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Bay-Area Construction Company Receives Coveted Health and Safety Award

- 100 Year-Old Overaa is One of Only Nine California Contractors to be Recognized by Cal/OSHA -

RICHMOND, CA, August 30, 2007 – Overaa Construction announced today that California’s Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) has invited the company to become a member in the highly-regarded California Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) for Construction. Currently, only nine construction companies are active participants in the VPP. The California Voluntary protection program (Cal/VPP), launched in the 1970’s, is a labor-management-government cooperative program designed to recognize workplaces that manage outstanding health and safety management systems for protection of workers and go beyond minimal compliance with the Cal/OSHA Title 8 standards.

“This program creates a collaborative partnership between Cal/OSHA and companies, such as Overaa, that are leaders in safety and health,” said Michael Alvarez, regional manager, Cal/OSHA. “California has the best and most progressive health and safety programs in the nation. Collectively, there are only 34-35 companies that are in the VPP in California, and only 9 in construction. In other words, the participants in the program are a select few.”

The Voluntary Protection Program (VPP) promotes effective worksite-based safety and health. In the VPP, company management, labor organizations, and OSHA establish cooperative relationships at workplaces that have implemented a comprehensive safety and health management system. A workplace must undergo a rigorous review before invitation and acceptance into the program. Usually the workplace will already be

practicing exceptional safety and health practices. Then, Cal/OSHA will manually inspect the job site and recommend changes to bring the workplace to VPP status. Once the company is invited into the program, Cal/OSHA will only come out to the workplace if there has been a serious injury or fatality. The workplace holds the status of VPP for three years and at that point they must undergo another review.

Rather than a punitive enforcement approach, this program is designed to positively encourage the best practices of the workplace and Cal/OSHA. It becomes everyone's responsibility to maintain safety standards.

Troy Tagliaboschi, Overaa Project Superintendent, is one of the many employees that have benefited from Overaa's safe practices. Overaa's safety culture has followed him home. His children wear safety glasses while mowing the lawn, gloves to move firewood, and harnesses while trimming trees. These practices may have saved his son's vision. It was while working on project at home that his teenage son had a near miss. He was pounding nails on a retaining wall, when one of the nails ricocheted and hit him in the eye. He was wearing safety glasses. "My kids are safety conscious because I'm safety conscious, and I'm safety conscious because Overaa is safety conscious," says Tagliaboschi. He continues, "It's important that we work safely. I take pride in making my guys work safely so that they can get home to their families at the end of the day."

"Our workers' safety and health have been priorities for Overaa Construction since the company was founded 100 years ago," said Jerry Overaa, president and CEO, Overaa Construction. "It's nice to be recognized for this effort and to have the opportunity to work closely with Cal/OSHA representatives to further assess and refine our practices."

Acceptance in the Cal/VPP indicates that management and employees of a designated company have demonstrated that they are committed and involved in maintaining the construction safety and health system. As a result, their accident risks are expected to be significantly lower than standard.

About C. Overaa & Co.

Overaa is one of the largest construction companies in the Bay Area and is ranked as one of the nation's top construction firms. It will celebrate its 100th year of business in September 2007.

The company has a rich history as a fourth-generation, family-owned business and attributes its success to roots as hands-on, blue-collar craftsmen. For more information, visit www.overaa.com

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