## **TEXO Safety First - The Game Changer**

If you have any appreciation for football, fall and the anticipation of the season ahead can create quite a bit of excitement. I will not express a specific allegiance to any certain college football team, but I would simply say the team I cheer for happens to be undefeated, and has not yet had their national title hopes dashed with a loss. Or two.

In that same way, TEXO is also at the beginning of an exciting season and we think a certain program that has been developed will be a game-changer for the local commercial construction industry. I am pleased to introduce TEXO Safety First to you.

One of your Association's long-term goals – and current year initiative – has been to create a program that unifies and improves the entire industry's safety knowledge and performance. Area company safety professionals - who are subject-matter experts that are part of TEXO's Safety Leadership Group - have developed the revolutionary Safety First program with additional input from OSHA and other industry safety consultants.

You can visit www.texosafetyfirst.com to learn more about the program. In short, it is a 7.5-hour hands-on, interactive class intentionally focused on the essentials of commercial construction jobsite safety. Taught in both English and Spanish, it meets OSHA standards allowing participants to come back for day two to complete the 2.5 hours necessary to receive their OSHA 10-hour card.

I was recently asked, "What is so unique about this program?" and "What makes it different than your typical 10-hour class?" Those answers are easy:

- The program is being taught at your Construction Education Foundation's (CEF) Safety Lab, with industry-specific tools and equipment nearby to re-create scenarios seen on actual construction projects
- The program has 10 individual modules with real-time testing at the end of each module to measure whether the participant has comprehended the material presented
- If the participant scores a cumulative score of 80% or greater, they receive a personalized (with picture) TEXO Safety First badge that can be worn to signify successful completion of the program (must be renewed every 2 years)
- The program is a demonstration to the Owners for which you work that as an industry we are committed to providing a safer and trained workforce
- TEXO Safety First is a uniform, industry-recognized program that will help all contractors collectively work towards zero incidents on all jobsites

We hope you and your firm get excited about TEXO Safety First. Registration is now open and classes begin September 30<sup>th</sup>. Sign up today!

Working for you,

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Brad Brown