

## Region VI Success Stories

- Association of Energy Service Companies Trains OSHA CSHOs on Hydrogen Sulfide Hazards in Oil and Gas Well Servicing Industry. (2015, December).
- Oklahoma City Area Office Gets Results from Safety Stand Downs. (2012, December).
- Little Rock and Oklahoma City Area Offices Work with the Mexican Consulate to Train Workers at 10-Hour Construction Marathon. (2012, September).
- Region VI Alliance with Permian Basin STEPS Network Reaches Out to Oil and Gas Industry. (2012, June).
- Austin Area Office Alliance with Workers Defense Project Supports Spanish-Speaking Construction Workers. (2012, March).
- Dallas, Texas Regional Office Alliance with Hispanic Contractors Association de Tejas Trains Workers at 10-Hour Construction Marathon. (2012, March).
- Workers Memorial Day Events in Houston, Texas. (2011, October).
- Alliance With Mexican Consulate Reaches Out to Mexican Immigrants in Arkansas and Oklahoma. (2011, May).
- AESC Alliance Trains CSHOs in Texas. (2011, March).
- 2010 OSHA Oil & Gas Safety Conference. (2011, March).
- Houston Area Offices, Mexican Consulate, and Justice and Equity in the Workplace Participate in Labor Right Week August 30 - September 3, 2010. (2011, February).
- Texas Regional Office and International Association of Foundation Drilling Hold Seminar. (2010, May).
- Houston Area Offices and Houston Affirmative Action Contract Compliance Alliance Focuses Training on Top Four Construction Hazards. (2010, March).
- Region VI Alliance with Northrop Grumman and Metals Trades Council Changes Safety Culture of Shipyard Employees. (2009, March).
- Alliance Among OSHA Region VI Austin, Texas Area Office, Associated Builders and Contractors, South Texas Chapter and The Southwest Independent School District Provides Safety Training to Students Entering Construction Industry. (2007, June).
- Alliance between OSHA Region VI and South Texas Exploration and Production Safety Network Aims for Incident Free Operations for Oil and Gas Workers. (2007, February).
- Alliance for the Polyurethanes Industry and OSHA Region V and VI Form Alliances to Address Application of Polyurethane. (Revised March 2007).
- Alliance With Region VI Lubbock Area Office and T&T Management LP Promotes Safety in Spanish-Speaking Community. (Revised May 2009).
- OSHA Region VI Alliance Signed with Houston Area Organizations Addressing Workplace Safety for Teens. (2004, November).

### Association of Energy Service Companies (AESC) Trains OSHA CSHOs and AESC Members on Hydrogen Sulfide Hazards in Oil and Gas Well Servicing Industry

As part of its Alliance with OSHA Region VI, the Association of Energy Service Companies (AESC) provided free training on hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) hazards to OSHA staff and AESC members on November 17, 2015 at the University of Texas at Arlington OSHA Education Center. Hydrogen sulfide is a significant hazard in the oil and gas industry. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were 64 fatal occupational injuries as a result of H<sub>2</sub>S from 2003 to 2012, an average of seven deaths per year.

Over 30 people attended the training, including OSHA Compliance Safety and Health Officers from OSHA's Dallas and Fort Worth Area Offices. OSHA Region VI and AESC signed an Alliance in 2013 to provide AESC members and others with information, guidance, and access to training resources that will help them protect the health and safety of workers, particularly by reducing and preventing exposure to all hazards in the oil and gas well servicing industry.

During her opening remarks at the four-hour training session, AESC President Joyce Ryel stated: "This training session on H<sub>2</sub>S is a work product of the Alliance and is offered to help each of you learn more about one of the hazards that can be found at oil and gas locations. Our Health/Safety/Environmental Committee is dedicated to improving the safety and health of everyone on the well site, from you as OSHA inspectors to our customers and employees."

The training, provided by AESC Health and Safety Committee member Eric Rosemann, focused on H<sub>2</sub>S properties, detection, hazards, and techniques to avoid exposure. Mr. Rosemann reviewed the ANSI Z-390 Standard, which sets forth accepted practices for hydrogen sulfide safety training. He also gave real-world examples of hazard recognition, effective training, sampling techniques, and safe work practices.

During the discussion, industry members provided valuable insight into hazard identification, detection, and situations requiring emergency egress from the worksite during an H<sub>2</sub>S release. OSHA Compliance Safety and Health Officers contributed to the discussion by providing information on hazard identification and avoidance.

"The AESC joint training has been very beneficial to both AESC members and our OSHA personnel," said Josh Flesher, the OSHA Region VI Assistant Regional Administrator for Cooperative and State Programs. "This process affords an open dialogue regarding safety and health issues, and facilitates the discussion of current issues affecting the oil and gas service industry."