

ANNUAL ALLIANCE REPORT

**The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA),
Texas Department of Insurance (OSHCON)
And the
South Texas Exploration and Production Safety Network**

October 17, 2014

I. Alliance Background

A. Date Signed

The original alliance was signed October 20, 2004 with the latest re-signing occurring April 17, 2013. During the re-signing of this alliance in 2011 the Texas Department of Insurance OSHA Consultation Program (OSHCON) was added as a signatory.

B. Evaluation Period

October 2013 – October 2014

C. Overview

The STEPS alliance was formed to establish a collaborative relationship between the oil and gas onshore exploration and production industry and the OSHA Corpus Christi Area Office (CCAO) to improve the safety performance in South Texas. Through the years the alliance has expanded its effect beyond South Texas and Region VI and has fostered the formation of similar networks in Oklahoma, West Texas, East Texas, Fort Worth, Houston, South Louisiana, New Mexico, Arkansas, Wyoming, Illinois, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, North Dakota, Montana, California, Utah, and most recently New York and Kansas.

D. Implementation Team Members

Marianne McGee, Compliance Assistance Specialist for the Corpus Christi Area Office, Corpus Christi, Texas

Rick Ingram, BP North America Gas, Houston, Texas

Kurt Paton, Health and Safety Manager, ConocoPhillips, Laredo, Texas and the STEPS Officers and Executive Committee

II. Implementation Team Meetings

- October 16, 2013
- January 22, 2014
- April 16, 2014
- July 16, 2014

In addition to these formal meetings, many meetings and conference calls were held to plan and execute the various activities of the South Texas STEPS Network as well as the National STEPS Network including the Respirable Crystalline Silica Workgroup, silica hazard awareness video, the hazard alert letter for silica hazards in hydraulic fracturing, the hazard alert letter for non-silica hazards in hydraulic fracturing, the 2014 OSHA Oil and Gas Safety and Health Conference, NIOSH NORA Council on Oil and Gas Extraction, and the National Voluntary Stand Down.

III. Results

The following table summarizes the Alliance's activities in support of the goals in the Alliance agreement.

Raising Awareness of OSHA's Rulemaking and Enforcement Initiatives Goal 1: Share information on OSHA's National/Regional/Local Emphasis Programs, regulatory agenda and rulemaking process.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative Supported	Number Reached
Speech	OSHA's Inspection Priorities	O&G REP/REP	100
Speech	Proposed silica standard	Silica	1000
Speech	Oil and Gas Fatalities	O&G REP/LEP	100
Raising Awareness of OSHA's Rulemaking and Enforcement Initiatives Goal 2: Share information on safety and health laws and standards including the rights and responsibilities of workers and employers.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative Supported	Number Reached
Speech	Heat Stress and the Oilfield	Heat	110
Speech	The OSHA Inspection Process		120
Speech	The OSHA incident investigation process		100
Speech	Emergency preparedness		110
Raising Awareness of OSHA's Rulemaking and Enforcement Initiatives Goal 3: Convene or participate in stakeholder meetings on safety and health hazards to help forge innovative solutions in the workplace or to provide input on safety and health issues.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative	Number Reached

		Supported	
Product	Participated in writing the Non silica Hazard Alert for hydraulic fracturing	O&G	
Product	Minimizing silica exposure during hydraulic fracturing	Silica	1000
Other	Participated in the Respirable Crystalline Silica Workgroup	Silica	1000
Raising Awareness of OSHA's Rulemaking and Enforcement Initiatives Goal 4: Promote the OSHCON program.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative Supported	Number Reached
Speech	The OSHCON Program		100
Training and Education Goal 1: Deliver effective training for STEPS members regarding various safety and health topics for the industry.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative Supported	Number Reached
Training	Coordinated training class from the OSHA Ed Center, Machine guarding and confined space entry		200
Training	Electrical hazards		100
Training	OSHA recordkeeping		110
Training	GHS		100
Training and Education Goal 2: Deliver effective training to promote an understanding of worker's rights, including the complaint process and employer's responsibilities.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative Supported	Number Reached
Training	The OSHA Inspection Process and Worker Rights		120
Outreach and Communication Goal 1: Speak, exhibit or appear at OSHA, OSHCON, STEPS, or conferences, meetings or other significant events.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative Supported	Number Reached
Other	Assisted in the development of the Respirable Crystalline Silica Workgroup		1000
Other	Served on the planning board for the 2014 OSHA Oil and Gas Safety and Health Conference		2200
Other	Assisted in planning the National Oil and Gas Safety Stand Down (November 2013)		24,000
Other	Served on the NIOSH NORA Council for Upstream		10,000

	Oil and Gas		
Outreach and Communication Goal 2: Share information among OSHA personnel and industry safety and health professionals regarding best practices or effective approaches through training programs, workshops, seminars and lectures.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative Supported	Number Reached
Product	Contributed to the production of the Silica Hazards video use at the National Stand Down		10,000
Product	Contributed to the production of the fatality video used for the National Stand down		10,000
Product	Participated in writing the Silica Hazard Alert		10,000
Product	Minimizing silica exposure during hydraulic fracturing		3,000
Speech	Participated in writing the hazard alert letter for non- silica hazards in hydraulic fracturing		
Outreach and Communication Goal 3: Work with others to continue the growth of the STEPS Network throughout the nation.			
Activity Type	Activity Name/Summary	OSHA Initiative Supported	Number Reached
Other	Worked with groups forming the new STEPS Networks in California, New York and Kansas		2,000
TOTAL			[76,570]

IV. Upcoming Milestones

The South Texas STEPS Networks plans to continue participating on the planning committee for the 2014 OSHA Oil and Gas Safety and Health Conference as well as on the NIOSH NORA Council.

The Network is currently supporting the development of STEPS Networks in California, Kansas and New York.

Due to the vast and effective efforts of the STEPS Network it is anticipated the alliance will be renewed in April 2015.

Report prepared by: Marianne McGee, Compliance Assistance Specialist, Corpus Christi Area Office, October 17, 2014.