

COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND AFFILIATED UNION REPRESENTATIVES

Committee Chairperson

- *Kent Lang* (208) 791-1933

Labor Representatives

- *Dan Aleksandrowicz* (409) 332-6617
- *Jim Bears* (816) 997-7144
- *Garrett "Doc" Doherty* (908) 482-7064
- *Jack Griffith* (509) 539-7728
- *Stephen Gauthier* (781) 594-3118
- *(NB) Robert Hamilton* (267) 716-9834
- *Kurt Nordberg* (360) 476-0249

Management Representatives

- *Gerald Hipp* (509) 416-4078
- *Cindy Mahoney* (973) 560-6709
- *Richard McConnell* (713) 321-4882
- *Jenni Morris* (509) 373-2112
- *Sandra Morrison* (870) 541-3711
- *Barbara Peck* (678)-844-6455
- *David Sams* (901) 369-4217
- *Laura Suddath* (509) 373-8995
- *Buddy Tucker* (281) 782-7526

VPPPA Staff

Committee Staff Liaison

- *Charlie Doss* (703) 761-1146

Deputy Director

- *Davis Layne* (703) 761-1146

Deputy Assistant Executive Director

- *Adam Pawlus* (703) 761-1146

UNIONS AND VPP

Organized labor has many responsibilities; one of those is ensuring companies comply with contractual agreements. Another is the safety and health of the membership. Unions rely heavily on federal and state OSHA and DOE standards; however, VPP sites go above and beyond meeting the minimum regulatory standards. Participation in VPP empowers workers in the safety and health arena. VPP is strictly voluntary and requires a union letter of support for participation. This letter does not remove the employees right to contact OSHA directly if they feel their safety concerns are not being properly addressed.



VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS PARTICIPANTS' ASSOCIATION, INC (VPPPA)

LABOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The purpose of the Labor and Management Committee is to coordinate and communicate the benefits for labor (union and non-union), Management and their represented workforce in venturing into VPP and why it's important to stay in the VPP process. When requested, the committee will identify and reconcile issues that could result in labor and management disputes. Intending to be proactive rather than reactive, the committee will endeavor to resolve misunderstandings or disagreements between labor and management before the situation becomes a road block to the VPP process.

THE SPECIAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE (SGE) PROGRAM

Established to allow union and non union employees the opportunity to work alongside OSHA during VPP onsite evaluations. This cooperation embodies the idea of continuous improvement, which allows SGEs to bring a unique perspective to the team effort and take back to their sites ideas and best practices to further improve worker protections.

The Leader is VPPPA's official magazine. Readers can find articles on the latest regulatory developments in the field of occupational safety and health, safety and health best practices, association activities, educational and networking opportunities, as well as a listing of the latest VPP approvals.



BENEFITS OF A VPP SITE

- *Enhanced labor and management communications & relationships*
- *Fewer accidents and lost time away from work*
- *Participation empowers employees*
- *Better working relationship with management & regulator's*
- *Increased productivity and morale*
- *More resources dedicated to safety and health*
- *Benchmarking and networking with other sites*
- *Enhanced hazard prevention*



VPP IS A CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT PROCESS

VPP sites have processes in place to identify and resolve issues, involve employees and communicate the outcome, while protecting workers, the public and the environment.



VPPPA

VPPPA is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing its members with quality programs and services to help continuously improve their safety, health and environmental management systems. This is done through cooperative efforts among labor, management and government. In VPP, management, labor and the Department of Energy (DOE) or Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) work cooperatively and proactively to prevent fatalities, injuries and illnesses through a system focused on: hazard prevention and control; worksite analysis; training; and management commitment and employee involvement.

For additional information on the Labor & Management committee please visit;
<http://www.vpppa.org/GovAffairs/index.cfm>



COMMITTEE GOAL

Is to communicate to all members the benefits of VPP.

Mediation services are available to assist in case of problems or issues that may arise from other sites with union or non union conflicts.

If you are a represented site and want to speak only to a union member, the committee can provide you with a union contact.

Free mediation services are provided for VPPPA member sites that are pursuing VPP participation or continuation of the VPP, but are impeded in their efforts due to labor/management disputes with reference to safety and health. Mediation services can only take place when all parties agree to invite a mediator to the site where the dispute originally arose. This could occur when a facility is contemplating VPP involvement, or when one or more parties in a VPP partnership are considering withdrawing from the program. Mediators will assist parties in reaching an appropriate decision for their worksite.

Worksites interested in mediation services are encouraged to contact the VPPPA National Office at (703) 761-1146.