

The program will educate workers on workplace hazards . . . and inform workers of their rights, what the responsibilities of their employer are, and how to file a complaint with OSHA.

## OSHA selects online outreach training providers

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After a national competition announced in March, 2011, the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recently announced its selection of ten OSHA-authorized training providers to provide 25 online courses as part of its Outreach Training Program.

This program will educate workers as to how to identify, prevent, and eliminate workplace hazards.

The program will also inform workers of their rights, what the responsibilities of their employer are, and how to file a complaint with OSHA.

The online courses are, of course, voluntary and not required by OSHA. It is recommended that workers also receive additional training on hazards specific to their job.

The organizations selected will provide a variety of 10- and 30-hour courses covering Construction, General Industry, and Maritime industries.

OSHA began authorizing training providers to offer Web-based distance learning in 2001. Since that time, the online program has grown significantly, with over 135,000 employees trained online in 2011. This was five times more than were trained in 2007.

Access to courses and other information about the program is available at <http://s.dol.gov/L6>.

The newly selected OSHA-authorized Outreach Training Program online training providers are:

- *General Industry, 10-Hour Course:* AdvanceOnline Solutions, CareerSafe, ClickSafety, North Carolina State University, PureSafety, Safety Unlimited, Texas Engineering Extension Service;

- *General Industry, 30-Hour Course:* AdvanceOnline Solutions, ClickSafety, PureSafety;

- *Construction, 10-Hour Course:* AdvanceOnline Solutions, CareerSafe, ClickSafety, Compliance Solutions, PureSafety, Safety Unlimited, Texas Engineering Extension Service;

- *Construction, 10-Hour Course, Spanish:* ClickSafety and PureSafety;

- *Construction, 30-Hour Course:* AdvanceOnline Solutions, ClickSafety, PureSafety, Texas Engineering Extension Service, Turner Knowledge Network; and

- *Maritime, 10-Hour Course:* Moxie Media.

OSHA states that it provides no funding to any of the authorized Outreach Training Program training providers. ▲

## Overview of OSHA's training approach — from training professional trainers to educating workers online

Last year in the US more than 135,000 workers signed up for online training courses on how to identify, abate and prevent on-the-job injuries and illnesses — a five-fold increase over the number of workers who received the same kind of web-based training in 2007.

That more and more workers (and employers) are now turning to websites for information on workplace safety and health is not surprising, given the rapid growth of the Internet in our daily lives, as we are now in the dawn of the Information Age, or, as it's sometimes called, the Computer Age.

Mr. Hopson's article above is about one aspect of online training — the websites that federal OSHA named this year, after national competition, as the

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