DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON DC 20310

OCT 13 2006

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Safety and Occupational Health Objectives for Fiscal Year (FY) 2007

1. Although our accident rates increased with the onset of the Global War on Terrorism, recent trends indicate that we are now better managing our risks and improving our accident reduction efforts. The safety and occupational health leadership you are providing has been critical in improving our safety performance and is much appreciated, but we have got to do more.

2. We are establishing a short-term goal to further reduce accident rates, across the Army and in all categories by the end of FY07 by 20 percent from FY06 rates. The Army Safety and Occupational Health Strategic Plan, issued on July 21, 2006, requires establishing a safety and occupational health plan to improve workplace safety and occupational health and promote accident reduction. While we have reviewed accident reduction plans submitted by senior Army Commanders earlier this FY, the Strategic Plan expands the requirement for a safety and occupational health plan to every level, from Army Command, Army Service Component Command, and Direct Reporting Unit down to brigade/activity level, including all garrisons. Enclosed is an assessment of our FY06 accident trends and our safety and occupational health objectives for FY07. We expect safety and occupational health plans, developed in collaboration between safety, medical, and personnel communities and endorsed by senior management, to incorporate these objectives. We are confident that by focusing our initiatives and stressing accountability for safety performance the Army can reach our FY07 accident reduction goal and improve readiness, morale, and productivity.

3. Our most important priority is providing for the well-being of our Soldiers, civilian employees, and family members of the active component, the Army Reserve, and the Army National Guard. Safety and occupational health are non-negotiable. We call on you to continue to provide the leadership necessary to achieve world-class safety performance.

Peter J. Schoomaker
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff

Francis J. Harvey
Secretary of the Army

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FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2006 ACCIDENT TRENDS AND FY07 SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH OBJECTIVES

1. Compared with FY05, through August 2006 the Army private motor vehicle fatality rate is down 10 percent (although motorcycle fatalities are up), our aviation serious accident rate is down 41 percent, and overall our ground fatalities are down 21 percent. Department of the Army civilian lost day rates are essentially unchanged. Army experienced a slight increase in military injury case rates.

- Motor vehicle accidents are the number one accidental killer of Soldiers: leading factors behind these accidents include inadequate basic driving skills; operating with excessive speed, while fatigued, or without use of seatbelts; and leadership failure to enforce standards.
- Serious aviation accidents are generally due to aircrew coordination failure, inadequate mission planning, inadequate risk assessment and management, and indiscipline.
- The leading categories of ground accidents are weapons and explosives handling, vehicle rollovers, falls, and injuries during sports and physical training.
- The leading causes of civilian occupational injuries are falls and improper lifting.

2. For FY07, Headquarters, Department of the Army will continue to provide emphasis on the Driving as a Life Skill program, Military Flight Operations Quality Assurance, HMMWV Emergency Access Trainer, implementation of military injury countermeasures, and implementation of industry best safety and occupational health practices through the Voluntary Protection Programs. In addition, using the Lean Six Sigma process we will aggressively attack civilian employee lost productivity due to accidents and seek improvements to accident reporting and analysis.

3. For FY07, safety and occupational health plans at every level, from Army Command, Army Service Component Command, and Direct Reporting Unit down to brigade/activity level, including all garrisons, will incorporate the following initiatives:

- Completion of unit readiness assessments with the Army Readiness Assessment Program (see https://unitready.army.mil/).
- Completion of mandatory occupational safety and health training by all managers, supervisors, and employees (see https://safetylms.army.mil/user/mycourse.asp, then "Installation and Environment (I&E) Occupational Safety Courses").
- Assessment of FY 2006 accident, injury and illness data, and risk assessment of military and civilian work activities and occupations where these events occurred, and implementation of risk management plans for hazardous military and civilian work activities and occupations.
- Inclusion of safety in every leader's performance appraisal, both military and civilian.

- Full implementation of Driving as a Life Skill program, including Army Traffic Safety Training Program (ATSTP) safety training and use of the POV Risk Assessment Tool (ASMIS-2) (see https://crcapps2.crc.army.mil/ako_auth/asmis2/register.aspx).
- Completion of Composite Risk Management (CRM) Basic Course by all Soldiers and civilian employees (see https://safetylms.army.mil/courses/c1554/eoc.asp).
- Command participation in the Federal Employee Compensation Act Working Group in accordance with DoD Regulation 1400.25-M, Subchapter 810, Injury Compensation.

Subordinate unit safety and occupational health plans should be forwarded to the parent command by 30 November 2006. Army Commands, Army Service Component Commands, and Direct Reporting Unit Safety Directors will notify the Office of the Director of Army Safety when your command has completed review of subordinate unit plans, no later than 30 November 2006. Point of contact is Mr. Kerry M. Brown, 703-601-2413, kerry.brown@hqda.army.mil.

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