

Press Release:

January 15, 2010. Hellman & Associates, Inc., located in Wheat Ridge, Colorado, became the first and only Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) Consulting business in OSHA Region VIII to earn Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) Star status from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

VPP is a cooperative, non-enforcement partnership between OSHA, the workplace and its employees. The four cornerstones of VPP are the commitment of management and employee involvement; workplace analysis; hazard prevention and control; and training. Companies in VPP experience injuries and illnesses at rates 54% below their industry averages. The most current statistics reveal that about 26% of the sites in VPP experienced "zero recordable" injuries. As a result, these sites enjoyed significant cost savings. Hellman & Associates extends these cost savings to their clients through their outsourced EHS business model.

"Some noteworthy aspects of (Hellman & Associates') program include a very effective pre-project hazard assessment system and exceptional employee involvement in the safety and health management system. These aspects of (Hellman's) safety and health program are considered exceptional and stand as an example for other worksites in the industry," stated Brad Baptiste, the VPP Manager for OSHA Region VIII.

### **About Hellman & Associates**

Hellman & Associates has partnered with small to mid-size businesses to manage safety risk and compliance for more than eleven years. Founder and President Ryan Hellman has developed a unique business model that provides companies with comprehensive environmental health and safety services at about 50% of the cost of hiring an in-house safety professional. For more information, contact Hellman & Associates at 303.384.9828 or visit their website at [www.ehscompliance.com](http://www.ehscompliance.com).