

Date: Dec. 16, 2003
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Koch Aviation Earns Prestigious OSHA Designation

WICHITA, Kan. – Koch Aviation, a business division of Koch Business Holdings, LLC, became the nation's first corporate aviation site to achieve STAR status, the most prestigious designation under the U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration's Voluntary Protection Program.

OSHA officials, as well as U.S. Rep. Todd Tiahrt, officially honored the Koch Aviation team here today for its outstanding operational record and safety program.

“Koch Aviation has exhibited excellence in the areas of effective safety and health management and employee training and involvement,” said Charles E. Adkins, OSHA Region 7 administrator from Kansas City. “This aviation team is exemplary of systems and employees working together to create a safer workplace.”

OSHA awarded the STAR VPP certification to the aviation site after months of in-depth review. The agency evaluated the facility's safety and health programs, operations performance and safety record.

“Becoming the first aviation group to earn this national recognition is an honor and a testament to our employees' commitment to safety performance and practices,” said Charles G. Koch, chairman of the board and chief executive officer of Koch Industries, Inc., who participated in the ceremony.

Koch Aviation is also among the Koch companies that are participating in a unique partnership with OSHA to develop even stronger safety and health management systems and share best-practices with the federal agency and industry peers.

“Koch Aviation's goal is safety all the time,” said KC Carlson, aviation manager. “Our employees strive for continuous improvement. I applaud this team for their efforts.”

In 2001, this group was recognized by the National Business Aviation Association with a “50-Year Safe Flying Achievement Award” for 53 years of accident-free flying. That record continues today.

Koch Aviation has worked more than 260,000 hours in the past five years without an injury resulting in time away from work. The group's four-year OSHA recordable incident rate is 0.96, while the industry average is 4.7. The division's four year OSHA lost time incident rate is 0.00, while the industry's average is 1.9. OSHA recordable rates are standard industrial safety performance measures that represent health and safety incidents per 200,000 work-hours, a unit of measure chosen by the agency because it approximates the annual work of 100 employees. Lost-time incidents are those injuries or occupational illnesses that result in time away from work.

Koch Aviation is a division of Koch Business Holdings, LLC, and is based in Wichita, Kan. Koch Business Holdings is a subsidiary of Koch Industries, Inc., which owns a diverse group of companies engaged in trading, investments and operations around the world. More information is available at www.kochind.com.

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