

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Indiana Department of Labor Enters Cooperative Partnership with the Indiana Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.

INDIANAPOLIS (June 2, 2011) – The Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL) has entered into a strategic safety and health partnership agreement with the Indiana Chapter of the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. (ABC). Members of IDOL and ABC met in the State Capitol Building Rotunda yesterday afternoon to sign the agreement that will provide a framework for meeting several mutual occupational safety and health-related goals between the two organizations.



“Those goals include sharing the best industry technology, innovations and work practices that improve jobsite safety and health,” said IDOL Commissioner Lori Torres.

Key to the agreement is the goal to reduce the number and rate of injuries and worker fatalities resulting from falls, workers being struck by objects, workers being caught in-between equipment and structures and electrocutions. “These are the four leading causes of injury and death in the construction industry,” added Torres.

The agreement also seeks to increase the number of ABC members who participate in the association’s Platinum Step program. Among other requirements, participation in ABC’s Platinum Step program requires all newly hired member construction workers to receive adequate safety training before beginning work. All member field supervision personnel must complete the Construction Safety 10-hour training course as well.

“This honor, bestowed only on two other organizations in the state, solidifies ABC’s commitment to the safety of Indiana merit shop construction workers, to our members who have established exemplary safety programs, and to the communities within which our members live and work,” said ABC Executive Vice President Martha Bracken. “We are proud to be partners with the Indiana Department of Labor, and look forward to growing this relationship in the years to come.”

Other goals in the agreement include recognizing ABC members that demonstrate excellence in safety and health planning and programs. ABC members that achieve Platinum STEP certification may seek exemption from programmed Indiana OSHA inspections.

The IDOL/ABC partnership agreement will remain in effect for two years.

For more information about the IDOL/ABC alliance agreement, visit: www.in.gov/dol/2387.htm.

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 compliance assistance by employers. www.in.gov/dol.

About the Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc.:

ABC is a professional association which advocates for free enterprise in the marketplace where companies and employees are evaluated on their merit in delivery projects based on the best performance, proficiency and price. The ABC of Indiana is part of a national federation which represents 23,000 commercial and industrial contractors employing two million employees. ABC of Indiana is ranked in the top five chapters nationally in apprenticeship training, safety, green building practices, political action and advocacy.

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