NIST Construction Safety Program

CFMO -- October 6, 2008
Scope of Construction Program

- In FY2008 approx. 450 contracts totaling over $150M

- Repairs and renovations
  - 75 major repair projects averaging $200-$500K
  - 275 smaller repair projects ranging from $1K - $200K
  - 265 lab renovation projects ranging from $1K - $3.5M

- Major Construction of Research Facilities
  - Central Utility Plant and Site Utility Distribution System ($34.9M)
  - Building 1 Extension ($66.0M)
  - NCNR Expansion ($21.5M)
Construction Safety Management

[Diagram showing the relationship between CFMO, AMD, and Contractor with the concept of compliance and accountability highlighted]
Compliance

- All construction contracts require that contractor comply with:
  - OSHA 29CFR1926, Safety and Health Standards for Construction
  - OSHA 29CFR1910, General Industry Occupational and Safety Health Standards
  - Federal Acquisition Regulation 52.236-13 on Accident prevention
  - NIST Health and Safety Instructions, as applicable
  - Other job specific code and permit requirements

- Major Project contracts also require that contractor:
  - Submit Project Safety and Health Plan for review and approval by the COTR
Enforcement

- Pre-construction meetings
  - Review safety requirements
  - Define safety process, roles, responsibilities and expectations

- Daily Field Inspections by CFMO staff
  - Violations documented in the field and aspect of job stopped
  - Violations reported to the Contracting Officer and Project Manager
  - Violations evaluated and follow-up inspections conducted to ensure correction

- Regular meetings between Government & Contractors (weekly for major projects)
  - Discuss safety violations and concerns
  - Review causes and corrective actions taken
  - Monitor Contractor Safety & Health Plan, if applicable

- Construction Warning Signage Posted at Jobsites
  - Keeps non-contractors out
  - List the PPE needed to enter
Accountability

- Contractor required to manage Safety and Health Plan (Major Projects)
  - Contractor required to have Safety Manager
  - Part-time or full-time Safety Representative required
- Written cause and corrective action required for violations
- Unsafe work practice stops immediately until corrected
- Immediate removal of personnel from the project for life threatening violations
- Removal of personnel from job for repeated violations
- Stop Work orders issued by Contracting Officer
Pending Improvements

- **Compliance**
  - More clearly establish requirements and expectations in contract
  - Develop contract language to require contractors to implement a written worker protection program as part of their project specific Safety and Health Plan (major projects)

- **Enforcement**
  - Implement safety checklist to review contractor Safety and Health Plan
  - Develop contract language for defaulting contractors based on poor safety performance
  - Develop contract language requiring contractor to document safety and job-skill related training and certification for project work activities
Pending Improvements (cont.)

- **Accountability**
  - Develop contract language for incentives and penalties
  - Develop contract language that allows government to stop work if contractor fails to document training or provide certifications
  - Document safety performance in “Past Performance Information Reporting System”
Want to do more...

- Notify contractor’s insurance carrier of:
  - All safety violations and incidents
  - Projects completed without violations or incident

- Reference checks with contractors’ workers comp insurance company
  - Review experience modification rating
  - Review significant subcontractors

- Direct contractor on safety without financial penalty to government (i.e. claims for change orders)
## Addressing Safety in Facilities Repairs

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<td>Program Effectiveness</td>
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