

**AGREEMENT RENEWING AN ALLIANCE
BETWEEN
CORPUS CHRISTI AREA OFFICE
THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
AND
SOUTH TEXAS EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION SAFETY NETWORK (STEPS)
AND
TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE, DIVISION OF WORKERS'
COMPENSATION**

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) Corpus Christi Area Office, The STEPS Network, and the Texas Department of Insurance, Division of Workers' Compensation (OSHCON) continue to recognize the value of maintaining a collaborative relationship to foster safer and more healthful American workplaces. To that end, OSHA, OSHCON, and The STEPS Network hereby renew the Alliance signed October 20, 2004 and renewed October 18, 2006, October 15, 2008, April 20, 2011 and April 17, 2013 with a continued emphasis on reducing injuries and illnesses in oil and gas exploration, production and product transmission. Specifically, OSHA and OSHCON are committed to providing STEPS members and others with information, guidance, and access to training resources that will help them protect the health and safety of workers and understand the rights of workers and the responsibilities of employers under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act). Through the Alliance, the organizations will continue to address reducing employee exposure to all hazards in the oil and gas exploration and production industry and raising awareness of safety issues within the industry. In renewing this Alliance, OSHA, OSHCON, and the STEPS Network 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.

Adopted: September 15, 2004

Revised: April 15, 2015

- To convene or participate in stakeholder meetings on safety and health hazards in the oil and gas industry to help forge innovative solutions in the workplace or to provide input on safety and health issues.
- To promote participation in the OSHCON program.

Training and Education

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

- To deliver effective training for STEPS members regarding various safety and health hazards in the oil and gas industry, and to encourage the communication of such information to employees.
- To deliver effective training for STEPS members to promote understanding of workers' rights, including the use of the OSHA complaint process, and the responsibilities of employers and to encourage the communication of such information to employees.

Outreach and Communication

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

- To speak, exhibit, or appear at OSHA, OSHCON, STEPS, or other oil and gas industry conferences, local meetings, or other significant events.
- To share information among OSHA personnel and industry safety and health professionals regarding best practices or effective approaches through training programs, workshops, seminars, and lectures developed by the participants.
- To work with others to continue the growth of the STEPS Networks throughout the nation.

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.

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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 Corpus Christi Area Office in conjunction with the appropriate OSHCON team members.

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

Signed this 15th day of April 2015.

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Occupational Safety and
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Kurt Paton
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Adopted: September 15, 2004
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