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Sicklesteel Cranes Lifts Industry's Safety Efforts

Company is Co-Winner of 2009 AGC Build Washington Grand Award for Safety

Seattle, Washington (May 22, 2009) - AGC of Washington's Build Washington Awards celebrate the innovation, quality, and safety expertise and community spirit of AGC members. The association gave out its annual awards May 20 at Kane Hall on the University of Washington's Seattle campus in an event emceed by KIRO radio personality Dave Ross.



Sicklesteel Cranes, Inc. received the Safety Award for Subcontractors with over 100,000 hours and achieved the Grand Award for Safety. Judy Schurke, Director of Washington State Department of Labor and Industries, presented the Grand Award to Sicklesteel Cranes, Inc. in recognition both of the company's stellar safety record as well as the efforts to improve safety industry-wide.

"Safety is one of the core fundamentals in our company," said Thom Sicklesteel, President of Sicklesteel Cranes, Inc.. "We believe that a safer company is a better company." Steve Jouwsma, Corporate Safety Director added, "Unlike many

contractors, on any given day we will have 1-2 crew members on different job site locations throughout Western Washington. This makes belief and participation in our safety program paramount."

Sicklesteel's relentless company-wide focus on safety begins with a driving desire to continually improve the company. Any safety-related corrective actions are viewed as opportunities to create safer practices and procedures rather than merely looking to place blame.

However, it is not just inside the company that Sicklesteel improves worker safety.

AGC Safety Team member Sicklesteel Cranes has shared its expertise in crane safety helping to improve safety records throughout the industry. Sicklesteel is a recognized leader in the creation and implementation of crane industry standards, State and Federal crane rules, and crane safety legislation. Sicklesteel's philosophy is to hold itself to these higher standards first, before they are adopted industry-wide. This keeps Sicklesteel on the leading edge of safety practices and allows them to assist others in gaining compliance.

"Sicklesteel has been instrumental with regard to the crane safety issue for years," said AGC Safety Director Mandi Kime. Sicklesteel leads the AGC Crane Safety Task Force and continues its outreach and training to others on the impacts of the rules. Sicklesteel Cranes, Inc. has found accomplishment in improving the safety of the industry while fostering their company's success.

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