

Features

2022 Safest in the Industry Awards

Reagan Cofield Diamond



Humbled. Honored. Filled with pride. These are just some of the words used to describe the feelings of those who received the Eagle Award at this year's Safe Day Awards Ceremony.

Safe Day was held on May 20 at the Barber Motorsports Museum in Leeds to honor the safety programs and initiatives of ABC of Alabama's member companies. After a time of networking via the welcome/safety social and lunch, the Safest in the Industry Awards Ceremony began.

This year, awards were given in the categories of STEP Award Winners, Innovation in Safety, Gold Awards, Eagle Awards and the Safety Director of the Year. *(Editor's Note: For a full list of award winners, see page 34. For a profile on 2022 Safety Director of the Year Greg Hayes, see page 28.)*

The Eagle Awards were split into the categories of General Contractor, Subcontractor and Other/Specialty.

To apply for the award, all businesses submitted a detailed analysis of processes and requirements of safety policies, company safety statistics from previous years and an explanation of the company's overall safety management system.

Gray and Robins & Morton took home the awards in the General Contractor category. "Each year, we continuously grow and get better with our safety program, so to win the Eagle was extremely rewarding," said Drew Romans, vice president of Gray's Southeast Office. "It isn't just about winning for our Alabama office but winning companywide. This especially goes for our team members on our project sites who work day in and day out putting our safety program into place. We know we can never be too good at safety, so in the spirit of continuous improvement, we will always work to improve our safety program." Jeff Palombo, vice president of safety operations at Robins & Morton, also shared how he felt when the Eagle Award was presented to his company. "I was filled with a

sense of pride and appreciation for our Robins & Morton family and encouraged to continue to implement, refine and actively care for our people," he said. "This award also affirms that Robins & Morton is heading in the right direction in our Pursuit of Safety Excellence."

In addition to his pride over the Eagle Award, Romans shared what he believes is the best aspect of the safety program at Gray. "The people [are the best aspect]," he said. "Gray's No. 1 core value is we put safety and quality of life first. We have a variety of team members from those that have been with us 30-plus years and those that have just started. Everyone is bought into the safety program to ensure that all team members go home safely to their loved ones at the end of the day. This starts at the top with Gray's CEO, Stephen Gray, and goes all the way to the newest team members, including our interns! Additionally, the subcontractors on our projects continuously buy into our safety program, which makes achieving our goals even better."

Palombo shared this regarding the best aspect of Robins & Morton's safety program: "The best part of our safety management system at Robins & Morton is that it is ever evolving and improving. Our teams are continually asking what more we can do to make our safety processes more efficient, more easily understood and focused on our people, our clients and the communities in which we work. As a company, we strive to have a positive impact on everyone."

The winners in the Subcontractor category were C.S. Beatty Construction and Comfort Systems USA-Midsouth. Chet Willis, safety director at C.S. Beatty Construction, was thrilled to receive an Eagle Award. "It's very humbling to know that we have been chosen amongst some of the safest companies in the southeast as one of the top companies for safety," he said. "I'm beyond grateful for the accolades but so are so many more that [were] at this event." Brian Oden, risk manager for Comfort Systems USA-Midsouth — and a second-generation safety director — felt honored when his company received the award. "This [the Eagle Award] is like the award of all awards that you can get for working in the area we work in," he said.

Willis spotlighted his employees as the key ingredient to the company's safety success. "We have an amazing group of men and women that have bought in to our safety culture and take pride in doing things the safest way they can," he said. Oden had a similar feeling regarding his employees. "Getting the employees engaged in anything we have is the secret to any of our success," he said.

Finally, in the category of Other/Specialty, Thompson Engineering took home the award. "As a multi-disciplined firm, Thompson Engineering assesses the risks of a wide variety of job site scenarios," said Mike Shumaker, health and safety director for the company. "From roadside constructions zones to heavy machinery and in-office trips and falls, we take them all seriously." Shumaker added, "No risk is too small and preparing for all situations is part of our company effort to continuously improve."

All Eagle Award winners were appreciative of ABC of Alabama's efforts in putting on Safe Day each year. "Programs like Safe Day show our employees, our communities and our customers that Thompson Engineering cares about people, the environment and our business partners," Shumaker said. "A robust safety program is one of the most meaningful commitments a company makes." Added Romans, "This is one key reason we're proud to be active members of ABC of AL! Our company values and commitment to safety are perfectly aligned with ABC of AL. The Safe Day events are a great way to illustrate this and get the message out." Palombo agreed, stating, "This

awards ceremony affirms to Robins & Morton that the ABC of Alabama is truly committed to helping its members achieve safety success and that Robins & Morton is aligned with a great organization that has all its [members'] best interests at heart."

