



Indiana

Department of Labor

Advancing the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

National Office Furniture of Santa Claus Achieves VPP “STAR” Recertification

INDIANAPOLIS (October 26, 2015) – National Office Furniture, located in Santa Claus, Indiana, has achieved recertification in the Indiana Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) as a “STAR” site. Indiana VPP sites are recognized as leaders in workplace safety and health and commended for their success in proactively protecting Hoosier workers.

“VPP certification is an achievement that does not come easy. It requires the hard work and diligence of both management and employees,” said Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL) Commissioner Rick J. Ruble. “The Indiana Department of Labor congratulates and is pleased to continue to partner with National Office Furniture for worker safety and health excellence.”

To participate in VPP, a company must develop, implement and maintain an exemplary worker safety and health management system and complete a comprehensive workplace safety and health audit conducted by IDOL staff and safety professionals from a pool of Special Government Employees (SGEs). Additionally, the site’s workplace injury and illness rates must be below the national industry average for its respective industry. Worker injury and illness rates at National Office Furniture’s Santa Claus location are more than 60 percent below the national industry average. To date, 75 Indiana workplaces have achieved VPP certification—with 73 of these sites achieving “STAR” certification.

Employing over 300 workers, National Office Furniture manufactures wood laminate and veneer office furniture in Santa Claus. Last year, over 323,000 articles of furniture were manufactured at the location. Management’s commitment and worker involvement includes regular committee meetings, an incentive program and monthly walkthroughs. A licensed Athletic Training Coordinator and Physical Therapist visits the site at least once a week. National Office Furniture is also a member of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management’s Indiana Environmental Stewardship Program. The worksite has no lost work day cases so far in 2015.

About the Indiana Department of Labor:

The mission of the Indiana Department of Labor is to advance the safety, health and prosperity of Hoosiers in the workplace. In order to make significant strides, we emphasize both

enforcement and voluntary compliance by employers. Follow the Indiana Department of Labor on Twitter: [@INDeptofLabor](https://twitter.com/INDeptofLabor) and Like on Facebook: facebook.com/IndianaDepartmentofLabor.

About VPP:

The Voluntary Protection Program provides recognition to Hoosier employers that operate exemplary safety and health management systems. Certification in VPP is an achievement of status that will single employers out among their business peers as a model worksite for Hoosier workplace safety and health.

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