



Department of Defense
Voluntary Protection Programs Center of Excellence



Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) for Industrial Hygienists (IH)/Bioenvironmental Engineers and Occupational Health (OH)

Objectives



After this training you will be able to:

- Describe how IH and OH can help organizations achieve their VPP goals
- Discuss how IH / OH relationships with VPP participant sites can be improved
- Understand the implications of the Right to Know.



Navy and Marine Corps



OPNAVINST 5100.23. “BUMED shall Provide support to CNO and CMC in all aspects of occupational health, which include occupational medicine (medical treatment and surveillance), industrial hygiene and environmental health, including field support.”

- Services provided by BUMED are typically technically adequate to meet VPP needs
- Navy / USMC VPP sites must focus on partnering with BUMED service providers to meet VPP criteria and get the maximum benefit for site employees



Common IH Problems



- Occupational Health professionals must effectively communicate with employees and supervisors regarding:

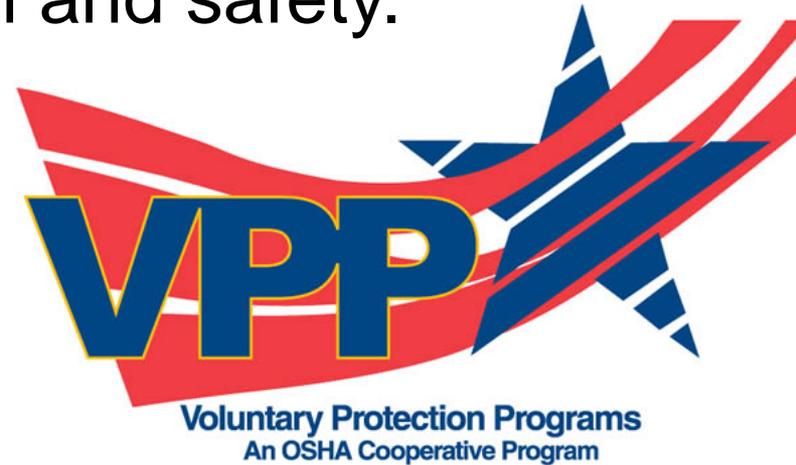
- Impacts of health hazards on the Safety and Health of the organization
- Effects of hazards are often seen only after years of chronic exposure
- Conceptualizing health risks.



VPP and IH



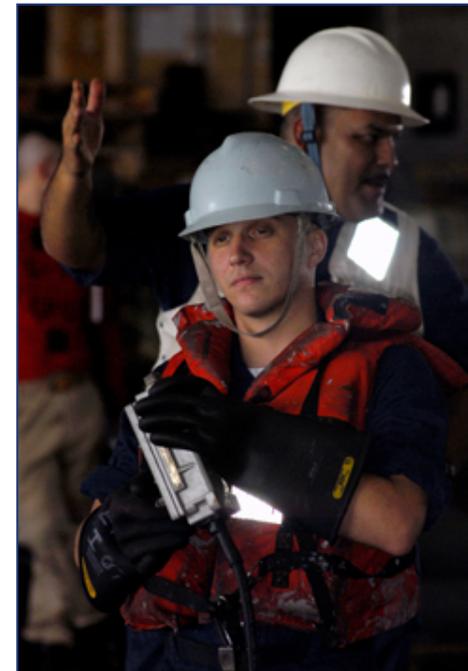
- VPP is an important program for industrial hygienists because it focuses on giving the employees the tools necessary to help affect change in their work environment.
- VPP empowers employees to become stewards of their health and safety.



IH, Safety and Management



- IH, Safety and Management should strive to work together in key areas such as:
 - Communication
 - Open dialog with the Safety office
 - Regular meetings with safety personnel or use VPP committees exchange ideas Safety office.
 - Reporting
 - Reports have common elements
 - Use pictures and diagrams to help illustrate key points.



IH, Safety and Management



– Public Relations

- Hands-on approach as often as possible
- Handouts and power point slides may not always be effective.

– Getting Involved

- Participate in VPP committees and roundtables
- Reviewing new procedures or policies, and new equipment purchases
- Working with Fire, Rescue and Safety in real world or table top exercises
- After Action Reviews to update Action Plans.



IH and OH



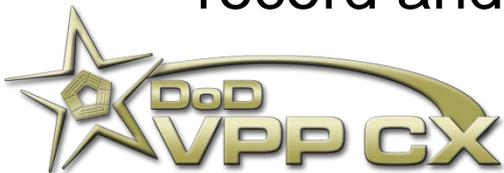
- IH and Occupational Health should:
 - Schedule regular meetings to review medical monitoring programs
 - Establish effective notification and education pathways for shops that are entering OR leaving any of the monitoring programs
 - Look closely at shops being removed to ensure they do not qualify for program participation in other ways.



