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### **New English-Spanish construction safety training program**

The Department of Consumer and Business Services with the help of several construction industry partners have developed a new bilingual English-Spanish training program for construction safety. The program helps employers to train their employees on workplace safety and health when language may be a barrier.

The eleven training modules in the 'PESO' program developed by the DCBS Occupational Safety and Health Division (also known as Oregon OSHA) include five general safety subjects, five topics specific to construction work and a 'how-to-use' module that educates employers about different styles of delivering information to workers. General topics covered are accident investigation, hazard identification, hazard communication, material handling and safety committees. Safety modules specifically designed for the construction industry cover excavation, fall protection, health in construction, and portable ladder/scaffold safety.

The training program has been designed to make it simple for employers to train their employees. Each page of the training curriculum is identical, in English and Spanish – English text is on the left-facing even-numbered page with the Spanish text on the mirroring odd-numbered pages. Each module is designed as a thirty-minute to sixty-minute program that can easily be taught on-site. Oregon OSHA has also developed 'tailgate sheets' to accompany the training that summarize key points. These enable workers to reinforce the safety information they previously learned in training during the first few minutes of a shift.

The entire English-Spanish construction safety training program, complete with instructions on how to print out the training materials, is available for downloading from the Oregon OSHA Web site, [www.orosha.org](http://www.orosha.org)

Oregon OSHA also offers a 30,000-word English-Spanish and Spanish-English workplace safety and health dictionary through the [www.orosha.org](http://www.orosha.org) Web site.

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