



MAKING TENNESSEANS SAFER AT WORK

Expanded Safety Fest 2014 Set for September

For Immediate Release

July 2, 2014, Oak Ridge, Tennessee - Virtually any company will tell you that worker safety is job one. In Oak Ridge there's an event every year to help make sure the words get turned into action. For the third consecutive year, the Oak Ridge Business Safety Partnership (ORBSP), partnering with a number of organizations will host Safety Fest TN, a week of safety classes, safety seminars, a Safety Expo, and a community Safety Forum – all free of charge to anyone who registers. The event is scheduled for September 8-12 and is based at the New Hope Center at the Y-12 National Security Complex (Y-12) with classes at five locations including Centro Hispano in Knoxville. That's new and important outreach.

"This year's Safety Fest TN is popping at the seams with classes, events, seminars, a Safety Expo, and even a community brunch," said Jenny Freeman, chair of the ORBSP planning committee which is responsible for organizing the event. "We've got something for everyone," she said. One of the main events is a community Safety Forum with Bruce Wilkinson, a leadership/communication specialist, who motivates through humor, passion, enthusiasm and authenticity. His mission is to help organizations translate their culture into a workplace climate that inspires leadership, service and accountability.

Over 40 free safety classes will be offered during Safety Fest TN, ranging from the OSHA series to chainsaw safety and hearing conservation. Want to communicate safety more effectively? Safety Fest TN will offer a seminar on that topic, taught by senior managers. Safety Fest TN also hosts a seminar called World Class Safety which features representatives from commercial manufacturers who share information about their safety programs. This year's participants represent Denso, John Deere, DTR, and Hendrickson. "This seminar is ideal for learning new ideas from safety practices implemented at the facilities of some of the region's most successful companies," said JJ Rochelle, seminar coordinator. Mr. Rochelle also organizes Safety Expo, a two-day trade show with booth space for up to 35 sponsors.

Safety Fest TN kicks off at 9:00 a.m. on September 8 with the community Safety Forum. "We appreciate the companies – Stoller, ORAU, and WAI – sponsoring Mr. Wilkinson's visit to Oak Ridge," said Jenny Freeman, "and we're actively soliciting additional sponsors, whose donations make it possible for Safety Fest TN to remain free of charge to anyone who registers." A complete schedule can be found at www.safetyfesttn.org. Registration is open, and sponsorships are available.

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