

## *For More Information*

The Virginia Voluntary Protection Program Manager can help you with any questions you have about self-assessment, the application, or other VPP matters.

For the VPP application process, contact the VPP Program Manager at 540-562-3580 Option 6.

For more information, visit our website at [www.doli.virginia.gov](http://www.doli.virginia.gov).

“...the process was managed and facilitated very professionally... We look forward to working with the team in the future.”

Ricky Nelson, EHS Manager  
Eastman Chemicals  
Fieldale, Virginia  
VPP STAR Site



**Department of Labor and Industry  
Voluntary Protection Program**

**3013 Peters Creek Road  
Roanoke, VA 24019**

**540-562-3580  
Option 6**

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

## *STAR Benefits Overview*



**Department of Labor and Industry**

*Recognizing and Promoting  
Exceptional  
Safety and Health Programs*

## *The Virginia VPP*

The Virginia Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) is designed to recognize and promote exceptional safety and health management programs. In VPP, the Department of Labor and Industry's Occupational Safety and Health Program (VOSH), management and labor establish a cooperative relationship at a general industry or public sector workplace that has implemented an exemplary safety and health program.

- ◆ Management agrees to operate an effective program that meets an established set of criteria.
- ◆ Employees agree to participate in the program and work with management to ensure a safe and healthful workplace.

## *VPP Concept*

The VPP concept recognizes that enforcement alone can never fully achieve the objectives of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Exceptional safety management programs that go beyond VOSH standards can protect workers more effectively than simple compliance. VPP participants are an elite group of facilities that have designed and implemented outstanding safety and health programs.

## *VPP Benefits*

- ◆ Improved employee motivation to work safely, leading to higher quality and productivity.
- ◆ Reduced workers' compensation costs.
- ◆ Recognition in the community.
- ◆ Improvement of programs that is exemplary, through the internal and external review that is part of the VPP application process.
- ◆ Reduction of 50 percent or more for lost workday injuries as compared to an average site of the same size in the same industry.

## *The Process*

Once the site has completed a rigorous and collaborative self assessment, the next step is to submit a written application to the VPP Office.

An initial meeting will be scheduled with the site's key people to describe the VPP approach and what the VPP team expects to accomplish. After your written application and all necessary documents have been reviewed, and accepted, an onsite VPP Team review will be scheduled with a selected volunteer VOSH VPP Review Team.

This onsite assessment may be 2 to 4 days in duration. This evaluation will include records relevant to the applicant's safety and health program.

Additionally, the VPP Team will conduct a walkthrough of the applicant's site to assure that the program is fully operational.

During the VPP Team review, VOSH must verify that the site's safety and health program is fully operational and addresses all potential hazards at the site. The VPP Team review will also include scheduled and informal interviews with a range of site employees.

At the conclusion, if successful, the VOSH VPP Team will provide their recommendation of the applicant's approval as a VPP site. The team's recommendation is presented to the Commissioner of the Virginia Department of Labor and Industry for final approval.

While the site is recognized as a VPP STAR site, VOSH will continue to investigate any valid, formal employee safety and health complaints, significant chemical spills and leaks, and all fatalities and catastrophes.

## *Questions?*

For more information regarding the Voluntary Protection Program or to obtain an application, visit our Virginia Voluntary Protection Program website at [www.doli.virginia.gov](http://www.doli.virginia.gov), Agency Programs, Virginia Voluntary Protection or contact us at 540-562-3580