IH and the Employee



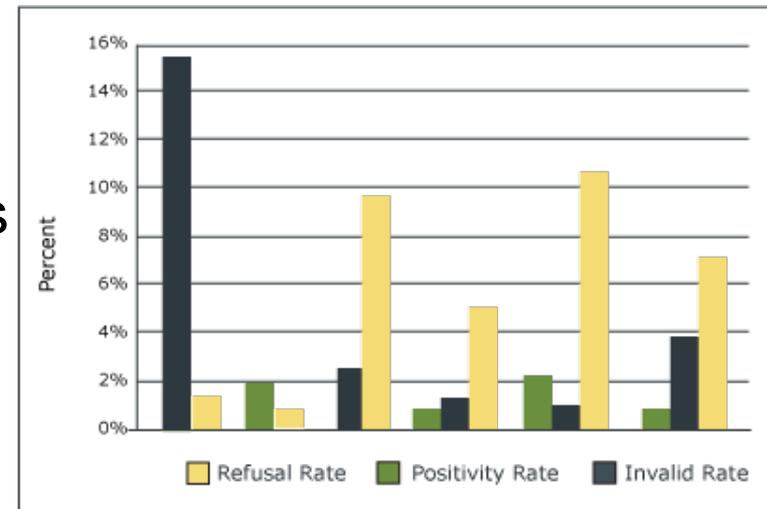
- IH and OH personnel can assist shop employees by:
 - Reviewing reports/written communication to ensure information is clear and easy to access
 - Considering audience's level of experience and expertise with subject matter
 - Avoiding technical “jargon”
 - Using pictures and diagrams to complete the record and communicate concepts.



Follow up IH Work



- When evaluating shops or processes pay attention to follow through :
 - Annual Assessments
 - Tools for the IH office and the Shop.
 - Tracking and Trending
 - Track shops or processes that continually exceed the Regulatory Limits
 - Identify trends that may be targets for engineering interventions
 - Cost Benefit Analysis.



Follow up IH Work



– House Keeping

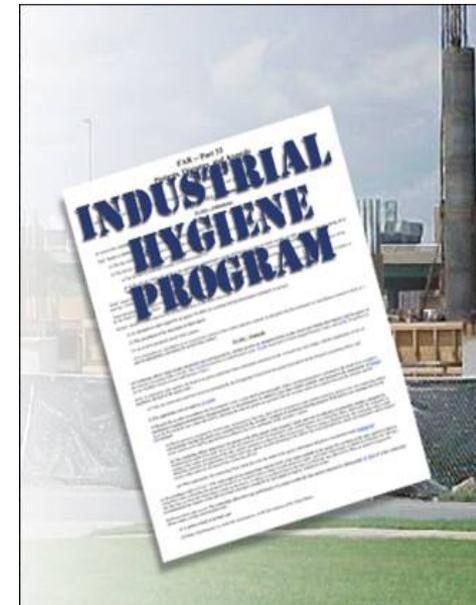
- Reports and binders are regularly audited
- Audit results are briefed to entire IH or OH office
- All employee training is current
- Ensure action items are being followed and completed.

– Gauging understanding

- Follow up site visits
- Reviewing site records.

– Face-to-Face Interaction

- Most effective method for IH programs.



Constant Re-evaluation



- Re-evaluation of the program to assure the needs of the organization are being met is important. Some simple ways to accomplish this are by:
 - Periodic Re-evaluation
 - Schedule regular (yearly, or every 2 years) program evaluations
 - Distribute results of these program reviews to office personnel.
 - Creating IH/BEE Job Hazard Analysis (JHA)/Job Safety Analysis (JSA)
 - Job hazard analysis is just as important inside the IH/BEE organization as it is on the shop floors.



Constant Re-evaluation



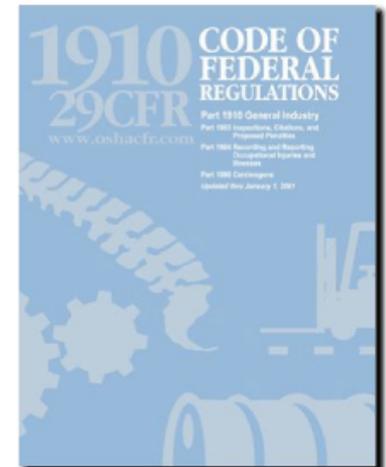
- Reviewing Training Records
 - For completeness
 - For relevance.
- Determining adequacy of “Just in time training vs. regular hazard recognition training “ for non-routine tasks”
- Considering reorganization of program files
 - By shop rather than program.



Right to Know



- Code of Federal Regulations 29 CFR 1910.1200 (Hazard Communication) discusses:
 - Accessibility of reports and surveys (h)(3) (excludes records governed by HIPPA)
 - All information on Health Hazards (including surveys) should be accessible to the work area
 - Reports should be issued to the shops and employees briefed on survey results in a timely manner



Summary



- In this presentation you learned about:
 - How IH and OH can help organizations achieve their VPP goals
 - Improving relationships between IH / OH professionals and VPP participant sites
 - Right to Know requirements





Questions?



Knowledge Check



1. Most Navy and Marine Corps commands are staffed with the qualified personnel needed to provide professional Industrial Hygiene support to their own employees.
 - a. True
 - b. False
2. From a VPP perspective, perhaps the most significant way Industrial Hygienists can help site employees is by:
 - a. Providing knowledge and tools that can help empower employees to improve conditions in their workplaces
 - b. Ensuring compliance with OSHA requirements for employee exposure monitoring
 - c. Making sure the site Safety Office receives all IH survey/sampling reports
 - d. Scheduling IH surveys/sampling to minimize disruption of site work processes



Knowledge Check



3. Which of the following were recommended in this training as means of improving the communication and understanding of relevant occupational health information to employees: (a) avoiding the use of jargon; (b) creating a reference library of applicable OSHA standards; (c) using pictures and diagrams to communicate concepts; (d) soliciting input from supervisors and employees concerning communication methods?
- a. (a) and (b)
 - b. (a), (b), and (c)
 - c. (b), (c), and (d)
 - d. (a), (c), and (d)



Knowledge Check



4. Exposure sampling results and other information/reports relating to potential worksite health hazards should be made accessible to employees in their work areas.
 - a. True
 - b. False

