

SCF Arizona

A Safety Newsgram for Association and Chamber Executives

Safety Pays



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Associations can save their members – SCF Arizona policyholders – money by encouraging them to refer injured workers to medical providers and hospitals that belong to the Preferred Connection Network (PCN).

The PCN is SCF’s own preferred provider organization, created to keep medical costs under control. In 2005, for example, SCF saved policyholders more than \$48 million in healthcare provider fees because injured workers sought treatment from PCN members. Arizona businesses benefited from advantageous PCN rates, which are less than the corresponding fee schedule rates set by the Industrial Commission of Arizona for physicians.

SCF works hard each year to expand the statewide network, which currently has 2,100 contracted members, including some with multiple locations. These members include hospitals, urgent care facilities, surgery centers, durable medical equipment suppliers, home health care providers, dentists, radiology facilities, skilled nursing facilities, physicians, therapists and more.

Workers in Arizona can choose their own physicians, but state law

continued on next page

Choosing **PCN** **saves** money

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ASSOCIATIONS BENEFIT BY USING
PREFERRED CONNECTION NETWORK

Jones named director

SCF Arizona has created a new position to enhance its Association Safety Program and named Rick Jones to lead it as director of marketing & sales.



Jones has 30 years experience within the insurance industry, which began in risk management for a division of Teledyne. Most recently, Jones served as senior vice president of compliance and assistant secretary for CNA National Warranty Corp.

In 1982, Jones opened the Arizona branch office of EBI Insurance Companies (aka Orion Group), and in 1986 moved to Corroon & Black (now Willis of Arizona) as vice president of marketing.

Jones' professional designations include a Charter Property Casualty Underwriter (CPCU), Associate Risk Management (ARM) and American Finance and Insurance Professional (AFIP). He is a licensed insurance agent in 47 states and in Canada, is past president of the Central Arizona Chapter of CPCU and serves as a committee member for the Society of CPCU, Regulation and Legislative Section.

PCN continued

also provides that employers may direct their injured workers to a specific physician on a one-time basis, usually for an initial office visit. If the medical provider is a member of the PCN, the cost of that visit – or subsequent visits the worker makes – may be reduced.

LEARN MORE

➤ To search for PCN members, go to scfaz.com and click on the PCN icon.

➤ For a quick reference guide listing occupational medicine/urgent care facilities and hospitals call **602.631.2230**.



ARCA training changes

The Arizona Roofing Contractors Association's "New Hire Orientation Training" schedule has changed.

The free training classes, which are taught in English and in Spanish, provide information on:

- Hazard communications
- Fall protection
- Personal protective equipment
- Steep-slope roofing safety and equipment
- Asphalt fumes and fire safety
- Cranes, conveyors and hoists
- Basic construction safety

Classes remaining this year are Sept. 5 and Nov. 6. Spanish classes run from 8 a.m. until noon; English classes are from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Class size limit is 20 people.

CST Risk Management teaches the classes at the Association's new office, 2117 W. Camelback Road, in Phoenix. All attendees receive a certificate of completion. For information or to register, call 602.335.0133.

safety expos

Safety Works Expo heads to Tucson and Yuma

SCF Arizona's Safety Works Expo travels to Tucson in October and heads to Yuma in November.

The Safety Works Expo is designed to provide business owners, their employees and safety professionals the information they need to make job sites and work procedures safer.

The Tucson Safety Works Expo is scheduled Oct. 17-18 at the Holiday Inn Palo Verde, 4550 S. Palo Verde. This event includes two days of seminars. Cost is \$65, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch each day.

Yuma's Expo is a one-day educational event, Nov. 16, at the Yuma Community Center. Cost is \$40, which includes a continental breakfast and lunch.

For information, call 602.200.0102.

Helping hands

USING APPROPRIATE GLOVES SAVES WORKERS' HANDS

Perhaps no other body part is exposed to as many occupational dangers as are our hands. They are used for nearly every task, from running equipment to mixing chemicals and typing. We use our hands so much, we take them for granted.

A 2004 study published in the *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene* (Vol. 1, No. 3) found that more than 1 million U.S. workers visit emergency rooms annually with acute traumatic hand injuries. According to the *Journal*, 81 percent of workers who injured their hands were not wearing gloves at the time of the injury.

Injuries to the hands are commonly the result of faulty or unprotected equipment. The December 2005 issue of *Safety + Health* reports:

- Failure to use proper lockout/tagout procedures, guards, switches, push-sticks and personal protection can result in hands and fingers being pinched or crushed in wheels, gears and rollers.

- Loose fitting clothing or jewelry can become caught in moving parts.



- Hands can be burned by chemicals and corrosives.

- Hands can be punctured, torn or cut by sharp edges and tools.

To reduce hand injuries, employers – possibly through the company's safety director – first need to create awareness of potential hazards in the workplace. Second, workers should be taught to recognize the work patterns that make their hands vulnerable to injury. Third, employees need proper personal protective equipment – such as job-appropriate gloves.

Hand safety has not generally been a priority, according to Strategic Safety Associates, which encourages employers to “think differently”

about their approach to employees' hands and hand safety.

LEARN MORE

The American National Standard provides guidelines for selecting the correct gloves. Go to complianceregs.com/ansi.asp for more information.



Distractions

WIRELESS TECHNOLOGIES INCREASE DRIVING RISKS



Cell phones and other forms of wireless technology create distractions that increase a driver's risk, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) concludes in a new report. The concern about driver distractions has been heightened by the popularity of cell phones and the development of on-board navigation systems, portable facsimile machines and other wireless technologies for vehicles.

When workers use vehicles as an extension of the office, the potential for hazardous distractions increases, according to NHTSA. Data show that driver inattention is a primary or contributing factor in up to 50 percent of all crashes.

Because of the correlation between vehicular crashes and cell phone use, SCF Arizona offers these safety tips:

- Use a cell phone only when the vehicle is stopped
- If you receive a call while driving, pull off the road and stop; then continue the conversation
- Do not make an outgoing call while driving

Driver alert

Weather changes bring hazardous road conditions

While most of Arizona remains dry well into the fall, the state's higher elevations will eventually have snow and icy conditions.

Reflective snow and ice can temporarily blind motorists and increase the danger of slippery roads. The Vision Council of America offers these tips to help reduce the dangers caused by winter glare:

- Drive cautiously and increase the distance between your vehicle and the vehicle in front of you
- Lower visors to help block reflected light
- Avoid using high-gloss vinyl cleaners on the dashboard
- Keep the windshield clean
- Choose routes lined with trees or tall buildings
- Turn on headlights
- Wear sunglasses with polarized lenses

Calendar

SEPT 12

Excavation Safety • Phoenix

SEPT 16

Return to Work Makes Sense • Tucson

SEPT 20

Respiratory Protection • Yuma

Behavior-based Safety
Management • Prescott

SEPT 21

Confined Spaces • Yuma

SEPT 27

Hazard Communication • Prescott

OCT 3

Machine Guarding • Prescott

OCT 11

Back Injury Prevention • Phoenix

OCT 17

SCF Safety Works Expo • Tucson

OCT 18

SCF Safety Works Expo • Tucson

Return to Work Makes Sense
• Phoenix, Prescott

Back Injury Prevention • Yuma

OCT 19

Bloodborne Pathogens • Yuma

OCT 25

Ergonomics • Tucson

NOV 8

Forklift-Train the Trainer • Phoenix

NOV 15

OSHA Recordkeeping • Yuma

NOV 16

SCF Safety Works Expo • Yuma

Forklift-Train the Trainer • Yuma

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