



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

News Release

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PARTNERSHIP FOR HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY SAFETY EXCELLENCE

HONOLULU—The State's Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Division (HIOSH) and Outrigger Hotels & Resorts are partnering to increase safety awareness and reduce workplace injuries and illnesses.

Outrigger Hotels & Resorts currently employs 2,500 employees and operates 30 hotels, resorts and condominiums in the State of Hawai'i. The three-year partnership is the first between HIOSH and a private employer.

"This is an excellent example of a voluntary public and private partnership that helps a business succeed and protect its workforce, while bolstering the economy," said Department of Labor Director Nelson B. Befitel. "Workplace safety is the key to increased productivity and sustainability in the local, national and global economy."

The partnership's goal is to encourage and assist Outrigger in the development, implementation and evaluation of an effective safety and health program. The expected results include decreased workers' compensation claims, increased productivity, enhanced employee morale, and reduced absenteeism.

HIOSH follows federal guidelines on strategic partnerships, conducts audits to verify the effectiveness of programs rather than routine inspections, and provides technical assistance. With this program, HIOSH is able to focus its resources on companies that require their attention, rather than ones that have already incorporated safety and health elements within their management system.

"Our employees are our greatest asset," said David Carey, President and CEO of Outrigger Hotels & Resorts. "Our goal is to provide the safest possible work environment, and through this partnership with the state, we are on our way to achieving that goal."

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