



Constructors Quarterly

*A news update from National Steel Constructors
and its Steel City Erecting Division*

National Steel Constructors - Our Reputation is Building

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SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY

Steel Erection Safety Expert Jim Stanley Cites National as 'Model' Safety Organization

At the National Steel Constructors Managers Meeting held in March, at The Peabody Hotel in Orlando, steel erection safety expert Jim Stanley moderated a broad and insightful roundtable discussion on the critical importance of safety not just as policy but as practice at every level.

"When it comes to safety, companies need to view it as a value and not a priority - priorities can and do change, while values are entrenched," Stanley said. "From senior executives and project managers to foremen and craftsmen - safety has to be a value driven from the top down."

Stanley praised National's commitment to safety through the years, describing a recent project in which an excess of 28,000 tons of steel was erected without a scratch as proof of National's 'phenomenal safety record.'

"People and companies in general tend to depend solely on their safety people, when technically they are just referees on the football field," Stanley said. "The people who make the difference are the frontline foremen who have to know about OSHA requirements."

According to Stanley, many companies simply don't understand the importance of safety as a fundamental practice.

"In many situations we see companies addressing safety issues, training and policies, but sadly not until it's too late," Stanley said. "Companies that 'get it' make sure their foremen get it."

The bottom line, says Stanely, have a plan in place well in advance.

James W. Stanley serves as President of Brentwood, Tenn.-based FDRSafety (www.fdrsafety.com). Prior to FDRSafety, Mr. Stanley served nine years as Vice President of Safety and Health at AK Steel. Mr. Stanley also served in the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for nearly 25 years. In 1994, Mr. Stanley was appointed Deputy Assistant Secretary for OSHA in Washington, D.C. Mr. Stanley has served on the National Safety Council's Board of Directors as well as the National Safety Council's Executive Committee as Chairman of the Trustees. He can be reached at istanley@fdrsafety.com.