



## **News Release**

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### **LANDMARK AGREEMENT WITH OSHA GIVES GREATER JOBSITE AUTHORITY TO RSCA MEMBERS**

*ST. LOUIS (May 18, 2007)* – Citing a shared a desire for greater jobsite safety, the Roofing and Siding Contractors Alliance (RSCA) and the federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) have partnered for a second time.

RSCA and OSHA recently renewed an agreement that aligns the employer, the employee and OSHA. According to terms of the agreement, RSCA member contractors in Missouri can receive a yearlong exemption from most of OSHA’s periodic safety checks in exchange for pledging strict adherence and diligent enforcement of several specific safety guidelines mandated by OSHA. Only RSCA members may receive the exemption.

Both organizations consider this system of self-monitoring a timesaving and efficient alternative to OSHA’s direct jobsite evaluations. Representatives from OSHA and RSCA explain that the arrangement will build a stronger foundation of trust and personal responsibility between the two organizations and will enhance safety performance for Alliance members.

“This is an important agreement and is part of our transformation from a strict enforcement agency to an assistance agency,” said St. Louis OSHA Area Director Bill McDonald. “What OSHA gets is a heightened level of cooperation and statistical reporting from Alliance members and the members get upfront good faith for any compliance citations and are exempt from inspections for one year, which saves them money.”

RSCA President Eric Kirberg called the agreement an important milestone in tightening safety standards and an important benefit to Alliance members.

“There aren’t too many of these agreements in the country, and we’re delighted to be breaking new ground here in St. Louis,” said Kirberg. “This is a collaborative approach to improving safety in our industry instead of a confrontational approach, and it gives our members valuable incentives and savings for working side-by-side with OSHA. We look forward to a long and prosperous partnership.”

OSHA struck a similar agreement with the Home Builders Association of Greater St. Louis and Eastern Missouri earlier this year.

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The Roofing & Siding Contractors Alliance (RSCA) is a professional contracting group representing more than 70 member companies throughout the St. Louis bi-state region. RSCA was formed in January 2006 through the merger of The Associated Roofing Contractors of Greater St. Louis and The Roofing & Siding Contractors Association. RSCA members provide the complete range of roofing and siding services, for all types of commercial and residential projects in Missouri and Illinois. RSCA promotes the highest industry standards and practices, and solid corporate citizenship, advancing the professional and community profile of its member companies.