

“OJT NEWS”

LA DOTD On The Job Training Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 2015



In 2008, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development (LADOTD), Louisiana Associated General Contractors (LAGC), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), and contractors partnered to create the On-The-Job training (OJT) program to be utilized on LADOTD’s construction projects. A goal to provide training to a minimum of 15 individuals was established for the OJT program. Unfortunately, we have not always reached our goal. With that said, we have been afforded the opportunity to try one more time, to reach our goal and not have mandated goals imposed on jobs. LA-DOTD has hired SJB Group, LLC as their consultant to reach out to Prime Contractors and assist them in participating in the program. SJB will also work with you in determining if your training programs qualify for OJT credits, and if not, offer suggestions and modifications that would make them acceptable.

Without your help in meeting these goals, LADOTD will be forced by Federal Highway to set mandatory OJT goals. And as we have discussed in the past, we do not want this to happen.

Please make any and all arrangements to communicate any training programs you may have that might qualify for OJT credits. A member of SJB will be contacting your office to discuss the OJT program. We hope you will be available to meet with them and help us in achieving our goals. You can reach SJB Group at 225-769-3400 and speak with Mr. Kenyatta Sparks or Ms. Jackie des Bordes.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Ducote
 DOTD Program Director
 Compliance Programs Office
 Telephone 225-379-1363

FRIENDLY REMINDER—We still need responses to the OJT Program Surveys. Your feedback will allow us to properly assist you with your areas of concerns. Please take a moment to complete and send back to us.



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LA DOTD ON THE JOB TRAINING SURVEY

QUESTIONS: PLEASE WRITE IN ANSWER OR FILL IN CIRCLE AS APPROPRIATE.

We thank you in advance for completing the questionnaire. We ask that you please elaborate in the comment sections so we can further assist you. When you have finished, please fax back to Mr. Kenyatta Sparks at 225-769-3596 or email to Kenyatta.Sparks@sjbgroup.com. Thank you.

1. Has your company ever participated in the DOTD OJT Program? Yes No

2. If yes, was the program beneficial to your company? Yes No

Comments: _____

3. Would your company be interested in participating in the DOTD's OJT Program on Federally aided highway construction projects that support OJT Goals? Yes No

Comments: _____

4. What barriers would prevent your company from participating in the OJT Program?

Comments: _____

5. What suggestions would your company make to assist the DOTD in making the OJT Program more efficient and user friendly to achieve the OJT Program Goals?

Comments: _____

6. Does your firm participate in any training and or apprentice programs? Yes No

7. If yes, your program might qualify and meet the federal standards required for the OJT Program. Is there someone in your office that we can contact to get more information on your program?

Comments: _____

In 2008, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, LA Associated General Contractors, Louisiana Division Office, Federal Highway Administration and contractors partnered to create the On-The-Job Training program to be utilized on LADOTD's highway construction projects. The OJT Program was developed in conformity with FHWA requirements. The LADOTD seeks to achieve the goal to provide training to individuals, including minorities, women, disadvantaged individuals and protected veterans. Please note that there are now OJT goals on selected projects. If you have any questions, please call Ms. Stephanie Ducote, DOTD Compliance Programs Director or Mr. Gene McArdle, DOTD Labor/OJT Compliance Manager at 225-379-1382.

Events and Workshops.....

Traffic Control Technician/Supervisor Course

To register, visit www.lagc.org/supervisor. Contact Michael Demouy at michaeld@lagc.org for more information. The technician course will [...]

To register, visit www.lagc.org/supervisor. Contact Michael Demouy at michaeld@lagc.org for more information. The technician course will be held on the first day and the supervisor course will be held on days 2 and 3. Passing the TCT is a prerequisite for taking the TCS course.

Date & Time:

September 29 (Tuesday) 8:00am – October 1 (Thursday) 4:00pm

Location:

LAGC Headquarters
666 North Street, Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Organizer:

Michael Demouy michaeld@lagc.org

Lafayette Clay Shoot

Contact David Landreneau at davidl@lagc.org or (337) 884-4735.

