

ON THE LEVEL

BALANCING INDUSTRY & ASSOCIATION NEWS

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Enter the #VPPAPumpkins Contest & Win A Gift Card

There is still time to enter our October contest! Head over to the [VPPPA Facebook](#) page and share a picture of your carved pumpkin. Be sure to hashtag it with #VPPAPumpkins and get your friends and family to "like" it. The photo with the most "likes" by 4pm EST on October 31 will win a \$50 gift card and their pumpkin will be in the winter issue of The Leader magazine. We can't wait to see everyone's pumpkins.

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Halloween Safety Tips

While Halloween is a fun holiday to look forward to, we can't forget about the importance of safety among our thoughts of candy, costumes and pumpkins. Check out these helpful hints for staying safe this year.

- When carving a pumpkin - sharper knives are not necessarily better. They often get wedged into the thicker part of the pumpkin, requiring force to remove. Apply pressure to any cuts and if bleeding does not stop or slow after 15 minutes, a trip to the emergency room may be needed.
- Motorists should be aware of pedestrians walking in the road, medians and curbs. Also, be sure to watch for children in dark clothing.
- All costumes, wigs and accessories should be fire-resistant and any makeup should be non-toxic.
- Adults should travel with children trick-or-treating, or instruct them to follow a specific, laid-out path and return home at an agreed-upon time.

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Senators Introduce Bipartisan VPP Act

In a bipartisan effort to promote workplace safety, U.S. Senators Michael Enzi (R-WY) and Michael Bennet (D-CO) re-introduced legislation, S. 1878, to make VPP a permanent part of workplace safety in American industry. S. 1878 is a companion bill to an identical measure in the U.S. House of Representatives, H.R. 1444, originally sponsored by Congressmen Todd Rokita (R-IN) and Gene Greene (D-TX) and Congresswoman Martha Roby (R-AL). In recent years, state legislatures in Indiana, Virginia, Maryland and Arizona have passed similar VPP Acts with active support from labor and business representatives, and other states have signaled interest in doing the same.

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October is National Crime Prevention Month

October is National Crime Prevention Month. For a detailed list of ways to reduce crime in your workplace [check out this article by Gensuite](#). A few key ways to step up safety at your workplace by defending, securing and raising awareness, include:

- **Security cameras.** Installing cameras are an easy way to prevent loss and improve employee performance.
- **Empower communication.** Supporting employees to speak out when they feel unsafe is a great way to increase engagement and trust in the workplace.
- **Embrace personal safety.** Push employees to lock up personal belongings, or if they have to work late allow them to work from home or urge them to walk with a buddy.

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Safety+ 2018 Partnership with Tennessee Safety & Health Conference

VPPPA is pleased to announce our partnership with the Tennessee Safety & Health Conference for the 2018 Safety+ Symposium. Both organizations will combine their efforts to hold a joint event, which will bring all attendees the same great educational workshops, networking and professional development they have come to expect from VPPPA. Since 1977, the Tennessee Safety & Health Conference has been a joint venture between the Tennessee Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the American Society of Safety Engineers, offering an agenda of knowledge and expertise that can be used for the promotion, increased awareness, and implementation of safety and health practices in the workplace.

The 2018 Safety+ Symposium will be held at the Gaylord Opryland Convention Center in Nashville, TN, August 28-31, 2018.

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We Want to Hear from You

[The VPPPA Blog](#)

We are always looking for fresh content for our blog! Articles can focus on any aspect of safety and health (PPE, leadership, training, safety programs, etc.) and we update it every other Thursday.

[The Leader Magazine](#)

The Winter 2018 issue of the magazine will focus on women in the workplace and in the safety and health industry. If you are interested in contributing an article on this topic, or know someone who might be, please reach out. Feature articles will be due on December 6, 2017.

In addition, if you have news or pictures from your site to share (an award, a VPP approval, a member who went above and beyond, etc.) please share it with us! We would love to add your updates to the next *On The Level* newsletter or to share on our social media pages.

If you would like to write for a VPPPA publication, or know of someone who is interested, please email communications@vpppa.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

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VPPPA, Inc., a nonprofit 501(c)(3) charitable organization, promotes advances in worker safety and health excellence through best practices and cooperative efforts among workers, employers, the government and communities.

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