

Marion Environmental, Inc. – MEI Monthly

MAY 2013

VOLUME # 2 ISSUE #5



Employee of the Month – Mike James

MIKE JAMES IS EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH FOR MAY 2013

Mike has been with Marion for the past 11 years, and as a top sales representative he has been instrumental to Marion's industrial expansion.

He has honed his sales skills through his association with Sandler Training. Mike was named "Best In Class" for Sandler Training two years in a row in Chattanooga and was invited to attend the national client summit hosted by Sandler in Orlando, FL.

He holds a B.S. degree in Organizational Management from Covenant College and is an avid fisherman and golfer.

Whether golfing for MEI in the industrial league or pursuing a new account, Mike's friendly and competitive nature make him invaluable to our team.

Marion Environmental Inc. is one of the leading providers of environmental consulting, remediation, and emergency response in the southeast. Our goal is to provide cost effective solutions to environmental problems.

Making *our* standard, industry standard.

Events

AAR/BOE Seminar

(American Association of Railroads/Bureau of Explosives)

May 21-23 - Addison, TX

For the third year in a row, Marion is hosting a booth and sending representatives to the AAR/BOE meeting.

Review of Solid/Hazardous Waste Conference

From April 24th through the 26th Marion Environmental attended the 42nd Annual Environmental Show of the South Solid/Hazardous Waste Conference and Exposition held in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. This show is one of the largest and most comprehensive environmental events and tradeshow in the south. The stated goal is to provide low cost and high quality environmental training and educational sessions to a broad range of environmental professionals. Over the next several newsletters, Marion Environmental will be exploring a variety of topics covered at the event.

The overriding theme of this year's conference was the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation's (TDEC) effort to pass on to all interested parties that, in their words, **FRONT END COMPLIANCE** is by far the best approach when compared to **BACK END ENFORCEMENT**. Simply put, it's better to follow the rules and do what has to be done from the beginning rather than pay the price in fines and penalties after years (in some cases) of noncompliance. TDEC is much more willing to work with a business that asks for help on the front end rather than during legal proceedings for enforcement at the back end.

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MARION ENVIRONMENTAL, INC.

115 Parmenas Lane
Chattanooga, TN 37405
423-499-4919 Office • 423-892-5122 fax
www.marionenv.com



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Continued from page 1 – Review of Solid Haz Waste Conference:

December 1st, 2013 is the training deadline for the Revised Hazard Communication Standard. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) revised its hazard communication standard (HCS) to align with United Nations Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labeling of Chemicals (GHS). Two significant changes contained in the revised standard require the use of new labeling elements in a standardized format for Safety Data Sheets (SDS) formerly known as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS). OSHA believes that the new label elements and SDS requirements will improve worker understanding of the hazards associated with chemicals in the workplace. To help employers comply with the revised standard; OSHA is phasing in the specific requirements over several years from December 1, 2013 to June 1, 2016. The first compliance date of the revised HCS is December 1, 2013, by that time employers **must** train their workers on the new label elements in the SDS format. This training is needed early in the transition process since workers are already beginning to see the new labels and SDS's in the workplace. Remember, according to OSHA, for training to be considered accomplished the name of the employee and the date of training must be recorded and filed.

Also of interest is the formation by TDEC of a regional office for external affairs. The Chattanooga Regional Director for External Affairs is Tyler T. Jeffrey M.S.G.S. If any entity needs help or direction in working with TDEC, Ms. Jeffrey is now considered "point of first contact" in the Chattanooga Region. MEI recently met with Ms. Jeffrey as she began an introductory tour designed to educate private business in the mission of External Affairs. MEI highly recommends that anyone needing help navigating the complex system of TDEC offices, departments, and Divisions give Ms. Jeffrey a call at her office. Ms. Jeffrey may be reached at - Office 423 634-5745 Direct 423 634-5782 Fax 423 634-6389.

Earlier this month:

For the first time Marion utilized a new piece of equipment (Grain Vac) to directly transfer material from the rail car to Gaylord boxes providing the customer with the versatility they needed.



Safety Tip

Spend time getting to know the work your employees do. It is likely that work is done differently by different employees. Look at what employees are actually doing and compare this to what is written in your company procedures. If the procedures are different from the actual practice, find out why.

AQUATREAT, INC.

617 Hudson Road
Chattanooga, TN 37405
423-265-0132 Office • 423-265-3665 fax
www.aquatreat.com

