



SAFETY TRAINING CONSORTIUM

FOCUS ON EFFICIENCY

The California State University (CSU) is collaborating with the University of California (UC) system to identify a solution that addresses online safety training. Training will be provided by subject-matter experts and specific to research and instructional laboratories.

This partnership was prompted by the 2008 laboratory accident that led to the death of a UCLA employee. This incident resulted in significant improvements to laboratory safety programs throughout the nation, because one finding of the UCLA enforcement order cited the lack of documented laboratory safety training.

The CSU identified this as a highly consequential gap in its own programs. There were no stand-alone products on the market that specifically fit the system's needs as a higher educational research university. Yet, the UC system had created the Safety Training Consortium to address this issue. At the time, the cost for a system membership was \$100,000. CSU officials began talks with UC representatives, and they created a specific membership level to address the CSU's fiscal budgetary goals.

The \$50,000 fee was a cost-effective solution to completely address the CSU system's needs and afforded the rights to a premium set of products. The final result was access to the UC-created online laboratory safety training source files for CSU branding and editing. This asset can be made available to all CSU students and employees. In addition to this course, the CSU will receive any other products the consortium creates.

QUANTIFICATION AND RESULTS

Safety is often measured by what it "could" cost. Initially, UC faced \$4.5 million in fines and paid over \$30,000 to OSHA; the faculty member faced 4 1/2 years in prison.

To date the consortium spent \$168,200 for the three-hour course. One course from a vendor costs \$50K.

Hundreds of hours of CSU personnel time were saved.

The partnership created a deliverable for 12,000 estimated learners.

OPPORTUNITIES AND SOLUTIONS

The consortium membership provided the opportunity to obtain the UC's library of online safety training products to customize as a CSU asset.

MILESTONES

Mar 2016

- CSU received access to the UC library.

Nov 2015

- CSU discussed accessing UC library training assets through Consortium membership.

Sep 2015

- CSU received product and uploaded it to CSU training portal.

Aug 2015

- Membership tier created for CSU and agreement signed.

Feb 2015

- CSU Environmental Health and Safety received the \$50K CSURMA grant.

Jun-Dec 2013

- Strategic discussions to procure product from vendor for \$50K. CSU then invited to join Consortium for product and other assets created for \$50K.

Apr 2013

- Discussions began regarding the laboratory safety course (product) and our partnership.

Because of our membership in the consortium, CSU officials are working with UC representatives to obtain their already-developed, vast library of more than 40 online safety training products to customize, edit and own as a CSU asset. Membership also opened up opportunities with the UC regarding other Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) synergy projects and initiatives.

IMPACT AND BENEFIT

The biggest impact is accessible training for the CSU community. Due to the nature of their jobs, faculty members commonly were hard to reach for laboratory safety training. We now have the ability to offer 24/7 access to a rich library of expertly created and university-specific safety training.

QUALITY, COST, OR DELIVERY

The CSU now delivers a quality product and associates receive a unified safety message. The cost for membership is \$50K annually.

LESSONS LEARNED

The barriers CSU encountered included contractual limitations, time constraints and fiscal roadblocks. It took a considerable amount of time to get all the stakeholders communicating and onboard.

CSU was able to overcome the fiscal issue through its partnership with CSURMA and the association's visionary leaders. Contractual issues were overcome due to the collegial relationships that existed between colleagues at both systems.

1

The successful product was delivered by higher education subject matter experts using a synergistic model to develop high-quality, engaging and affordable training modules to promote safety versus a traditional vendor.

2

Partnerships are important and staying on course is critical. A dedicated champion for the effort is essential.

PROJECT TEAM

Regina Frasca

director, Safety, Risk & Sustainability, CSUSM

Kevin Brady

director, Risk Management & EH&S, CSULA

Erike Young

past executive director, EH&S, UCOP

Ken Smith

executive director, EH&S, UCOP

Janette de la Rosa Ducut

training director, UCR

Zachary Gifford

director, Systemwide RM, CSUCO

REFERENCES

Safety Consortium:
safety-consortium.org

UC Training & Education Center of Excellence:
uctraining.education/

About Us video for the UC Training & Education Center of Excellence: www.youtube.com/watch?v=6dRflbkrz4&feature=youtu.be

Invoice Cal States
Lab Safety Training CSURMA proposal
LSF Development Costs
Safety Training Consortium Course List
STC Membership Agreement