



U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational  
Safety and Health Administration



**U.S. Department of Labor  
Memorandum of Agreement  
Between**

**The Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
And  
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency**

We at the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) share a commitment to recognize and reward environmental and safety and health leadership. We also have a shared vision of building partnerships with industry and public entities to encourage top performance and to raise the standard for environmental and safety/health protection. To that end, EPA created the National Environmental Performance Track program and OSHA created the Voluntary Protection Programs. These voluntary incentive and recognition programs encourage program participants to go beyond federal and state laws and regulations in the protection of the environment and of the American workforce.

EPA and OSHA believe we can enhance our programs and provide benefits to our participants by working together rather than pursuing our goals independently. Coordinating efforts will enable us to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of our programs as we respond to the opportunities that accompany growth and development. As program participation increases, so do our opportunities to encourage industry to commit to practices that go beyond minimal compliance with standards--and ensure the higher level of environmental protection and worker safety and health that EPA, OSHA, program participants, and the American public all seek.

Through this Memorandum of Agreement, EPA and OSHA commit to creating the best value for our participants; providing the greatest amount of recognition possible for program participants; and reinforcing and encouraging continual improvement in environmental and safety and health performance. To assist one another in our mutual goals of top performance, EPA and OSHA pledge to:

- Explore opportunities to jointly recruit facilities into both programs. This could include jointly held workshops and events, and jointly produced marketing tools and materials that would promote membership in both programs.
- Explore opportunities to recognize facilities that participate in both programs.
- Communicate regularly to share program policies, procedures, and lessons learned.

We will continue to look for additional ways to promote our shared vision so that program members, the environment, and workers everywhere benefit. We look forward to developing a detailed plan that further defines how we will work together.

This Memorandum of Agreement is entered into this 24th day of April 2002 and remains in effect unless terminated by either Agency upon 30 days notice to the other or amended by mutual consent.

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Deputy Assistant Secretary  
Occupational Safety and Health Administration  
U.S. Department of Labor

Thomas J. Gibson  
Associate Administrator  
Office of Policy, Economics and Innovation  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency