



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Grain Inspection,
Packers and Stockyards
Administration

Stop 3601
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-3601

NOV 10 2009

TO: GIPSA Employees

FROM: J. Dudley Butler
Administrator

SUBJECT: Safety and Health Statement

It is my personal commitment to ensure the safety and health of all Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) employees and visitors. GIPSA is committed to excellence in occupational safety and health, and environmental stewardship through continuous improvement of our awareness, understanding, and performance. To that end, we as an agency and as individuals must embrace our responsibility to identify, correct, or report any situation, act, or condition that places unnecessary risk or exposure to unsafe acts or conditions to anyone in GIPSA workplaces or offices by:

- Ensuring that all GIPSA offices, laboratories, and other worksites maintain the highest standards, situational awareness, and are free of hazards that can result in death or physical harm.
- Complying with all applicable Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), USDA, and GIPSA safety and health standards, regulations and directives
- Providing every employee with specialized or required safety and health training and personal protective equipment required for the work that he/she performs.
- Communicate GIPSA's occupational safety and health policies and programs to our customers, shareholders, and partners.

Occupational safety and health are integral to GIPSA's operation. GIPSA managers are responsible for implementing the Agency's safety and health programs, and reporting and investigating mishaps and potential hazards in the workplace. GIPSA employees are expected to participate in all phases of GIPSA's safety and health programs, and to conduct their daily tasks in a manner consistent with Agency objectives and applicable Federal, State, and USDA regulations and policies. We all need to work together to promote hazard awareness, foster better understanding of safety and health policies, and most importantly, to maintain safe and healthy performance practices and work environments.