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Safety conference coming to Medford

Southern Oregon event aims to improve workplace safety culture

(Medford) - Employers and workers in Southern Oregon can benefit from the latest workplace safety and health information at the Southern Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Conference. The annual conference, scheduled for Oct. 15-16, 2008, at the Smullin Center in Medford, will focus on the theme "Leading to the Heart of Health and Safety."

Oregon's Occupational Safety and Health Division (Oregon OSHA), a division of the Department of Consumer & Business Services, encourages workers and employers to attend this event designed to help improve safety and health performance. Transforming the workplace safety culture toward active safety is a major step in reducing injuries and accidents, and decreasing workers' compensation costs.

Some of the topics featured at this year's conference include:

- Accident investigation
- Effects of legal and illegal drugs in the workplace
- Heart healthy living: What's important to know
- Safety committee operations, motor vehicle practices, and chemical safety
- Exhibits showcasing the latest in safety and health products and services

Keynote speaker and author Greg Bell's presentation, "Bring Your Spirit to Work," focuses on how to bring personal values to the workplace to enhance quality and fulfillment.

"People spend a lot of time at work, sometimes more than with their own family," Bell said. "You will learn strategies and gain tools that you can implement today to make your job more meaningful and significant."

Registration for the event is \$120. Single-day attendance is \$80. For more information about the conference or to register, call Oregon OSHA's Conference Section, 503-378-3272 or 888-292-5247, and select option one, or visit the Conferences Web page at www.orosha.org/conferences.

The conference is a joint effort of the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), Southern Oregon Chapter and Oregon OSHA.

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