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## **NEWS RELEASE**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Vulcraft of St. Joe, Ind., Earns Award for Exemplary Workplace Safety and Health

**INDIANAPOLIS** (July 1, 2011) – With its workplace health and safety incidents nearly 60 percent below the national average, and recently being added to the short list of Indiana's safest companies, Vulcraft is exemplifying what it takes to maintain an effective workplace safety and health management system.

Today the Indiana Department of Labor welcomed Vulcraft into Indiana's Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) as a merit site. To participate at the merit level in VPP, a company must develop, implement and maintain an effective worker safety and health management system. In addition, the facility's worker injury and illness rates must be below the national average for their industry. Merit certification is a step toward star certification status, which is the highest achievement of workplace health and safety practices. Currently, fewer than 60 Hoosier workplaces have achieved VPP certification.

"Indiana VPP represents a partnership between labor, management and government that advances the safety and health culture for Hoosier workers," said Indiana Department of Labor Commissioner Lori Torres. "Certified employers, like Vulcraft, are demonstrated leaders in the safety and health arena. This is what we want to see at companies throughout Indiana."

Vulcraft is a division of Nucor Corporation. The company's facility in St. Joe manufactures steel joists, joist girders and metal deck for the non-residential construction market. The site employs more than 300 salaried and hourly workers.

## 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. <u>www.in.gov/dol</u>.

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