



News Release

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MIOSHA and MEDC are Jointly Sponsoring Distribution of a Free CD Safety Program to Michigan Manufacturers

APRIL 8, 2005 – More than 30,000 manufacturers in Michigan will receive— **at no charge** – a unique, high-tech, CD-ROM-based interactive training program, ***MIOSHA Walkthrough for Manufacturers***. **MIOSHA, MEDC** and the **Lansing Area Safety Council** are partnering with commercial donors and sponsors to bring the program to Michigan. Shipment is planned for late October.

The interactive CD-ROM contains 21 modules of safety and health training that have been reviewed by the Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) for compliance with Michigan's workplace safety requirements. MIOSHA and the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) are part of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth.

"Companies that have a strong safety and health management system in place to protect their workers reap significant cost savings," said DLEG Director David C. Hollister. "These interactive CD-ROMs can help employers reduce injuries and illnesses—which can then help them dramatically improve their bottom lines."

"**eMedia Solutions**" produced the CD-ROM, utilizing a team of educators, technicians, and entertainment professionals to make learning about safety and health interesting and memorable. The *MIOSHA Walkthrough for Manufacturers* is designed to help manufacturers reduce workplace injuries, lower training costs, improve safety systems, and prepare them for an inspection, or "walkthrough," by MIOSHA.

"This is another way we can help Michigan businesses of all sizes by providing timely information they can use to become more efficient and competitive in the global economy," MEDC President and CEO Donald E. Jakeway said.

The CD is intended to provide basic safety and health awareness training and serve as a foundation for employers to build on with their own workplace specific policies and programs. The CD contains interactive testing capabilities for either individual or group training.

"This state-of-the-art safety and health training tool is an exciting investment to help Michigan employers provide a safe and healthy work environment," said MIOSHA Director Doug Kalinowski. "It offers high-quality safety training, based on MIOSHA regulations—that can be scheduled by employers at their own pace."

A preview version will be distributed to attendees at the 75th Annual Michigan Safety Conference, April 19th and 20th, at the Lansing Center. "We are pleased to partner with MIOSHA and MEDC to bring this high-tech, innovative safety resource to Michigan manufacturers," said Susan M. Carter, President of the Michigan Safety Conference and Executive Director of the Lansing Area Safety Council.

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MIOSHA Walkthrough CD, p. 2

In April 2003, eMedia produced and distributed an Ohio version of the CD-ROM, to rave reviews, particularly since it was provided free of charge. Ohio manufacturers praised the quality of the product and the cost savings realized by providing quality safety training at their convenience.

Peter Popovics, Environmental and Safety Manager, Liebert North America, Inc., Columbus, Ohio, said, "*OSHA Walkthrough for Manufacturers* is the best idea in safety awareness I've seen in a long time. With 1,200 employees, time away from the line is costly. To be able to train individuals or smaller groups using the CD-ROM is definitely going to save us money."

"Considering what I spend annually to train more than 500 employees, *OSHA Walkthrough for Manufacturers* will easily save \$50,000 the first year alone," said Tom Gornia, Human Resources Manager, Medex in Dublin Ohio.

For more information about the project, or to sign up for the mailing of the CD-ROM, visit the eMedia website at: <http://www.oshawalkthrough.com>.

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