

## **APCA Safety Meeting**

February 8, 2024, Houston, Texas

### **Safety Moment**

Safety Chair Vince Chapa shared a story that he said was an example of Human and Organizational Performance, HOP, (i.e., a science-based approach to looking at mistakes so we can address them more effectively) involving his wife at one of the big oil change facilities with many bays. She heard a mechanic say, "Turn on your engine" and did so, but the instruction wasn't meant for her. Luckily there was no incident, but there could have been a serious one. Vince said that blame wasn't the issue because it fixes nothing; they need to change their processes. Communication failures often cause incidents on jobsites, and we need to work on fixing the problems.

### **Message from APCA Leadership**

APCA Vice President Nick Bruno, B-Con Services, and Board member Patrick McCrae, Primoris Pipeline, both attended the meeting and provided an update on association activities, including the recent DC Fly-in and the issues they promoted on Capitol Hill. Bruno said, "The work you guys do is important to the association and to the industry."

McCrae said, "When people ask me why I belong to APCA, I tell them the Safety Committee and Government Affairs."

### **Injury Management with Drake Field Services**

Andy Drake & Joey Antilley from Drake introduced their company and provided a scenario-based presentation for case management. One scenario looked at a worker who hurt his shoulder throwing skids and led to a discussion of pre-employment physicals that explore old injuries and current aches & pains. Another scenario looked at a burn injury that was treated quickly and properly, which highlighted the need to meet the local urgent care facilities/people before a project begins and to let them know you'll be working in the area and how much you care about your people. Antilley also shared a guide to OSHA recordability, which he said is good to share with local medical people. The group also discussed how empathy and compassion are big parts of case management.

Learn more about the company at [drake-medical.com](http://drake-medical.com).

### **OSHA Update**

OSHA Compliance Assistance Specialist Jim Shelton gave his quarterly update to the group. He said there is a new emphasis on forklifts in warehouses, a perennial issue and one that causes "incredibly severe injuries." New electronic reporting rules won't impact APCA members because construction is already covered. He said there is always an emphasis on trench safety, and as soon as it gets hot again there will be more inspections looking at heat safety. A new standard is coming, but they're moving slowly on it, he said.

Shelton said a big upcoming initiative is the National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction, May 6-10, 2024. More info is at [www.osha.gov/stop-falls-stand-down](http://www.osha.gov/stop-falls-stand-down).

The National Safety Stand-Down raises fall hazard awareness across the country in an effort to stop fall fatalities and injuries. Companies can conduct a Safety Stand-Down by taking a break to have a toolbox talk or another safety activity such as conducting safety equipment inspections, developing rescue plans, or discussing job specific hazards.

Managers are encouraged to plan a stand-down that works best for their workplace anytime.

Chairman Chapa asked for volunteers to help put together a flyer on fall protection in pipeline construction. He, Cliff Dugas, Dominique Estrello, and Andy Drake volunteered.

Shelton was asked about pipeline-related incidents that OSHA was seeing, and he said he would do a little research and report back. Following the meeting he compiled a list of FY 23 NAICS 237120 incidents, trying to encompass all U.S., not just federal OSHA. He also tried to edit out non-pipeline incidents that were classified as pipeline construction but were really off work.

### **OSHA Alliance Program's Annual Construction Roundtable**

Vince Chapa and APCA's Mike Ancell will be attending the OSHA Alliance Program's Annual Construction Roundtable, March 21 at the Department of Labor Building in Washington, D.C. As a construction-related National Alliance participant, APCA participates in this event to hear updates from OSHA and NIOSH senior leadership and discuss safety and health topics pertinent to the construction industry. The event provides opportunities to hear and share best practices and Alliance successes and identify opportunities for collaboration.

### **Meeting Speakers**

The group discussed possible speakers and topics for future meetings. People are interested in hearing from the Construction Safety Research Alliance. From the CSRA website ([www.csra.colorado.edu](http://www.csra.colorado.edu)): "The CSRA is a community of industry leaders and academic experts who collaborate to create and share new safety knowledge. We execute scientific research focused on the prevention of serious injuries and fatalities." The CSRA vision is "To eliminate serious injuries and fatalities in the construction industry through transformative research and defensible science."

Several Safety Committee members work with CSRA, and Chair Chapa will reach out to see if a speaker is available.

**Reminder:** Submit your 2023 Injury and Illness data - OSHA Form 300A Annual Summary - through the Injury Tracking Application by March 2.

### **Confirmed Speakers for 2024**

Q2 - Sunland DOT team - compliance issues

The session will cover:

- Recent changes in FMCSA/DOT including new log in and web pages
- Pre-trip inspections & roadside inspections
- Differences in intrastate and interstate requirements
- Common items focused on by inspectors and the best/worst states for inspections
- 3-D training module

The Sunland team will also cover the upcoming FMCSA initiatives and focus areas:

- CVSA Releases CMV Blitz Schedule
- International Roadcheck is scheduled for May 14-16, 2024. Roadcheck is a compliance, enforcement and educational initiative that is described as the largest targeted enforcement program on commercial motor vehicles in the world.

- Operation Safe Driver Week is scheduled for July 7-13, 2024. Operation Safe Driver Week is an annual one-week enforcement and educational campaign targeting unsafe driving by passenger and commercial vehicle drivers.
- Brake Safety Week is scheduled for August 25-31, 2024. During Brake Safety Week, commercial motor vehicle inspectors conduct brake system inspections (primarily Level IV Inspections) on large trucks and buses throughout North America to identify brake-system violations.
- There is also an unannounced CVSA Brake Safety Day planned that can happen at any time during 2024.

### **Dates for 2024 APCA Safety Meetings**

Q2 - May 9

Q3 - August 22

Q4 - November 7

All meetings will be at the Sheraton North Houston at George Bush Intercontinental  
<https://www.marriott.com/en-us/hotels/hougi-sheraton-north-houston-at-george-bush-intercontinental/overview/>

**Safety Chair:** Vince Chapa, Primoris Pipeline

**Assistant Chair:** Andy Drake, Drake Field Services