

Governor **Ted Strickland** Administrator **Marsha P. Ryan**

NEWS RELEASE

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Registration Now Open for BWC Safety Congress

Free event provides education and information for health-care facilities

COLUMBUS – Ohio employers are encouraged to register for the upcoming Ohio Safety Congress & Expo, sponsored by the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC). Safety Congress is the largest state-run occupational safety and health event in the Midwest and features the latest safety and health information and techniques. This free, three-day event will be held March 30 through April 1 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center.

"The key to saving money on workers' compensation insurance premiums is investing in the safety of our workforces," said BWC Administrator Marsha Ryan. "BWC recognizes that employers are busy serving the needs of their customers. Our intent for Safety Congress is to give them a one-stop opportunity to gain knowledge about the latest safety requirements, techniques and products to help prevent workplace illnesses and injuries."

Safety Congress offers informative general sessions featuring nationally-recognized experts, safety demonstrations, roundtable discussions designed to give employers a chance to problem solve with their peers and more than 150 education courses. This year, BWC has expanded the educational component of Safety Congress by offering more courses to fulfill BWC safety program requirements and those that allow participants to earn free continuing education credits (CEU).

Sessions specifically created to advance the safety and health performance of health-care facilities include:

- Tame the sleeping giant compressed gas safety for all industries
- Bullies, trolls and workplace violence prevention, intervention and control concepts and case studies
- Generational diversity respecting differences to work safely together

The Expo Marketplace will be open March 31 and April 1 featuring safety products and services by more than 200 vendors.

While the event is free, employers are encouraged to pre-register online at <u>ohiobwc.com</u>. On-site registration will also be available.

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