

Safety Message – General Construction Projects

Let me start by saying that safety is a core value in everything that we do here at Denver International Airport. We strive to maintain a positive safety culture and to be proactive in addressing hazards. Our employees are required to report hazards that may cause injury as soon as possible so that they may be corrected – we expect the same from our contractors. At DIA, we are very proud of our safety record – we have reduced employee injuries by over 50 percent since 2010. We want all of our employees, including our contractors, to go home in the same condition they arrived at work.

In addition to all federal, state and local safety regulations, contractors and subcontractors of any tier must comply with the provisions of the DIA Construction Safety Manual (CSM). Contractors must review the CSM carefully, as some requirements in this document are more stringent than the OSHA regulations.

I would like to discuss four elements of the CSM that are needed before starting work:

1. Contractor Safety Representative (section 4.0 of RSM) – The contractor must assign a safety professional to monitor the safety of their employees and subcontractors. The qualifications of the contractor’s safety representative must be submitted and approved by the DIA Project Manager prior to assignment. Approval will depend on the following qualifications and experience:
 - Relevant construction safety experience
 - OSHA 500 course for construction
 - Red Cross or approved equivalent for CPR, First Aid, AED and blood-borne pathogens.
 - Knowledge of safety representative’s responsibilities, such as employee safety orientation, recordkeeping, daily safety audits, enforcement of safety standards, accident investigation and first aid/medical treatment.
2. Site Specific Safety Plan (section 5.0 of CSM) – The contractor must establish and maintain a safety program that meets or exceeds the requirements contained in the CSM. The contractor must submit a written Site Specific Safety Plan (SSSP) to the DIA Project Manager and Airport Safety prior to the start of work. Each SSSP must be detailed and tailored to the risks and hazards of the project. Some projects involve a variety of complex hazards and may require substantial development. Refer to the technical specifications for Contractor Safety Plans, Division 1 – Section 01110. These are minimum requirements and the contractor must expand if the project involves risks and hazards not addressed in the technical specifications. A model SSSP may be found in Appendix A of the CSM. It is not acceptable for contractors to submit their company safety manual as a substitute for the SSSP. The contractor may not reference any other documents – all required information must be in the SSSP document.

When applicable, the required elements of the SSSP include:

- Name of Contractor Safety Representative

- 24-hour emergency phone numbers for contractor site management personnel
- Excavation
- Injury procedures
- Disciplinary actions for safety violations
- Equipment inspection
- Electrical safety
- Concrete forms
- Flammable materials and fire prevention
- Materials handling
- Fall protection
- Severe weather
- Work platforms, man lifts, scaffolding and ladders
- Personal protective equipment
- Safety training
- Audits and inspections
- Hot work
- Compressed gases
- Confined space entry
- Hazard communication
- Powered industrial trucks
- Hearing conservation

3. Drug Free Work Environment (section 5.1 of CSM) – Contractors and subcontractors must maintain a drug-free work environment. Contractors will ensure that employees are tested for reasonable suspicion of drug or alcohol use. DIA also reserves the right to have suspected employees tested. Employees must report legal prescription drug use to their supervisor or manager if the medication could affect their ability to safely perform work. Prescription/medical marijuana use is prohibited. The Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991 also requires drug and alcohol testing for commercial motor vehicle drivers.

4. Safety Orientation Training (section 6.0 of CSM) – Contractors and their safety representative or designee must conduct a complete safety orientation for all employees new to the construction site. The purpose of the orientation is to provide employees with an awareness of what they can expect and what is expected of them on site. Orientation training will include jobsite safety requirements, review of SSSP, hazard reporting, job hazard analysis, PPE requirements and rules of employee conduct. Training will also include all applicable topics mandated by OSHA rules and regulations. Written documentation of all completed training, licensing and certification must be maintained and available for review by the DIA Project Manager and Airport Safety.

At a minimum, everyone on the construction site must wear reflective high-visibility safety vests, ANSI-approved safety glasses, safety boots, hard hats, and appropriate work gloves.

There are a number of Appendices in the back of the CSM to aid you in your compliance efforts. If you have any questions regarding the CSM or if you need assistance in developing the SSSP, please contact one of the DIA Airport Safety staff members:

Keith Williams Safety Supervisor 303-342-2132

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I will have business cards available after the meeting if you are interested. Thank you.