



**TXOGA**

TEXAS OIL & GAS ASSOCIATION | SINCE 1939

February 2017

# Texas Oil & Gas Association Workers' Comp Safety Group

TXOGA Safety Meeting Topic  
from your TXOGA Safety Committee



## Everyone Wins with Return-to-Work

A return-to-work (RTW) process can help reduce the costs of workplace accidents for employers and injured workers.

When workers are injured, employers must pay overtime to other workers or hire extra help to make up for lost production. Meanwhile, injured workers who are idle may get depressed, stressed or bored. Their job skills suffer, along with their income, and they may have difficulty returning to full employment.

[Click here](#) to watch a webinar and information about the benefits of return-to work and how to set up your program, including RTW kits, English /Spanish brochures and RTW forms.

You can also find more information at [Texas Department of Insurance](#).

**A Driving Safety Initiative  
from Texas Mutual  
Insurance Company**

## Lower Injuries and Costs Reported in 2016



During 2016, Texas Oil & Gas Association Workers' Comp Safety Group enjoyed a safer year with fewer injuries and reduced costs. Compared to 2015, the number of injury claims and costs declined by about 20 percent and 50 percent, respectively.

The most common causes of injury impacting the Safety Group involve strains, slip/trip/falls, struck-by incidents and motor vehicle crashes. Together, these injuries account for roughly 60 percent of all work-related injuries. Burns and motor vehicle crashes cause the greatest levels of human suffering and costs.

To provide a more in-depth look at these injury trends and associated hazards, Texas Mutual Insurance published two new companion reports "[Common Industry Hazards](#)" and "[Common Control Strategies](#)." These reports help members understand what's behind these trends and provide a blueprint to keep workers safe.

## Looking Forward

Future newsletters will address a number of growing concerns for the Safety Group. Motor vehicle crashes remain the leading cause of fatalities among oil and gas workers. Fatigue, distracted driving, texting, speeding and failure to use seatbelts are major contributors to this problem. New worker training and lax job safety analysis are also factors leading to high injury rates and associated costs.



Texas Mutual's "[Give Safety a Hand](#)" campaign provides free resources that address the core causes of motor vehicle crashes. Take an active role in making the road safer for your employees with free informational and promotional materials available from Texas Mutual.

## Send your Testimony or Best Practice

Please contact us at [jsierra@txoga.org](mailto:jsierra@txoga.org) when-ever you have useful information or best practices to share with other members of the TXOGA safety group.

Sincerely,  
The TXOGA Safety Committee  
[txoga.org](http://txoga.org)



## LoneStar Oil & Gas Roundup January 2017

To access a mash-up oil and gas industry safety news brought to you by TXOGA and Texas Mutual Insurance Company, [click here](#).

## OIL&GAS SAFETY ROUNDTABLE

### Roundtable Teleconference Notice

The next Oil & Gas Safety Roundtable conference call is scheduled for March 9, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. CST. Anyone wishing to participate in the teleconference or possibly become a member of the Roundtable should contact Scott Bain, Manager Safety Services at [jbain@texasmutual.com](mailto:jbain@texasmutual.com) or (512) 505-6168.

### Free Training Resources

Additional free training resources are available at [Oil and Gas Safety](#) and [TXOGA Safety](#).



Visit [WorkSafeTexas.com](http://WorkSafeTexas.com) for more information about resources and tools from Texas Mutual.

As a Texas Mutual policyholder, you have access to 2,000 free materials in the Safety Resource Center. If you are just getting started with safety, start by taking the safety self-assessment. From there, use the injury cost calculator, streaming videos and downloadable safety programs to make safety part of your company culture. If you need help or have trouble with the navigation process, please contact Texas Mutual's safety services support center at 844-WORKSAFE (967-5723).



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