

# Virginia VPP

## An Overview

### What is VPP?

The Virginia Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) is designed to recognize and promote exceptional safety and health management systems. In VPP, management, labor, and VOSH establish cooperative relationships at workplaces that have implemented strong programs.

- Management commits to operate an effective program that meets an established set of criteria.
- Employees commit to participate in the program and work with management to ensure a safe and healthful workplace.
- VOSH initially verifies that the program meets VPP requirements through both application and onsite review. We then publicly recognize the site's exemplary program.
- VOSH also evaluates the site to confirm it is continuing to meet VPP requirements.
- VOSH will investigate complaints, significant chemical leaks or spills, fatalities, and catastrophes, and may investigate significant incidents and accidents.

The VPP culture recognizes that the objectives of the Occupational Safety and Health Act can never be fully achieved by enforcement alone. Safety and health management systems that go beyond VOSH requirements can protect workers more effectively.

VPP STAR participants are a select group of facilities that have designed and implemented outstanding safety and health management systems.

### What are the benefits?

The following benefits have been cited by current VPP STAR participants:

- Improved employee motivation to work safely, leading to better quality and productivity
- Lost Workday Case rates that generally are 50% below the average for their industries
- Reduced workers' compensation and other injury and illness-related costs
- Positive community recognition and interaction
- Further improvement of already good programs through the internal and external reviews that are part of the application process and through annual evaluation of their programs
- Partnership with VOSH

### Where can I get more information?

[www.doli.virginia.gov](http://www.doli.virginia.gov)

