



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

ELKHART MANUFACTURER RECERTIFIED IN STATE VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAM

INDIANAPOLIS (December 16, 2016) – Geocel Products Group, a Business Unit of The Sherwin-Williams Company, of Elkhart, Indiana, received recertification in the Indiana Voluntary Protection Program (VPP). Hoosier employers participating in the state’s VPP program represent some of the safest workplaces in Indiana and demonstrate excellence in occupational safety and health.

Geocel is an adhesive manufacturing facility that produces sealants and coatings to seal, bond, or coat structures. Staffed with a team of 88 employees, the facility produces both solvent and water-based coatings and adhesive products packaged in squeeze tubes, sausages, cartridges, cans, pails, and drums.

“VPP worksites are an excellent representation of the state’s record low injury and illness rate and the commitment to protecting working Hoosiers,” said Indiana Department of Labor Commissioner Rick J. Ruble. “The Indiana Department of Labor thanks the management and employees of Geocel for their continued commitment to safety and health excellence.”

Geocel’s corporate and facility safety philosophy parallels a commitment to “not compromise safety to meet production objectives.” The facility maintains multiple occupational safety and health programs, including a Safety Leadership for Employees program, “Why I Work Safely” photo poster program, hazard awareness training, and more. The hard work by management and employees is reflected in an overall low injury or illness incident rate average of 2.15 per 100 workers, which is about 14 percent lower than the industry average of 2.5 in 2014.

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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