Congratulations to all award winners and best wishes on successful safety programs until Safe Day 2023!

2022 Award Winners

SAFETY DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

Greg Hayes - Auburn University Facilities Management

EAGLE AWARDS

Gray Construction - General Contractor

Robins & Morton - General Contractor

C.S. Beatty Construction - Subcontractor Category

Comfort Systems USA-Midsouth - Subcontractor Category

Thompson Engineering, Inc. - Other/Specialty Category

GOLD AWARDS

Ard Contracting, Inc.

Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC

Bright Future Electric, LLC

Building & Earth Sciences, Inc.

Dunn Building Company, LLC

Dunn Construction Company, Inc.

ELDECO, Inc.

Hoar Construction, LLC

JESCO, Inc.

Jim Cooper Construction

Marathon Electrical Contractors, LLC

M.J. Harris Construction Services Performance Contractors, Inc.

McInnis Construction, LLC

Premier Service Co.

Rabren General Contractors, Inc.

Stone Building, LLC

White-Spunner Construction, Inc.

INNOVATION IN SAFETY AWARDS

Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC - SEE IT, OWN IT, SHARE IT

Building & Earth Sciences, Inc. - Safety Talk Rotation

C.S. Beatty Construction, Inc. - CSB Stop Work Authority (SWA)

Comfort Systems USA-Midsouth - 5x5 Program

ELDECO, Inc. - HSE Incident Dashboard

Dunn Building Company, LLC - Quarterly Inspection Color Code
Gray Construction - Weekly 2:15 pm Safety Call
McInnis Construction - The Whole Construction Worker: Safety, Leadership, Faith
Performance Contractors Inc. - GO/NO-GO Checkpoint Incident Prevention
Premier Service Co. - Safety Grams
Robins & Morton - Safety Onboarding Video
Stone Building, LLC - Stone Building Safety Committee
White-Spinner Construction - One Minute or Less Safety Reminders

STEP AWARD WINNERS

DIAMOND LEVEL

BL Harbert International F.L. Crane & Sons, Inc.
Gray Construction ISC Constructors, LLC
JESCO, Inc.
Jim Cooper Construction
Limestone Building Group
Marathon Electrical Contractors, LLC
Performance Contractors, Inc.
Thompson Engineering, Inc.

PLATINUM LEVEL

Ard Contracting, Inc.
Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC
BRAWCO, Inc.
Bright Future Electric, LLC
Building & Earth Sciences, Inc.
C.S. Beatty Construction, Inc.
Comfort Systems USA-Midsouth
Dunn Building Company, LLC
Dunn Construction Company, Inc.
ELDECO, Inc.
Hoar Construction, LLC
Juneau Construction Company
M.J. Harris Construction Services Robins & Morton
White-Spinner Construction, Inc.

GOLD LEVEL

McInnis Construction, LLC
Rabren General Contractors, Inc.
Stone Building, LLC

SILVER LEVEL

Bailey-Harris Construction Co., Inc.
David Allen Company, Inc.

BRONZE LEVEL

Harrison Construction Co., Inc.
Premier Service Company, Inc.
Rives Construction Co., Inc.

EAGLE AWARD WINNERS



C.S. Betty Construction - Subcontractor Category »



Comfort Systems USA-Midsouth - Subcontractor Category »



Gray Construction - General Contractor »



Robins & Morton - General Contractor »



Thompson Engineering, Inc. - Other/Specialty Category »

SAFE DAY GOLD AWARD WINNERS



Ard Contracting, Inc. »



Brasfield & Gorrie, LLC »



Bright Future Electric, LLC »



Building & Earth Sciences, Inc. »



Dunn Building Company, LLC »



Dunn Construction Company, Inc »



ELDECO, Inc. »



Hoar Construction, LLC »



JESCO, Inc. »



Jim Cooper Construction »



Marathon Electrical Contractors, LLC »



M.J. Harris Construction Services »



Performance Contractors, Inc. »



McInnis Construction, LLC »



Premier Service Co. »



Rabren General Contractors, Inc. »



Stone Building, LLC »



White-Spinner Construction, Inc. »

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