

FDOT Newsletter

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Volume 68



SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

- Estimating Training
- Building Capacity
- Mobilization Financing
- Bonding Assistance
- Marketing Plan Development
- Creating a Business Plan
- Building a Website
- Plan Reading



FDOT Highlights Continued Infrastructure Improvements

The Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) highlights the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) infrastructure report card where FDOT improved in three major categories: ports, bridges, and roads.

Every four years, the ASCE provides a comprehensive assessment of the nation's 17 major infrastructure categories, examining the current infrastructure conditions and needs for each state in the form of an Infrastructure Report Card. Florida's population has grown at a rate of about 1 percent per year, yet Florida's 2021 grades are higher overall than the National Report Card average.

"The Florida Department of Transportation is committed to investing in the state's transportation infrastructure," said FDOT Secretary Kevin J. Thibault, P.E. "Over the last four years, the state has invested more than \$35 billion as we continue to serve the needs of today and prepare for the future. The department is focused on ensuring the safe and reliable movement of people and goods and fostering proactive innovation to provide more mobility options for residents and visitors."

Highlights from the ASCE report include:

Ports:

Over the last five years, Florida's seaports have invested significantly in capacity and operational improvements to accommodate larger post-Panamax vessels, improve cargo/intermodal transfer efficiency, and enhance the cruise experience for millions of passengers.

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4 Ways to Build a Culture of Safety

How to prioritize staffing with onboarding & training at the forefront

Nearly 80% of construction jobs eliminated during the pandemic have returned, and employers are scrambling to fill open positions. But in terms of safety, expediting the hiring process may do more harm than good.

With the supply of construction workers failing to meet demand, there are concerns that contractors will rush the onboarding and training processes for new hires. Pushing workers into projects without a clear understanding of safety training and on-site hazards increases the already-high risk of serious injuries and fatalities (SIFs). Despite the urgency to fill the employment gap, safety needs to remain at the core of the hiring and onboarding process.

Experience & Training Are Critical

Approximately 20% of workplace fatalities in the United States occur in the construction industry, making it one of the most dangerous fields in the country. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) identifies falls, electrocutions, caught-ins and struck-by hazards as the top four causes of jobsite injuries and fatalities.

However, most on-site fatalities — especially the 33% of all construction deaths caused by falls — are preventable with effective management and safety training. Although OSHA provides standards for training requirements, companies often circumvent or disregard standard protocols — particularly when they need to fill job openings quickly. Despite companies raising wages and offering additional benefits, finding skilled workers remains a core issue for many organizations. Hiring unskilled or inexperienced workers for these positions poses an even greater risk for SIFs.

Failing to provide sufficient training and a safe work environment can result in financial losses, legal implications and reputational damage.

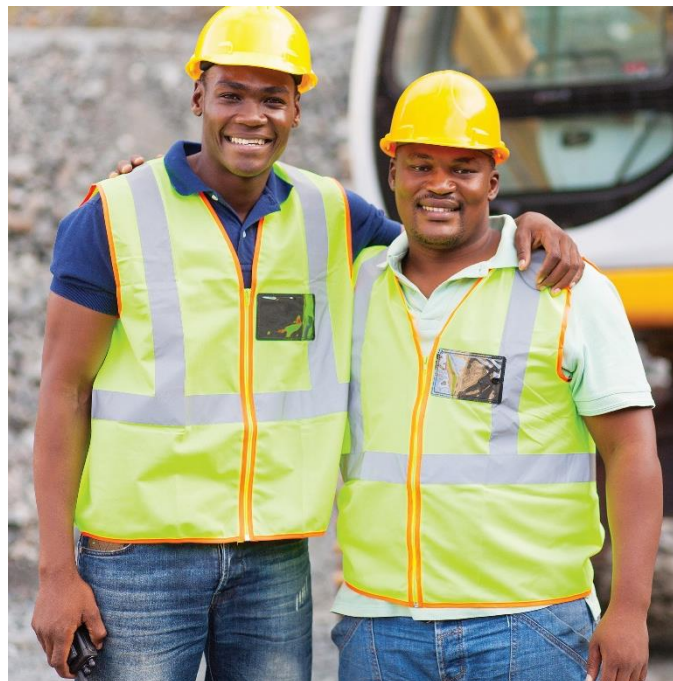
4 Ways to Build a Culture of Safety

Providing new hires with adequate onboarding and training is paramount when a worker is hired, but it's just as important to ensure safe practices are maintained. There are four initiatives you can take to embody safety in the workplace culture while retaining top talent.

About The FDOT

The goal of the DBE Supportive Services Program is to increase the number of DBEs participating on FDOT contracts and facilitate the opportunity for DBEs to obtain contracts. The services are designed to:

- Assist established construction firms to move them from bidding as a subcontractor to bidding as a Prime Contractor to produce sound bids.
- Provide access to training increases DBE expertise in handling of daily business operations.



CEI DBE Supportive Services

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www.fdotdbesupportservices.com

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