



Press Release

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Yellow Jacket Drilling Honored as 'Best' for Job Safety

MESA – Yellow Jacket Drilling, based in Gilbert, was one of 35 companies honored Monday with an SCF Arizona “Best of Best” award for their commitment to workplace safety in 2006.

A dinner awards banquet marked the start of the fourth annual Safety Works Expo, which runs through Wednesday at the Mesa Convention Center, 120 N. Center St.

Yellow Jacket Drilling and the other companies (see attached list) were recognized for their innovation, financial investment and rigorous training commitments to improve on-the-job safety and reduce the number of injuries and time lost by employees.

“A good safety record is no accident,” says Don Smith, president & CEO of SCF Arizona. “The most important reason to maintain a safe workplace is to ensure that your employees can go home to their loved ones at the end of the workday.”

Smith adds that by keeping the workplace safe, companies can control their bottom lines and help Arizona keep workers’ compensation costs among the lowest in the nation, which in turn helps business and economic growth throughout the state.

“Keeping employees and employers safe on the job helps everyone,” Smith says. “The best way to do this is by reducing risk and stopping injuries before they happen.

“Yellow Jacket Drilling understands this and works hard to help us create a culture of safety throughout Arizona,” Smith says.

Yellow Jacket is an environmental and geotechnical drilling company that provides services throughout the Southwest. Owner Richard LeBlanc has more than 20 years of hands-on experience in the drilling industry, specializing in site investigation, remediation and geotechnical testing.

“We are excited and honored to receive this award, and are proud of the excellent job everyone at Yellow Jacket Drilling has done, and continues to do, to achieve safety in the workplace,” LeBlanc says. “Safety has been a primary focus for us for a long time, and it’s nice to be recognized for what we have accomplished.”

LeBlanc adds, “We must also mention that another key factor in our efforts has been the overwhelming support we receive from our clients to operate at the safest possible level.”

Emphasizing that safety is vital to successful drilling, LeBlanc says, “It’s important as an employer to keep our employees alive and well, and it’s important to our clients because they have safety requirements to follow, too. Keeping everyone safe is one of the best ways we can take care of both our employees and our customers.

“We will continue to do whatever we can to keep them happy and safe, and will hopefully earn more Best of the Best awards in the future,” Le Blanc says.

The Phoenix Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers cosponsors SCF Arizona’s Safety Works Expo, which is designed for safety professionals and others who are responsible for workplace safety at their respective businesses. The conference features:

- Seminars for anyone responsible for employee safety
- Exhibit floor for displaying the latest safety products and services
- Networking opportunities with other safety professionals
- Occupational Safety & Health Administration training sessions

SCF Arizona is the state’s largest provider of workers’ compensation insurance, serving nearly 70 percent of the state’s businesses – large and small.

SCF Arizona Best of the Best

Cave Creek

Starkweather Roofing

Chandler:

Walker Painting Specialists

Red Rock Stamping

El Mirage

Sutter Masonry

Gilbert

Yellow Jacket Drilling

Glendale

Don Sanderson Ford

Kimbrell Electric

Litchfield

Diamond Trucking

Mesa:

Talley Defense Inc

Sundance Framing

Metric Roofing of Tucson

Iron Horse Contracting

Arizona Golf Resort & Conference Center

J.F. Ellis Corp.

Caliente Construction

Builders Guild

Peoria

Sierra Winds

Thomas Electric

Phoenix:

Schumacher European

Shiya-Strephans Contracting

Wyndham Phoenix Hotel

RICOR

Advanced Lining Solutions

AZ Healthcare Contract Management
Services

Star Roofing

Universal Underground

Beatitudes Campus

LR Cowan Concrete

California Overnight

Total Seal

Expert Electric

Scottsdale

Mark Taylor Residential

The Renaissance Companies

Sun City

El Dorado of Sun City Condominium

Homeowners' Association

Tempe:

RCI Systems