



LECET



June 2007

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ATTENTION CONTRACTORS: OSHA Turns Focus to Portland Cement

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Effective April 20, 2007, OSHA compliance officers began to focus on ensuring that employers using Portland cement follow OSHA standards for air contaminants, personal protective equipment, sanitation, hazard communication and recordkeeping. Citations will be issued for violations.



While none of the standards are new and all have been enforceable for some time, OSHA issued a compliance directive to its inspectors in an effort to increase their attention to the dangers of Portland cement and hexavalent chromium (Cr(VI)), a common cement contaminant.

Portland cement can cause thickening, cracking, or fissuring of the skin, chemical (caustic) burns, and irritation or


inflammation of the cornea.

Under the directive, when an inspection reveals that Portland cement is in use, the inspector must check compliance with the relevant standards.

In general, employers must provide personal protective equipment, normally gloves and boots but also eye and respiratory protection when airborne exposure is possible. They must also provide washing facilities with clean water, non-alkaline soap and paper towels. They must make sure MSDSs for Portland cement are available and indicate the Cr(VI) danger, and they must train employees to understand the hazard and prevent exposure. Finally, employers must maintain records of occupational dermatitis.

What is Portland Cement?:

Portland Cement is the most common type of cement in general usage in the world. For construction purposes, it is most often mixed with aggregate (gravel & sand) and water to make the concrete we use for roads, foundations, building decks and a host of other structures.

The Laborers' Health and Safety Fund of North America Occupational Safety and Health Division staff is available to help LIUNA signatory employers understand and meet the requirements of the new compliance directive. Please contact the Division (202-628-5465) for help. 

LECET Hosts Blood Drive

Every three seconds, someone in America needs blood.


The reasons vary from cancer treatment, to premature babies, to those suffering trauma from accidents. Blood donations are critical for the medical industry to effectively treat millions of Americans each year.

On Thursday, March 15th, LECET joined the fight to prevent blood shortages by partnering with LifeSource to host a blood drive at our offices.



Terry Healy, Vice President and Regional Manager of the LIUNA Great Lakes Region donates blood and saves lives

Volunteers from the Chicago Area Laborers District Council, its affiliated locals, and other industry partners came forward to donate and help save lives. A single donation saves up to three lives.

For more information on the process of donating blood with LifeSource, visit www.lifesource.org, or call 1877-LIFESOURCE. 



Misclassification Bill Passes IL House and Senate; Awaits Governor Signature

You've read about the issue in this newsletter before. Intentional employee misclassification has been threatening the competitive landscape of the construction industry for some time now. As highlighted in the study we detailed in the last issue of "LECET News", the effects are being felt – directly or indirectly – by everybody in the state of Illinois.

The Illinois State Legislature took notice. With the passage of House Bill 1795, known as the "Employee Misclassification Act," they sought to clarify the distinction between an "employee" and a "subcontractor" within the construction industry, and give the State a better ability to monitor and enforce violations.

Due in part to the diligence of Chicago Area LECET and our many allies who worked tirelessly to educate Illinois lawmakers on the importance of this issue, the Bill passed a vote in both the Illinois House of Rep-

resentatives and the state Senate, and now awaits only Governor Rod Blagojevich's signature to be adopted as law.

LECET applauds the State Legislature for taking this action to help level the construction project bidding field, recoup lost income tax and unemployment insurance funds, and hold employers more accountable for their classification practices. 

House Bill 1795: What Does it Say?

In part, the Act specifies that an individual performing services for a contractor is deemed to be an employee of the contractor (and not a subcontractor) unless 1) the person is free from control or direction from the contractor 2) the service performed is outside the usual course of services performed by the contractor 3) the person is engaged in an independently established trade, occupation, profession or business, and 4) the individual is deemed a sole proprietor or partnership.

Visit the Illinois General Assembly website at www.ilga.gov and search "HB1795" for the full text of the Act.



Safety Incentive Program

4th Quarter 2006 SIP Award Winners

\$250 Gift Card to Circuit City!

