

Safety Champs: RRC employees take the cake when it comes to safety compliance and beyond. Pictured here are back row, from left, John Freeman, Albert Ramirez, Frank Humberstone, Mike Stange, Mike Singer, and George Williamson. Front row: Bill Dellosa, Milo Victoria, Jack Gabig, Bernardo Vasquez, and Hector Rojas.



PHOTOS BY BILL HEARD

Good, Better and Best: Corporate Safety Issues Review of MTA Health and Safety Programs

By GAYLE ANDERSON

- RRC, Metro Blue Line Maintenance and South Bay Transportation Division are "shining stars" of first report from Safety and Health Assessment Review Program.

(May 30, 2003) When it comes to safety, and safety *reports*, regulations are good, compliance is better but a proactive practice beyond compliance is far and away the best.

In the first report from a comprehensive safety review conducted by MTA Corporate Safety, three divisions emerged as "shining stars" of safety visibility and practice.

Out of a possible 4 points, the Regional Rebuild Center Integrated Shops scored 3.8, Metro Blue Line Maintenance scored 3.5 and South Bay Transportation Division scored 3.1. The MTA's overall average score was a respectable 2.3, indicating full compliance with various regulatory programs mandated by the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA).

"The basics of the OSHA programs are communications, mitigation of hazards, and developing policies and procedures that put safety into daily, routine practice," said Corporate Safety DEO Gary Spivack.

"The people at RRC are really setting the standard for the rest of the agency to follow, in terms of how they communicate and implement safety programs and lower the rate of accidents and injuries," he said. "Should we have an OSHA audit, we're prepared to pass with flying colors."

Manager Pam Engelke presents "safety cake" honoring RRC to Metro San Gabriel General Manager Jack Gabig.



ON THE JOB:

Safety & Health Assessment Review Program / Injury & Illness Prevention Program Team: Pamela Engelke, Robert H. Torres, Audrey Chiu, Ralph Sbargia and Charles Chism.

S.H.A.R.P. / IIPP assessment form design and shakeout assistance provided by Gary Spivack, Kathleen Johnson and Michael Flores.

determined that employees were able to maintain safety on the job.

RRC received their laurels from Corporate Safety May 23, when Metro San Gabriel General Manager Jack Gabig joined with Coporate Safety officials to present a celebratory "Best in Show" safety cake, secured in tiers and decorated with a plastic wrench, just in case.

"The report recognizes RRC of its outstanding dedication to MTA's safety program," said Gabig. "The audit was conducted not only to measure adherence to OSHA regulations but also to measure our own effectiveness in terms of documenting our safety practices."

DEO Milo Victoria credits RRC Managers Mike Singer, Cary Stevens and Harold Peterson as "excellent organizers" of safety procedures. "They have encouraged many of the processes that were developed in different committees and put into practice, and, most importantly, documented and followed through to determine and maintain effectiveness."

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