



News Release

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Director

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MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Greene County Company Earns Safety Honor

Jefferson City, MO – Ridewell Corporation in Springfield, MO has earned the distinction of being named the newest member of Missouri's Safety and Health Achievement Recognition Program (SHARP). Ridewell Corporation implemented the SHARP safety management program and achieved an excellent workplace safety record qualifying them for this exclusive safety and health incentive and recognition program.

"We are very pleased to have Ridewell Corporation join the SHARP program," said Robert Simmons, On-Site Safety and Health Consultation Program Manager. "They have worked hard to put into place an exemplary safety and health program that will help them prevent job-related injuries and illnesses in their facility."

Ridewell Corporation will be honored for their achievement during a ceremony at 2:00 p.m. on August 11, 2005, at 3715 East Farm Road 94 in Springfield, Missouri. Representatives of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Missouri Division of Labor Standards' On-Site Safety and Health Consultation Program will present a Certificate of Recognition, proclamation from Governor Matt Blunt and a SHARP flag to the facility.

SHARP is the ultimate level consultative services program of the Missouri On-Site Safety and Health Consultation Program. It is designed to promote effective workplace safety and health program management and provide model safety and health management programs. SHARP is also designed to provide incentives and support to smaller, high-hazard employers to work with their employees to develop, implement and continuously improve the effectiveness of their workplace safety and health programs.

To be eligible for SHARP, a company may have no more than 500 total employees at all nationwide worksites. The worksite's lost workday injury and illness rate must be below the national average for their industry.

Presently, 22 Missouri companies participate in the SHARP program. Approximately 144,000 Missouri companies are eligible. Criteria for inclusion in the program include management leadership and employee involvement, worksite analysis, hazard prevention and control, and safety and health training.

For more information about SHARP or to request a free safety consultation, please visit www.dolir.mo.gov/ls or call (573) 751-3403.

Ridewell engineers and manufactures suspension systems for the truck, trailer and bus industries.

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