Laborer	Company	Local #
George Katsiris	Achilles	5
Jason Rhein	Advance Construction Company, Inc.	5
Victor Aviles	American Asphalt Company	288
William Wendt	American Asphalt Surface Recycling, Inc.	5
Dan Burdelik	Babco Construction, Inc.	4
Rocico Graham	Bear Construction Company	4
Michael Watts	Bigane Paving Company	76
Johnie Ollie	Chas Bruckner & Son., Inc.	25
Timothy P. Bergin	Chicago Heights Construction	269
Charles Dohogne	Conley Steel, Inc.	582
Salomon Orozco	Construction by Camco, Inc.	75
Alfonso Navarro	Designed Equipment Corp.	6
Vito DiGioia	DiGioia Brothers Construction	96
Andrew Bohr	Don Bohr & Son, Inc.	149
Robert Gustatson	Executive Installations	1
Richard Culligan	Grizzly Peak, Inc.	4
Cleoitha Rule	H. Wigboldy Sons, Inc.	1
Alex Davila	High Efficiency Professional	225
Darrod Driver	Holian Asbestos Removal	225
Jim Codey	Interior Alterations, Inc.	4
Pablo Duarte	J Jill & Company	5
Dave Hagar	Kenny Construction Company	2
Kevin Brown	Kern Konstruction Kompany	5
Sam Bonilla	LJ Keefe Company	2

Laborer	Company	Local #
Jack Harding	Lenzini Excavating Company, Inc.	152
Dean Dierschow	Leo S. Deutsch, Inc.	96
Edgar Gomez	Lindahl Brothers	96
Mark Dudek	M.R. Lee Building Materials, Inc.	5
Joseph Donnelly	Marino Construction Company, Inc.	75
Dino Pistello	Mecon Industries	269
Ricardo Alvarez	Midstate Spring Tite, Inc.	6
Ted Wojtar	Montana Investments, LLC	75
Randy Williams	Nash Brothers Construction, Inc.	2
Dan McCarthy	Norcon, Inc.	4
Leonardo Hernandez	O'Hare Paving, Inc.	118
Juan Martinez	Orange Crush, LLC	582
Oswaldo Acevado	Osman Construction Corp.	118
Manuel Gomez	Parkway Forming, Inc.	4
Jose Rodriguez	Power Contracting & Engineering	118
Russell Dalton	Reliable Concrete Cutting Company	96
Jose G. Pantoja	Schaeffes Brothers, Inc.	4
Glen Nault	Scott Concrete Construction, Inc.	152
Hector Serrano	Sevenson Environmental	225
Suzanne Tomasone	T.U.C., Inc.	96
Tom Chiluk	Terpstra Masonry	582
Francisco Alfaro	Quality Paving, Inc.	75
Chris Kozubowski	Walsh	76
Kenya Sumpter	WR Weis Company, Inc.	4

Another Year, Another Truck Awarded to Safe Laborer

As of Friday, March 2nd, there's one less person on this earth that can ever again utter the phrase "I never win anything." That was the date of the 2006 Chicago Area LECET Annual Safety Incentive Program Awards Luncheon, and the date that Jose Martinez of Dawn Companies won a brand new 2007 Chevy Silverado.

Martinez, a 20-year member of Laborers' Local 5 in Chicago Heights, was nominated by Dawn Companies as a Laborer with a clean safety record throughout 2006. Dawn Companies was chosen, along with 200 other companies and all companies that participated in our quarterly award process, to nominate Laborers for the truck drawing. From that pool

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Safety Incentive Program

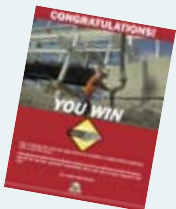
1st Quarter 2007 SIP Award Winners

\$250 Gift Card to Home Depot!

