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Press Release

Program designed to increase trucking safety and reduce work-related injuries set to launch in September

The Trucking Safety Council hits the streets with its Certificate of Recognition program aimed at trucking safety in B.C.

Langley, BC, August 23, 2010: The Trucking Safety Council of BC is getting set to launch the first stage of its Certificate of Recognition (COR) program September 14, 2010 with its first courses aimed at large employers in the B.C. trucking industry. Courses will be presented to companies that have 20 or more employees.

The COR program recognizes companies who develop and implement sustainable health and safety systems that meet and exceed industry requirements. The program awards WorkSafeBC premium rebates to companies that complete the program and demonstrate a recognized level of health and safety compliance.

Courses being offered during the launch period range from a half day to two days in duration and included the Return to Work Course on September 14, the Senior Management/Owner course on September 15, the Health and Safety Management Course on September 16 and 17 and the External Auditor Course on September 28 and 29.

COR uses a top-down approach to changing the health and safety culture of an organization by focusing on management, giving them the tools necessary to make positive changes that will be reflected in the health and safety practices of the company. The COR program is new to the trucking industry, but has existed in B.C. since 2003 in other industries, such as forestry, construction and tourism. The TSCBC and its COR program promote a positive safety culture within the industry by encouraging a genuine belief that workplace injuries can be prevented.

The Large Employer COR program involves several steps that lead to COR certification and the eventual WorkSafeBC rebate, beginning with the mandatory COR courses that are attended by company owners, managers and supervisors. Once training is complete, companies undergo an external review of their health and safety management system performed by a TSCBC COR trained auditor. Once certified by the audit process, the company then qualifies for the WorkSafeBC rebates.

In addition to WorkSafeBC incentives, there are many benefits for companies who participate in the COR program, such as a safer, healthier workforce that boosts productivity, use of the COR logo to boost corporate image, an effective management system for return to work programs and demonstrated management commitment to health and safety.

The next phase of TSCBC's COR program will be to initialize the development of the small employer (4 to 19 employee) COR program, followed by the very small employer (1 to 3 employee) program.