



"Working to make Indiana businesses clean and safe, and wages fair and competitive."

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Commissioner of Indiana Department of Labor Honors Middlebury Indiana's Louisiana Pacific with Safety Award

Indianapolis, IN August 24, 2007 – Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL) Commissioner, Lori A. Torres, is proud to announce Louisiana Pacific's (LP) Middlebury, Indiana facility has achieved Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) "Star" status.

VPP, Indiana's Voluntary Protection Program, was established to recognize and promote safety and health management programs throughout the state. All companies, regardless of size or business, can participate in VPP - where management and employees work together to create and maintain a healthy working environment.

LP Middlebury is a manufacturer of expanded polystyrene, rigid and expanded PVC moldings used in construction and remodeling of commercial and residential structures. At LP, workplace safety and health is a core value, as LP's Middlebury, Indiana facility joins seven other LP sites in VPP. LP Middlebury has not had an OSHA recordable injury in the last two years of operation.

The VPP award ceremony was held on Wednesday, August 22, 2007 in Middlebury, Indiana. The ceremony provided an opportunity for LP employees and management to showcase their exemplary status to the media, state officials, and local elected officials. Commissioner Torres comments on the milestone achievement of Louisiana Pacific, "LP is essentially a poster child for the commitment of management to health, safety and wellbeing of its employees. From the attendance of its corporate CEO at the celebration, to the employees who labor willingly for the safety of each other, the overall commitment is significant and commendable. I am pleased that the IDOL is a partner in this achievement and congratulate LP Middlebury for its success."

To qualify for VPP "Star" status, an organization's Total Case Incident Rate (TCIR) must be below that of the industry's average for their respective Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)/North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). LP's three-year TCIR is nearly 89 percent below the industry's average. The three-year Days Away from Work/Restricted Job Activity/Transfer (DART) is 100 percent below the industry's average. "These rates are truly noteworthy and worthy of showcasing. LP is proof positive that management commitment and employee involvement in occupational safety and health have lasting effects on an organization's safety culture." added Torres.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact Sean M. Keefer at (317) 232-2683.

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