

**From:** Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation

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## BWC eNews - February 2013

### Haltec Corp. recognized as one of safest companies in Ohio

BWC Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer recognized Haltec Corp. in Columbiana County Feb. 7 for attaining Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP) status through the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA). The company is now one of only 26 SHARP-certified Ohio employers. It is a leading manufacturer of tire valves, tire management and inflation solutions, and employs more than 85 in Salem.

"Prevention is about planning ahead to avoid accidents and injury, and provide a workplace where employees are safe and productive," said Buehrer. "Achieving SHARP status is no easy task, and I applaud the dedication to safety exemplified by Haltec's employees and management."

The SHARP program recognizes small employers that implement and operate exemplary safety- and health-management systems. OSHA grants employers with SHARP status a two-year exemption from OSHA enforcement inspections, with the opportunity for renewals for three more years of exemptions.

"Attaining SHARP status is evidence of our commitment to safety. Haltec employees recognize the importance of being attentive to hazards that carry a low risk, but are encountered on a daily basis. Awareness and being safe is firmly part of our culture," said Haltec President Tom Moyer.

Consultants with BWC's Division of Safety & Hygiene are available to help small businesses create and implement safety programs and identify hazards that need corrected. Call 1-800-OHIOBWC, or visit [OhioBWC.com](http://OhioBWC.com) for more information.

### Safety Congress registration now available

Don't forget to register for the 2013 Ohio Safety Congress & Expo (OSC13), BWC's free, three-day occupational safety, health and workers' compensation conference. The event will run April 9 to 11 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

OSC13 will feature more than 200 exhibitors offering safety services, industrial supplies, and safety equipment and gear, in addition to 170 workshops and educational sessions.

Register online at [ohiobwc.com](http://ohiobwc.com). This year you can [search OSC13 classes by](#)

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Remember to catch congress updates on Twitter [@ohiobwc](#) #OSC13.

### **BWC budget introduced**

The proposed BWC budget for fiscal Years 2014 – 2015 has been introduced in the House of Representatives. H.B. 34 was introduced Feb. 5 and had its first hearing in the House Finance Committee on Feb. 12.

“This budget lets us continue our focus on getting injured workers healthy and safely back on the job sooner, while furthering our efforts to maintain stable, reasonable workers’ compensation rates for employers,” said BWC Administrator/CEO Steve Buehrer.

If approved, the \$550.7 million request would be the second consecutive budget decrease under Buehrer. This biennium’s request represents a nearly 5-percent decrease compared to the original FY2012 - 2013 appropriation. The original FY2012 - 2013 request was a 12-percent decrease compared to the FY 2010 – 2011 appropriation. At the requested level, the budget appropriately funds the bureau’s mission of protecting Ohio’s workers and employers through the prevention, care and management of workplace injuries, while maintaining reasonable rates for employers.

The proposed budget would allow BWC to build upon a number of accomplishments achieved over the past two years, including:

- Saving businesses an estimated \$210 million through rate and budget reductions;
- Enacting numerous changes to prevent prescription abuse, including implementing a drug formulary and pharmacy lock-in program to better manage prescriptions;
- Implementing Destination: Excellence, a cafeteria-style program that encourages best practices in areas such as accident prevention, cost control, and policy management.

### **Reminder to Ohio’s growing oil and gas industry: BWC workplace safety services are included in your coverage**

Looking for additional safety resources to help protect your workers in Ohio? BWC provides workplace safety services and programs at no additional cost to your company. They’re included in the premiums you pay for Ohio coverage.

From training to on-site consulting services and safety programs to grants, our Division of Safety & Hygiene is available to help you prevent workplace accidents and injuries. We have a veteran staff of safety and health, industrial hygiene and ergonomics professionals available to provide consultation and training for your company. We conduct consultations and training either on-site or at a [BWC office near you](#). In the end, your company can save money and, more importantly, save lives.

Also, our annual Ohio Safety Congress & Expo – the foremost occupational safety and health event in the Midwest – is coming to the Greater Columbus Convention Center April 9-11. This event features informative speakers, more than 170 educational sessions and a dynamic Expo Marketplace. Visit [ohiobwc.com](#) for more information on Safety Congress. Several courses are designed specifically for the oil and gas industry, including [Safety Resources for the Oil/Gas Industry](#), [Ongoing](#)

*Oil/Gas Well Site Control, and Safety on Oil and Gas Production Sites.*

Finally, don't forget to report payroll and pay premiums before the Feb. 28 deadline. BWC's Go-green discount provides a 1-percent discount per payroll period (up to \$1,000 for private employers) when you file your payroll and pay your premium in full on [ohiobwc.com](http://ohiobwc.com). See the premium deadline article below for additional information.

### **Private employer premium deadline February 28**

Ohio private employers have until Feb. 28, 2013 to file payroll reports and pay workers' compensation premiums for the July 1 through Dec. 31, 2012, period.

BWC offers a number of options for reporting payroll and making payment to accommodate your business needs. You may select the most convenient option, and pay online at [ohiobwc.com](http://ohiobwc.com). You can also pay in person at any [BWC location](#) or by calling 1-800-OHIOBWC.

*Please take a moment to [forward this email](#) to other managers in your organization and to your colleagues who may find it of value.*

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