Time

All Day October 2, 2015 (Friday)

Organizer

David Landreneau, davidl@lagc.org

Lake Charles Annual Clay Shoot

The Lake Charles District is hosting its 17th Annual Charity Sporting Clay Tournament on Friday, October 9, 2015 at the Lake Charles Gun Club, Lake Charles, LA. Over the past 17 years, through [...]

The Lake Charles District is hosting its **17th Annual Charity Sporting Clay Tournament** on Friday, October 9, 2015 at the Lake Charles Gun Club, Lake Charles, LA. Over the past 17 years, through the generosity of companies/individuals, we have raised over \$90,000 for many local charities. We are excited to announce that this year's proceeds will benefit **Autism Services of Southwest Louisiana**. [Click here to download the registration and sponsorship form.](#)

Time

All Day (Friday)

Location

Lake Charles Gun Club
6601 Ward Line Road, Lake Charles, LA

Organizer

Nelda Martin, neldam@lagc.org

Management Update Briefing

Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P. presents Management Update Briefing, a labor and employment law seminar on Friday, October 23, [...]

Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P. presents **Management Update Briefing**, a labor and employment law seminar on Friday, October 23, 2015. Cost is \$25 for LAGC members. [Register online here.](#)

Time

(Friday) 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Location

Hilton Garden Inn
2015 Old Minden Road, Bossier City, LA 71111

Organizer

Breazeale, Sachse & Wilson, L.L.P. 225-376-3640

TRUCK DRIVER DOT NO. 905.683-010

Approximate training time: 18 Weeks or 720 Hours

JOB DESCRIPTION

Drives truck for transporting construction material. May have various kinds of beds attached, such as dump, flatbed, water tank, etc., (includes pickup, water, wagon, service truck, hoist truck, etc. May pull semi-trailer. Operates heavy duty off-road or rock moving equipment, such as, but not limited to, Koehring Dumpster, Euclid, either back or bottom dump, International) Payhauler, etc. May oil, grease, service and make normal operating adjustments to equipment.

WAGE STRUCTURE

Trainee will be paid the trainee wages specified in the construction contract. If no trainee wages are specified in the construction contract, minimum trainee wages will be as follows (but not less than the current minimum wage):

1. **The Beginning of the Training Period:** Sixty percent (60%) of the skilled wage rate specified in the contract of this classification.
2. **After Completion of One Half (½) of the Training Period:** Seventy-five percent (75%) of the skilled wage rate specified in the contract for this classification.
3. **After Completion of Three Fourths (¾) of the Training Period:** Ninety percent (90%) of the skilled wage rate specified in the contract for this classification.
4. **On Completion of the Training Period:** One hundred percent (100%) of the skilled wage rate specified in the contract for this classification.

TRAINING BREAKDOWN

I. Orientation and Observation

A. Safety Procedures	10 Hours
B. Observation of Vehicle in Operation	50 Hours
C. Starting and Manipulating Vehicle	40 Hours

II. Care and Maintenance

A. Safety Procedures	10 Hours
B. Routine Fueling, Lubricating and Servicing	20 Hours

III. Actual Operation of Equipment

A. Safety Operating Procedures	10 Hours
B. Loading and Unloading Materials and Operation of Vehicle	580 Hours

Total Hours 720 Hours

Occupational Noise Exposure...

Every year, approximately 30 million people in the United States are occupationally exposed to hazardous noise. Noise-related hearing loss has been listed as one of the most prevalent occupational health concerns in the United States for more than 25 years. Thousands of workers every year suffer from preventable hearing loss due to high workplace noise levels. Since 2004, the Bureau of Labor Statistics has reported that nearly 125,000 workers have suffered significant, permanent hearing loss. In 2009 alone, BLS reported more than 21,000 hearing loss cases.

Exposure to high levels of noise can cause permanent hearing loss. Neither surgery nor a hearing aid can help correct this type of hearing loss. Short term exposure to loud noise can also cause a temporary change in hearing (your ears may feel stuffed up) or a ringing in your ears (tinnitus). These short-term problems may go away within a few minutes or hours after leaving the noisy area. However, repeated exposures to loud noise can lead to permanent tinnitus and/or hearing loss.

