

SPECIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

A federal program, **Special Government Employees (SGEs)** are industry professionals that work alongside the IOSHA staff to help evaluate and mentor companies interested in achieving certification in VPP. Indiana is a leader in the federal program with more than 100 SGEs working from Indiana-based VPP sites.

As VPP expands, SGEs are a critical component to its success. The SGE program allows IOSHA the ability to leverage the best and brightest safety professionals in the state to grow the program, mentor others, and positively influence exemplary workplace safety and health.



To be qualified for employment as an SGE, an individual must be employed at a VPP-certified worksite. They must also obtain approval from the company in which he or she works as participation is funded by the respective company.

To learn more about SGEs, please visit www.osha.gov/dcsp/vpp/sge.html.



ABOUT INSHARP

Small Hoosier workplaces that operate exemplary workplace safety and health management systems may be eligible for participation in the **Indiana Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (INSHARP)**.

INSHARP participants are recognized as industry leaders in workplace safety and health, and also receive an exemption from programmed IOSHA inspections for one to three years.

For more information about INSHARP, visit www.in.gov/dol/insharp.htm.



INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
402 West Washington Street Room W195
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 232-2655 | www.in.gov/dol



Indiana Voluntary Protection Program

www.in.gov/dol/vpp.htm 

vpp@dol.in.gov 

(317) 234-4267 



STAR CERTIFICATION

The **Star Program** is designed for worksites who have achieved above-and-beyond success with their safety and health management systems. These sites are self-sufficient in their ability to control workplace hazards.

Participants may first enter VPP on the **Merit** level in which sites have good safety and health management programs, but move forward with respective goals to achieve Star certification.

VPP

Indiana Voluntary Protection Program

EXEMPLARY OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

PARTNER WITH IOSHA TO ACHIEVE STAR STATUS

The **Indiana Voluntary Protection Program (VPP)** is a branch of the OSHA-developed program to recognize and partner with Indiana's businesses, worksites, and organizations that demonstrate excellence in occupational safety and health. Participants have developed and implemented systems that effectively identify, control, and eliminate hazards in the workplace. In addition to gaining superb status and ongoing support, OSHA removes participants from programmed inspection lists for a period of three to five years, with the exception of complaints, severe incidents, or fatalities.

To be considered for VPP certification, Hoosier employers must

- ★ Have injury and illness rates below their respective industry average;
- ★ Develop and implement a proactive safety and health management program that effectively identifies, limits, and controls hazards; And
- ★ Demonstrate management commitment and active employee involvement.

NATIONAL OFFICE FURNITURE



"VPP has given us the opportunity to share workplace safety and health best practices with some of the safest, most successful companies across the state. We are very fortunate to partner with IOSHA in the VPP program with the common goal to **make Indiana (and our company) a safe place to work.**"

- **Lonnie Nicholson, Vice President | Kimball International**



The first Indiana VPP certification for **National Office Furniture**, a business unit of Kimball International, was certified in 2000 and has been maintained for over 17 years. The thriving workplace safety and health culture expanded to six additional VPP-certified sites in Indiana. National has been recognized as **one of the top 13 safest companies in America** (*EHS Today*).