<i>Laborer</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Local #</i>
Jorge Camarillo	A. Horn, Inc.	6
Keith L. Hoard	Alpha Construction Company	5
Juan Carbajal	American Demolition Corp.	225
Michael Nicholson	Ardmore Associates, LLC	4
Ray Villarreal	Arthur J. Lootens - Son	149
Jean P. Lee	C. Lee Construction Services	5
Chris Prazak	Calumet Flexicore Corp.	25
Michael Crowley	Central Blacktop Company	5
Emilio Castaneda	Cerami Construction Company	152
Chuck Herman	Commercial Resources Construction	1
Michael J. French	Contracting & Material Company	2
William A. Houck	Custom Concrete Cutting	152
Kevin Lake	Deckert Acoustical Flooring	582
Roberto Mata	Dimeo Brothers, Inc.	2
Felix Marban	Dunleavy Construction	225
Greg E. Kosek	GK Engineering, LLC	288
Ken Jastrzab	Garth Larmco Joint Venture, LLC	6
Steve Chiquet	Harry S. Peterson Company	4
Michael Barron	Hogan Contracting Corp.	96
Ken Warner	Hollenbeck Group	118
John Kawalski	Hydro Excavating, Inc.	2
Jeffery Flicek	International Erectors, Inc.	681
Rudolf Kment	Illinois Masonry Corp.	582
Martin Murphy	JP Hopkins Sewer Construction	4
Gary Marshinski	Joseph J. Duffy Company	25
Mark Hanacek	Kurtis Enterprises, LLC	288
Jason Cuchna	Leo J. Fox Trucking & Excavating	118

<i>Laborer</i>	<i>Company</i>	<i>Local #</i>
Jakub Owsiany	MBB Enterprises of Chicago	4
Rick Genz	Maxim Construction Corp.	582
Tom Gebel	Norcon, Inc.	6
Michael Tepper	Normal Plumbing Company, Inc.	4
Phil Jurenci	Prime Scaffold, Inc.	6
Ray Balousek	RJ Ridolfi & Company	152
Enrique DeLao	RT Milord Company	118
Manuel Lopez	Restore Masonry, LLC	4
Jan Hankus	Richards & Weyer Construction Co.	152
Zeke Bockarovski	Riley Construction Company, Inc.	152
Ivan Perez	Rosemont Masonry Corp.	96
Hugo Jimenez	Safe Environmental	225
James Davis	Sherman Mechanical, Inc.	1035
Steve Drefke	Skirtmont Mechanical Contractors	582
Robert Annolde, Jr.	Specialty Builders, Inc.	288
Guillermo Barajas	Swanson Contracting Company	225
Angel De La Cruz	TBS Construction	288
Rodney Parr	TBS Excavating, Inc.	288
Jason L. Lawless	T Dixon, Inc.	288
Guy Pennington	TJ Lambrecht Construction	75
Ruben Alvarez	Tecnica Enviro Services	225
William Moore	Theineman Construction, Inc.	5
Heidi Jones	United Contracting, Inc.	96
Roberto Palomo	Utility & Industrial	288
Jim Lanton	VJ Mattson Company	5
Anthony Krabbe	Western Utility	5

Contractors, Keep Your Eyes on the Mail!



This red notice in your mailbox means YOU have been selected to nominate Laborers to join the above list as quarterly award winners! Every quarter of 2007 and beyond, LECET will be notifying 200 contractors to submit names of Laborers to win gift cards. Please take the time to participate when you see this notice. Visit our website or call 877-77LECET for full SIP details and to nominate Laborers.

www.lecetchicagoarea.org

Spotlight on the Contractors Association of Will & Grundy Counties

Any discussion about the fastest growing counties in Illinois has to include both Will and Grundy counties. According to the US Census Bureau, Will County added the most overall new residents between 2004 and 2005, while Grundy's population grew the second most in Illinois in terms of percentage growth.



With new residents comes new houses, streets, utilities, restaurants, grocery stores, hospitals, etc., etc., etc...and they don't build themselves.


Enter the Contractors Association of Will and Grundy Counties (CAWGC), who for

nearly 75 years have made it their mission to stay in tune with that phenomenal growth and work to better position their member companies to profit from it.