Loud noise can also create physical and psychological stress, reduce productivity, interfere with communication and concentration, and contribute to workplace accidents and injuries by making it difficult to hear warning signals. Noise-induced hearing loss limits your ability to hear high frequency sounds, understand speech, and seriously impairs your ability to communicate. The effects of hearing loss can be profound, as hearing loss can interfere with your ability to enjoy socializing with friends, playing with your children or grandchildren, or participating in other social activities you enjoy, and can lead to psychological and social isolation.

What are the warning signs that your workplace may be too noisy?

Noise may be a problem in your workplace if:

- You hear ringing or humming in your ears when you leave work.
- You have to shout to be heard by a coworker an arm's length away.
- You experience temporary hearing loss when leaving work.

What can be done to reduce the hazard from noise?

Noise controls are the first line of defense against excessive noise exposure. The use of these controls should aim to reduce the hazardous exposure to the point where the risk to hearing is eliminated or minimized. With the reduction of even a few decibels, the hazard to hearing is reduced, communication is improved, and noise-related annoyance is reduced. There are several ways to control and reduce worker exposure to noise in a workplace.

Engineering controls that reduce sound exposure levels are available and technologically feasible for most noise sources. Engineering controls involve modifying or replacing equipment, or making related physical changes at the noise source or along the transmission path to reduce the noise level at the worker's ear. In some instances the application of a relatively simple engineering noise control solution reduces the noise hazard to the extent that further requirements of the [OSHA Noise standard](#) (e.g., audiometric testing (hearing tests), hearing conservation program, provision of hearing protectors, etc....) are not necessary. Examples of inexpensive, effective engineering controls include some of the following:

- Choose low-noise tools and machinery (e.g., [Buy Quiet Roadmap \(NASA\)](#)).
- Maintain and lubricate machinery and equipment (e.g., oil bearings).
- Place a barrier between the noise source and employee (e.g., sound walls or curtains).
- Enclose or isolate the noise source.

Examples of Engineering

Administrative controls are changes in the workplace that reduce or eliminate the worker exposure to noise. Examples include:

- Operating noisy machines during shifts when fewer people are exposed.
- Limiting the amount of time a person spends at a noise source.



Occupational Noise Exposure...

- Providing quiet areas where workers can gain relief from hazardous noise sources (e.g., construct a sound proof room where workers' hearing can recover – depending upon their individual noise level and duration of exposure, and time spent in the quiet area).
- Restricting worker presence to a suitable distance away from noisy equipment.
- Controlling noise exposure through distance is often an effective, yet simple and inexpensive administrative control. This control may be applicable when workers are present but are not actually working with a noise source or equipment. Increasing the distance between the noise source and the worker, reduces their exposure. In open space, for every doubling of the distance between the source of noise and the worker, the noise is decreased by 6 dBA.

Hearing protection devices (HPDs), such as earmuffs and plugs, are considered an acceptable but less desirable option to control exposures to noise and are generally used during the time necessary to implement engineering or administrative controls, when such controls are not feasible, or when worker's hearing tests indicate significant hearing damage.

An **effective hearing conservation program** must be implemented by employers in general industry whenever worker noise exposure is equal to or greater than 85 dBA for an 8 hour exposure or in the construction industry when exposures exceed 90 dBA for an 8 hour exposure. This program strives to prevent initial occupational hearing loss, preserve and protect remaining hearing, and equip workers with the knowledge and hearing protection devices necessary to protect them. Key elements of an [effective hearing conservation program](#) include:

- Workplace noise sampling including personal noise monitoring which identifies which employees are at risk from hazardous levels of noise.
Informing workers at risk from hazardous levels of noise exposure of the results of their noise monitoring.
- Providing affected workers or their authorized representatives with an opportunity to observe any noise measurements conducted.
- Maintaining a worker audiometric testing program (hearing tests) which is a professional evaluation of the health effects of noise upon individual worker's hearing.
- Implementing comprehensive hearing protection follow-up procedures for workers who show a loss of hearing (standard threshold shift) after completing baseline (first) and yearly audiometric testing.
- Proper selection of hearing protection based upon individual fit and manufacturer's quality testing indicating the likely protection that they will provide to a properly trained wearer.
- Evaluate the hearing protectors attenuation and effectiveness for the specific workplace noise.
- Training and information that ensures the workers are aware of the hazard from excessive noise exposures and how to properly use the protective equipment that has been provided.
- Data management of and worker access to records regarding monitoring and noise sampling.

