

**MMR** Group, Inc.

Special Edition



# SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS

Instrumentation

Electrical

Technical Services

## MMR Steps Up for National Safety Excellence Award

At the annual Associated Builders and Contractors convention in San Diego, California, national awards were presented for Safety Excellence in the construction industry. MMR Safety Director Matthew Buvens attended the conference, accepting the coveted award on behalf of MMR Group. The achievement places MMR Group among the "best of the best" in the contracting industry.

Each year, award winners are selected among contractors that have earned Platinum Status for the year in the ABC Safety Training

***"Winners placed a premium on their safety programs which resulted in outstanding safety records and spectacular achievements. This is a win-win situation for owners, contractors and workers."***

and Evaluation Process, commonly known as the "STEP" program. Criteria used for the selection process included each member's self-evaluation scores, lost workday case rates and total recordable rates. Contractors considered for the awards placed a premium on safety, thereby consistently achieving outstanding safety records.

The National Safety Excellence Awards are presented in three major standard industrial classifications including those of General Contractors, Heavy Industrial Construction Contractors and Specialty Construction



*The National Safety Excellence Award was presented to MMR Group at ABC's National Convention held in mid March 2003.*

Contractors. ABC, with the assistance of the ABC National Safety Committee, selected member firms from across the country to be considered for the designation of Safety Merit Awards and National Safety Excellence Awards.

All contractors considered for the awards possess excellent safety records, but the most distinguishing factor in determining "excellence" status is the

total lost workday case rate for each company.

Congratulations to MMR's Safety Department for this well-deserved honor. Special thanks to the project managers, safety staff and project supervisors for this spectacular achievement.

*Read more about MMR's safety program on next page.*

## SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS

# Buvens at the Helm of MMR's Safety Program

Through the years, MMR has had one of the most successful safety programs in the country. With upwards of 40 to 50 projects operating at once, keeping workplaces secure, accident-free and environmentally sound remain the highest priorities for MMR. According to MMR's Corporate Safety Director Matthew Buvens, the success of the safe-



*Matthew Buvens accepts ABC National Safety Excellence Award*

ty program is the combined effort of everyone associated with the projects. "We have a tremendous safety team," says Buvens, "which includes well-trained safety coordinators and facilitators, in addition to conscientious project managers, superintendents and excellent craftsmen. It takes a team effort to achieve a completely safe project. Everybody has to become an integral part of the safety process."

From a safety standpoint, each project is carefully evaluated prior to beginning work. The safety team tries to predetermine the specific hazards and requirements associated with each project in order to modify the corporate safety program to encompass all of the individual conditions. Whether it is extremely hazardous working conditions, highly congested work spaces or extreme weather conditions, each safety program has to be developed to site- and job-specific conditions. Also, a clear understanding of the safety process has to be determined among owners, construction management firms, engineering firms and other contractors on the project. Everyone associated with the project has to be in sync where safety implementation is concerned.

Matthew Buvens assumed the role

of Safety Director in 1997 and has since continued to enhance and improve MMR's safety program. Matthew came to MMR as a Certified Safety Professional with a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Health and Safety from Louisiana State University. Since coming to MMR, Matthew has continued to add to his own training and experience while recruiting excellent safety professionals to become part of the safety team. Together, the safety team is able to come up with innovative and motivational ways to keep employees "excited" about keeping the job safe, neat and free of accidents.

Matthew's goal has always been to continue to improve the program and strive for higher levels of achievement. "Zero tolerance" is the only acceptable number when it comes to MMR's safety program. Maintaining a good safety program requires constant vigilance and upgrading. According to Buvens, the project managers who oversee each project work very closely with the safety team and other members of the construction team, including supervisors, craftsmen and helpers, to ensure a successful safety program. By all accounts, the safety methods employed by MMR are working exactly as they should!

## HIGHLIGHTS OF MMR'S SAFETY PROGRAM

- A comprehensive safety program that has earned national compliance recognition.
- A well-qualified safety staff with proper safety credentials and a proven track record of accident-free projects.
- Demonstrated success in safety methods as well as in the overall safety program.
- A safety program that provides comprehensive safety orientation in addition to ongoing training and support to employees.
- A firm commitment from management to support the safety program physically and financially.
- Written and budgeted safety and health programs with established goals and well-defined policies.
- Site-specific safety plans to ensure that each project's safety requirements are suitably addressed and accomplished.
- Innovative safety promotions and incentives to encourage active participation in the safety agenda.
- Active participation in safety teams to allow employees the opportunity to "accept ownership" in the project's safety program.
- Visual reminders through posted safety slogans and safety posters.
- Top quality safety equipment and personal protective equipment.
- A history of national safety awards and recognition for an exemplary safety program.