



Indiana

Department of Labor

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

MITCHELL E. DANIELS, Jr., GOVERNOR
Lori A. Torres, Commissioner

402 West Washington Street, Room W195
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2751

Phone: (317) 232-2655
Fax: (317) 233-3790

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Marc Lotter
Phone: 317-232-3396
E-mail: media@dol.in.gov

Indiana Department of Labor Honors Rushville, Indiana's Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. – Rushville Production Plant with Safety Award

INDIANAPOLIS (May 24, 2010) - The Indiana Department of Labor (IDOL) is pleased to announce the certification of Rushville, Indiana's Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. in Indiana's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP).

Employing nearly 50 full-time employees, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc.'s Rushville Production Plant manufactures seed corn for the agriculture industry. During the summer detasseling season, the site employs an additional 1,500 employees, of which approximately 85% are under the age of 18. "Pioneer Hi-Bred International proves that by having a well-developed, proactive safety and health management program, workplaces of any size can keep teen and adult workers safe while on the job. The Indiana Department of Labor welcomes Pioneer Hi-Bred into an elite group of Hoosier businesses who strive for worker safety and health excellence," commented Commissioner of Labor Lori A. Torres.

Management commitment to, and employee involvement in, occupational safety and health are key components of an effective workplace safety and health program. Pioneer management and employees participate in multiple collaborative safety efforts, including a plant safety committee, Job Safety Analyses (JSAs) and incident investigations. In addition, employees work on ergonomic projects and participate in the delivery of safety presentations during weekly safety meetings.

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 VPP:

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.

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