



DEPARTMENT OF
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NEWS RELEASE

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Rogue Valley Plywood mill joins SHARP

Boise Cascade adds fourth worksite to safety program

Boise Cascade LLC, Rogue Valley Plywood mill in White City is the latest company to join the Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP).

SHARP provides an incentive for Oregon employers to work with their employees to find and correct hazards, develop and implement effective safety and health programs, and continuously improve. The ultimate goal of SHARP is to encourage employers to become self-sufficient in managing workplace safety and health issues. Currently, 62 employer locations in Oregon participate in SHARP, in addition to 81 facilities that have graduated from the program.

Rogue Valley Plywood became a Boise Cascade mill in 1977 and produces parallel-laminated veneer panels, which are used in the manufacturing of Boise's engineered wood products. Employing 90 workers, the mill began working toward SHARP a year ago, after the Boise Cascade LLC Western Oregon Region signed a SHARP partnership agreement with Oregon OSHA.

"The SHARP process has provided us with a great opportunity for greater employee involvement and has improved our safety culture," said Jim Fish, a Rogue Valley Plywood SHARP team member. "The program is another tool for reinforcing how we feel about safety and our vision of an incident-free workplace."

Rogue Valley Plywood joins three other Boise plants - Medford Plywood, White City EWP, and Willamina Veneer - as SHARP-certified facilities. Two other western Oregon Boise locations are pursuing SHARP certification through the partnership agreement.

Participation in SHARP doesn't eliminate regulatory enforcement, although SHARP participants do receive a limited exemption from programmed inspections. Employees retain all workplace safety and health rights contained in the Oregon Safe Employment Act. Oregon employers that have been in business for more than one year are eligible to apply for SHARP regardless of size or type of business.

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Oregon OSHA, a division of the Department of Consumer & Business Services, enforces the state's workplace safety and health rules and works to improve workplace safety and health for all Oregon workers. For more information, go to www.orosha.org.

The Department of Consumer and Business Services is Oregon's largest business regulatory and consumer protection agency. For more information, go to www.dcb.org.