Most recently, the CAWGC opened their on-line plans room as a way to help their members navigate today's ever-changing technology, and allow them to put that technology to work for them. The plans room features a digital library of blueprints of many of the projects in the Will and Grundy county area. Members can access prints with the click of a mouse and be ready to bid the job sooner than ever before.

"The plans room is an example of how the Association is always thinking forward," said Tana Gray, member of the CAWGC Board of Directors. "Many of the members were not quite equipped to embrace the technology of the 21st century, but realizing how much it could help them out, the CAWGC stepped in and provided this important service which the members are utilizing and appreciate."

a dinner dance, and a steak fry that are all designed to promote networking, communication and collaboration opportunities for the members. They also award college scholarships to qualified students pursuing construction related majors.

So, as technology continues to change, and Will and Grundy counties continue to grow at phenomenal rates, it's good to know there's an association like the CAWGC that will unite and draw upon its experience and leadership to help guide its members and the union construction market as a whole through these changing times. 

Beyond the plans room, the CAWGC has held steady in its role as the chief union negotiating body for many of its members who choose to assign their bargaining rights to the association. Also, their yearly calendar of events includes an annual golf outing,



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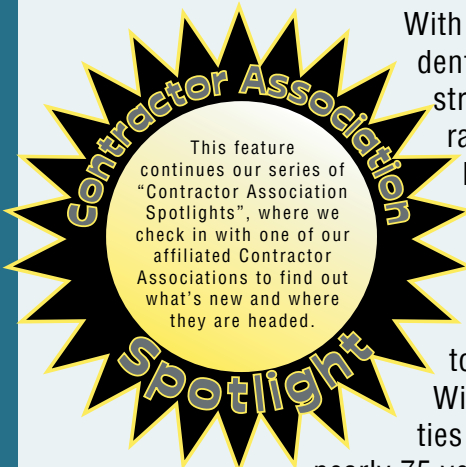
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This feature continues our series of "Contractor Association Spotlights", where we check in with one of our affiliated Contractor Associations to find out what's new and where they are headed.

LECET News

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SIP Awards Luncheon

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of nominees, we randomly selected one from each of our 17 contributing locals to attend the luncheon as finalists.

The 17 finalists were called on stage where one by one they drew a key at random and tried it in the door of the truck. Only one key would open the door, the rest were blank. That key was picked by the 14th contestant – Mr. Jose Martinez.

“I couldn’t believe it,” said Jose. “I was so nervous I didn’t know what to do. It’s a really nice truck.”

In addition to the truck, LECET will write a check to the IRS in Mr. Martinez’ name that will significantly reduce the tax burden that winning such a prize can place on an individual.


2006 marked the 5th year of the Chicago Area LECET Safety Incentive Program, which has grown in participation each year. The luncheon also featured addresses by OSHA Area Director Diane Turek and Illinois State Comptroller Dan Hynes, who spoke to issues important to the union construction industry, including employee misclassification.

“We really look forward to the Awards Luncheon every year,” said Jim Connolly, Chairman of the LECET Board of Trustees.

“Although everything we do at LECET is for the benefit of our union contractors and Laborers, it’s nice to give back in such a direct way and see someone win that truck every year.”

The 16 contestants that did not drive home in the truck were given commemorative LECET Safety Incentive Program watches, \$250 checks to compensate them for their time, and a prize bag of LECET golf shirts, hats and other materials.

LECET would like to thank all the attendees of the luncheon, all the companies that nominate Laborers throughout the year, and every Laborer and contractor that makes health and safety a daily priority.

If you are a contractor unfamiliar with our Safety Incentive Program, please visit our website or give us a call at 877-77LECET to get more details on how you can put your Laborers in a position to be the next person that can never again utter the phrase “I never win anything.” 



Jose Martinez (front left) stands in front of his new truck with his wife Lupe and Local 5 officers (from left), David Maine, Tony DeLuca, Frank DiGiovanni and Frank Taffora