

### DuPont Safety Resources BUILDING A SAFER WORLD®

“The challenge of a billion dollar capital project meant an influx of contractors and equipment onto our campuses. The Capital Projects Office needed to make sure that there would be no injuries to students, University faculty, staff, or CPO personnel as a result of the construction work taking place, and to work with our contractors to minimize risks to contractor personnel.”

— RICHARD CHAPMAN, ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT FOR  
CAPITAL PROJECTS, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

### DUPONT SAFETY RESOURCES HELPED THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON CPO REDUCE INJURY FREQUENCY RATE BY 50% IN ONE YEAR, WHILE DELIVERING PROJECTS ON SCHEDULE AND ON BUDGET.

#### CHALLENGE

The University of Washington CPO was unsure of the total number of safety incidents occurring at its contractor-managed project sites, but believed that too many safety incidents were happening at project sites. The CPO was embarking on a billion dollar program of new construction, and needed to get a better understanding of their contractors’ safety performance.

#### SOLUTION

The University of Washington CPO added DuPont Safety Resources to the foundation of their construction programs. “We focused on getting a better picture of what was really happening on the construction projects,” said Jim Faulk, the on-site safety consultant working with the University. “Projects were already underway, and we needed to rapidly assess areas for improvement because the projects were scaling up very quickly.” DuPont Safety Resources worked with the CPO staff in the field to hone their auditing skills, helping them to work with their contractors to identify both existing and potential hazards on the construction sites.

#### RESULTS

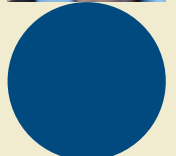
- 50% reduction in the first year in the Total Recordable Frequency Rate (TRFR), the standard OSHA measure for injury frequency
- These injury reductions were achieved at the same time that annual contractor hours roughly doubled.
- After just one year, CPO personnel have enhanced safety awareness, clear safety metrics and improved reporting of safety incidents.

#### UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON CAPITAL PROJECTS OFFICE (CPO) SAFETY PHILOSOPHY

While maintaining a healthful, safe and productive work environment for all University activities, we will actively engage the design and construction community and CPO personnel in a manner that insures facilities are designed to operate safely and that they will be built safely.

We will accomplish this by engaging all levels of management both outside the University and within CPO to insure the safe design and conduct of construction work.

The goal is zero recordable cases to University personnel, faculty, staff, students and contractors as a result of CPO activities.



The miracles of science™

## DuPont Safety Resources

BUILDING A SAFER WORLD®

### MAKING SAFETY A CPO CORE COMPETENCY WAS KEY TO REDUCING INJURIES

A major construction program in the University setting, which is more publicly accessible than most industry sites, presented a unique safety challenge. There was a real need to protect people from hazards. Students, alumni, faculty, deans, regents, contractors, and even the general public all had easy access to University property. Richard Chapman, Associate Vice President for Capital Projects at the University of Washington, believes it is important to keep University constituents safe while keeping a billion dollar construction program on budget and on schedule.

Chapman came to the University environment from the petrochemicals industry, from a company with an existing safety culture, where there was a strong value for safety. The CPO knew how to get things built, but safety wasn't being systematically factored into project design or implementation. Chapman knew that a systematic approach could be integrated into new construction, which would help to mitigate risk. He brought DuPont Safety Resources and their proven approach to contractor safety on campus to help the University gain a better understanding of where the injuries were occurring, and where improvements could be made.

DuPont performed a rigorous assessment, comparing existing CPO processes and systems to best practices. They helped the CPO develop systems to measure project safety performance and to track injuries and incidents. A central safety committee was established to regularly review the data and make recommendations to address the root causes of safety issues. Now the CPO can analyze the safety performance of different projects and contractors – and when an injury occurs they are able to look at other projects, identify where similar injury potential exists, and communicate this to other contractors in an effort to prevent similar injuries.

Because the construction projects were underway, DuPont Safety Resources worked extensively with the field staff, training them on how to do audits and assess hazards. CPO employees were taught to “preview” projects and anticipate where unsafe conditions would be created in the construction process – then they were taught to find ways to eliminate or mitigate these hazards.

Time was also spent establishing site safety standards, like those for personal protective equipment, such as hard hats, glasses and footwear. Standards were enforced for all those who visited the construction sites – contractors, CPO staff, and the University faculty who sometimes needed access to the construction sites. “Many of the University faculty members had never worn safety equipment before, and it took a while to get everyone comfortable with the new requirements,” said Faulk.

“We’ve already reduced the injury frequency by 50% – that’s a significant improvement in just one year – and we work every day toward the goal of zero injuries.” Said Chapman, “I take this very personally. I believe that everyone affiliated with these projects and in the proximity of these projects has a right to expect that the project environment is a safe one.”

The University of Washington is a public research university, with campuses in Seattle, Tacoma, and Bothell and an annual enrollment of over 41,000 students and a faculty and staff of over 23,000. The UW has 220 major structures and occupies about 703 acres. It is one of the oldest state-supported institutions of higher education on the Pacific coast.

### CONTACT US TODAY

visit [solutions.dupont.com.au](http://solutions.dupont.com.au) and submit an enquiry



The miracles of science™

#### “PREVIEWING HAZARDS” HELPS PREVENT THEM

- Evaluate the project work schedule, examining the next three months of forecast activity.
- “Preview” the activity that will take place – what will happen, where it will take place, whom it will impact, and the equipment that will be involved.
- Identify and assess the hazards that the activity will create.
- Working in conjunction with the contractor, help plan the work so as to eliminate or mitigate the hazards.