

ANNUAL ALLIANCE REPORT

**U.S. Department of Labor
Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Houston North Area Office
And the
Greater Houston STEPS Network**

March 24, 2015

I. Alliance Background

A. Date Signed

February 18, 2014

B. Evaluation Period

February 18, 2014 to February 18, 2015

C. Alliance Overview

The Greater Houston STEPS Network alliance was formed to establish a collaborative relationship between the oil and gas onshore exploration and production industry, and the OSHA Houston North Area Office (HNAO). The alliance works to promote safety, health and environmental improvement in the exploration and production of oil and gas in the Houston area.

D. Implementation Team Members

OSHA

David Doucet, Area Director, OSHA, Houston North Area Office

Jim Shelton, Compliance Assistance Specialist, OSHA, Houston North Area Office

Greater Houston STEPS Network

Mindy Stephens, President, Greater Houston STEPS Network

II. Implementation Team Meetings

The executive committee members and officers and the HNAO CAS meet regularly after monthly meetings to plan upcoming meetings and activities. The executive committee members assist the officers in lining up sponsors and speakers for the monthly meetings and facilitate the meetings.

III. Activities, Events and Products

Training and Education

- The Greater Houston STEPS Chapter includes training and education for land based exploration and production operations. Greater Houston STEPS meetings are held each month on the third Tuesday at DISA in Houston, Texas.
- The meetings begin at 8:00 a.m. and end at 11 a.m. with multiple speakers and presentations. The speakers for each meeting vary and the topics covered relate to the oil and gas industry for both land exploration and production operations.
- Topics covered during the past year included: H2S Safety, Synthetic Drugs, Railroad Crossing Safety, Temporary Employees, FRC Heat Stress Prevention, Pipe Handling Safety, Hearing Conservation, Environmental Issues in E & P, Fatigue Management, Pressure Control, SEMS 2, Incident Reporting Databases, Flow Line Safety, Safety Culture, Hurricane Preparedness, Hand Tool Safety, and Safety Culture.
- The OSHA-HNAO Compliance Assistance Specialist (CAS) provided an OSHA Update presentation at each meeting and has presented on the new OSHA Reporting Requirements, Hurricane Preparation, and Temporary Employees. The CAS provided literature which included educational brochures, pamphlets and training materials.

Outreach and Communication

- The Greater Houston STEPS Network maintains LinkedIn, Facebook, and website pages that allow the chapter to post information about upcoming meetings, possible topics and speakers. The pages provide a place for safety discussions and to promote the Greater Houston STEPS Network.

Promoting the National Dialogue on Workplace Safety and Health

- The Greater Houston STEPS Network has been successful in creating a large network of Health Safety and Environmental (HSE) and operations personnel with the singular goal of reducing work related injuries and improving HSE performance.
- In conjunction with National STEPS Chapter, communication and efforts of the individual chapters has been bolstered and the recognition increased across the United States as a national player in promoting safe work and zero injuries in the oil and gas industry.

IV. Results

- The Greater Houston STEPS Chapter and meeting participation maintains a steady attendance in addition to the interest of members in becoming more involved with committees and Chapter leadership roles.
- The topics and presentations covered allowed HSE professionals the opportunity to network with their peers, opportunities to discuss internal issues with other

safety professionals & gain perspectives on solution that will protect employees from occupational hazards in their workplace.

- Meeting attendance averaged between 45-60 employers and employee participants depending on topics and area oil and gas activities.
- South Louisiana STEPS is increasing its outreach message and communication through social media sites.

Type of Activity	Number of Individuals Reached or Trained
12 Monthly Meetings @ 50 each	600
<i>TOTAL</i>	600

V. Upcoming Milestones

Plans for the upcoming year include building attendance and bringing more training opportunities to the Houston Area. The Network will continue to expand its influence in the Greater Houston area through Chapter activities that enhance the safety and health efforts of the industry's employers and employees using the social media accounts and the website.