any time with the written concurrence of all signatories.

Signed this 12th day of May, 2015.

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Mark Briggs Area Director Occupational Safety and Health Administration	Date	Russell Hamley President Associated Builders and Contractors of Greater Houston	Date

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Brianna F.E. Boudreau, LEED-AP Executive Director American Subcontractors Association- Houston Chapter	Date

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Cindy Lewis	Date	Mike Russell	Date
Director		President	
Gulf Coast Safety Institute/College of the Mainland		Scaffold & Access Industry Association	