Each of these elements is critical to ensure that workers are being protected where noise levels are unable to be reduced below the OSHA required levels.



For additional information on occupational noise exposure and to view this article in its entirety, visit the OSHA website at www.osha.gov.



Letting of 10/14/2015 LA DOTD Headquarters

[Proposal: H.001763.6](#) LA 520: MIDDLE FORK BAYOU D'ARBONNE BRG.

DBE Goal: 12%

OJT Goal: 1 Trainees

09/22/2015-Added to the letting of October 14, 2015.

Description of work: clearing and grubbing, grading, drainage structures, pavement patching, class ii base course, lime treatment, superpave asphaltic concrete pavement, temporary detour roads and bridging, precast concrete piles, precast prestressed concrete girder quad beam spans bridge, and related work.

Parish(es): Claiborne

Route(s): LA 520

Federal Number: H001763

Estimated Construction Cost: \$2,500,000 to \$5,000,000

[Proposal: H.010061.6](#) N. RIVER ROAD AND DURBIN ROAD BRIDGES

DBE Goal: 10%

OJT Goal: 1 Trainees

Description of work: clearing and grubbing, grading, drainage structures, class ii base course, superpave asphaltic concrete overlay, precast concrete piles, concrete slab span bridge, and related work.

Parish(es): Tangipahoa

Federal Number: H010061

Estimated Construction Cost: \$500,000 to \$1,000,000

[Proposal: H.010480.6](#) I-20: DIXIE INN - BIENVILLE P/L

DBE Goal: 5%

OJT Goal: 1 Trainees

09/22/2015-Added to the letting of October 14, 2015.

Description of work: cold planing asphaltic concrete, superpave asphaltic concrete overlay, asphaltic concrete (sma) wearing course, and related work.

Parish(es): Bienville; Webster

Route(s): I-20

Federal Number: H010480

Estimated Construction Cost: \$20,000,000 to \$30,000,000

[Proposal: H.010653.6](#) LA 986 SIDEWALKS

DBE Goal: 8%

OJT Goal: 1 Trainees

Description of work: clearing and grubbing, grading, drainage structures, pavement patching, portland cement concrete pavement and related work.

Parish(es): West Baton Rouge

Route(s): LA 986

Federal Number: H010653

Estimated Construction Cost: \$1,000,000 to \$2,500,000

[Proposal: H.010659.6](#) RAFFAEL MAYER ROAD BRIDGES

DBE Goal: 10%

OJT Goal: 1 Trainees

Description of work: clearing and grubbing, grading, class ii base course, superpave asphaltic concrete pavement, precast concrete piles, concrete slab span bridge, and related work.

Parish(es): East Baton Rouge

Federal Number: H010659

Estimated Construction Cost: \$1,000,000 to \$2,500,000

[Proposal: H.011742.6](#) OLE HIGHWAY 15 (ARKANSAS RD - US 80)

DBE Goal: 2%

OJT Goal: 1 Trainees

Description of work: cold planing asphaltic concrete, lime treatment, in-place cement stabilized base course, asphaltic surface treatment, superpave asphaltic concrete overlay, and related work.

Parish(es): Ouachita

Federal Number: H011742

Estimated Construction Cost: \$1,000,000 to \$2,500,000

What can SJB Group do for You?

SJB Group, LLC can provide **free assistance** to Prime Contractors in the following areas:

By acting as a liaison between the Prime Contractor and LADOTD for project information, and in problems occurring on the jobsite.

By informing of upcoming LADOT lettings, and project information for other agencies throughout the state.

By assisting you in developing an approved OJT Program.

By assisting you in the enrollment and recordkeeping of your participants.



Contact Us

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