

From: BWC - Do Not Reply
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BWC e-news – September 2011

[BWC proposes Grow Ohio workers' comp incentives to support job creation](#)

BWC has proposed an economic development initiative that could discount a new Ohio employer's premium by as much as 51 percent. If approved by the BWC Board of Directors, Grow Ohio would offer eligible employers:

- A 25-percent discount on their workers' compensation premiums for two years; or
- Immediate participation in the Group-Experience-Rating Program. This program offers a maximum discount of 51 percent.

"By lowering the initial premium of new businesses, Grow Ohio is freeing up more money for those companies to invest in job growth and help restore prosperity to Ohio," said BWC Administrator/CEO Stephen Buehrer.

If approved by the board on Sept. 29, the incentives will apply to new business entities or out-of-state businesses that are new to Ohio and report payroll in Ohio on or after July 1, 2011.

[BWC honors Ohio's fallen workers](#)

BWC held its first-ever Fallen Workers' Memorial ceremony honoring Ohio workers killed on the job last year. BWC Administrator/CEO Stephen Buehrer and members of the BWC Board of Directors made some poignant remarks. BWC staff then read the names of the 145 workers killed across Ohio from July 1, 2010, to June 30, 2011. The ceremony ended with a moment of silence.

"Each day more than 5 million Ohioans go to their jobs, and tragically, some never return," said BWC Administrator/CEO Stephen Buehrer. "Today, we honor the outstanding service and sacrifice made by these Ohioans as they worked to provide for their families."

You can view portions of the event on [YouTube](#).

[Join BWC at the Ashtabula County Safety Congress & Expo](#)

We look forward to seeing you at Ashtabula County Safety Congress & Expo Friday, Oct. 14 in Jefferson, Ohio.

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The conference's goal is to help you find out how effective workplace safety and health programs can increase the overall productivity of your business. Choose from 27 sessions to help you learn ways to improve the safety, well-being and quality of life of your workforce. BWC Administrator/CEO Stephen Buehrer, the keynote speaker in the first general session, will talk about BWC's vision for Service, Simplicity and Saving.

Visit ohiobwc.com for more information.

Another Ohio company achieves OSHA's SHARP status

BWC is pleased to recognize Brewster Dairy, a Stark County cheese manufacturer. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) recognized the dairy for exemplary occupational safety and health management systems through its Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP). The dairy is the 28th Ohio company OSHA has documented with SHARP status.

SHARP is an OSHA cooperative program for small, high-hazard employers. It recognizes employers by giving them a two-year inspection exemption.

BWC worked with Brewster Dairy for the last 18 months to help it achieve SHARP status. The company modified and replaced work processes involving fall hazards and process-safety-management issues that could be hazardous over time to employees. The company also changed its corporate culture to focus on safety. This included addressing ways to improve wellness of their employees by providing a workout facility.

Visit ohiobwc.com to learn more if you think your business has what it takes to be SHARP!

Dennis Vanek joins BWC as Chief of Internal Audit

Dennis A. Vanek, a highly experienced business executive with proven leadership in the private sector, has been appointed Chief of BWC's Internal Audit Division.

As Chief of Internal Audit at BWC, Vanek will oversee a staff that operates independently of management and regularly tests internal controls and assesses compliance to ensure business processes are open, clear and well documented. The division also provides an independent assessment of the performance of programs, activities and functions.

Visit ohiobwc.com to learn more about Dennis.

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